

## Salicylic acid peeling in the treatment of Rosacea

Maria Pia De Padova, Colombina Vincenzi, Simona Tullo, Nicola Venturo, Antonella Tosti

Department of Dermatology - University of Bologna - Italy

**Rosacea is a very common disease that may be classified in 4 stages:**

1. Flushing or transitory congestive redness
2. Erythrosis or persistent telangiectatic redness
3. Papulo-pustular or granulomatous stage
4. Phyma

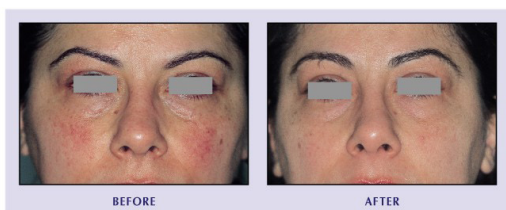
### Methods

We report here the results of a study performed on 10 patients affected by papulo-pustular rosacea.

10 patients  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 9 \text{ females} \\ 1 \text{ male} \end{array} \right\}$  ageing 30-45 years

### Treatment

- 4-5 weeks:
  - metronidazole 0,75% gel or cream (2 patients)
  - oral tetracyclines (5 patients)
  - oral clarythromicin (3 patients)
- 3-4 peelings with a 25% salicylic acid solution (CANOVA<sup>®</sup>) performed at 3-4 weeks intervals
- Photoprotection



### CONCLUSIONS

Complete resolution of the remaining inflammatory lesions and improvement of erythrosis was obtained in all the patients. Salicylic acid penetrated more deeply in the areas of inflammation and produced rapid drying of papules and pustules 1 or 2 days after the peeling. These beneficial effects of salicylic acid peeling are probably determined by the antimicrobial activity of salicylic acid which also stimulates fibroblasts inducing an improvement of the vascular component of rosacea.