

Test Protocol Outline

Moisturisation Efficacy - Suite of Tests -

Objective: To determine the relative efficacy of the product comparative to a control or benchmark, or to a similar untreated area. Appropriate to skin care products.

Experimental Design

Subjects - 5 male & female, random selection.

- Informed of nature of test and possible adverse reactions. Only includes those who certify informed consent and are dependable, able to read, understand and follow directions.
- Prior to initiation, medical history form completed by subject, exclude those who have a history of physical or dermatological condition which would preclude application of the test materials.

Test Materials - liquids - approx. 500ml ; powders, semi-solids - approx 500g.

Only 1 material or product may be tested, plus a comparative product. - controls should represent a similar product category to test products, and may be submitted blindly.

Quantity per test. - to be specified by client in line with proposed product label instructions.

Applied to the target area, which may be selected from back of hand, arm, face, leg, neck or back.

Method

A suite of tests may be selected from the following, according to intended claims...

Subjective Questionnaire

May be customised to suit study and customer requirements.

Moisture retention by Conductivity : Corneometer - fixed units of capacitance measurements representing resistance across a surface - concept - lower resistance equals higher moisturisation (the inverse of conductivity).

Trans Epidermal Water Loss

This technique is usually employed to evaluate film forming capability of a product of film integrity or condition of the epidermis with respect to specific product insult - ie. surfactants. Concept - lower TEWL equals higher moisture retention / better film forming capability . stratum corneum repair, integrity, etc.

D -squame Test

Determines surface scaliness of the skin , using D-squame discs. Scoring from 1 - 5 with 1 representing normal skin and 5 indicating a high level.

Elasticity by Cutameter : Measures skin elasticity by drawing a portion of the skin into a calibrated vacuum orifice whereupon the resistance and regression is measured. Appropriate for support of claims relating specifically to improvement in skin elasticity.

References