

# NEIL S GOLDBERG, MD

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## ***PATIENT INFORMATION SERIES***

### **5. RETIN-A, RENOVA, TAZORAC or DIFFERIN (Application Instructions)**

You have been prescribed Retin-A, Differin or Tazorac for your acne or for the treatment of photodamaged skin. These medications have been associated with many side effects in the past because most patients were never given adequate instruction in their correct use.

- Apply at night only. Never use with any other prescription medication unless you have been specifically instructed to do so.
- You can apply it after washing your face but it may sting.
- Squeeze out a pea-sized amount and spread it to cover ALL of the affected areas. Do not just apply to pimples, apply to all acne-prone or other affected areas.
- You can apply a moisturizer 5 minutes later if you need one.
- If you get red or irritated, skip a day or two and begin to use the medication every other night. If the irritation returns, apply the medication every third night.
- You can gradually increase the frequency that you use the medication as tolerated.
- If the redness persists, call the doctor or come in.
- Do not wax your face while using any of these products.
- Use a sunscreen and do not try to get a tan while using any of these products. You may burn much more easily than expected.