

<b>Common OTC Acne Preparations</b>					
<b>Active Ingredients</b>		<b>Strengths/ Formulations</b>	<b>Adverse Effects</b>	<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Benzoyl Peroxide (BP)</b>		<b>(2.5%-10%)  Wash, Soap, Foam, Cream, Gel</b>	Can cause excessive dryness, scaling, redness, burning and stinging.	Probably the most commonly utilized active ingredient in acne products.	
MOA: Reduces levels of P. acnes and removes excess oils from the skin along with dead skin cells that irritate and clog pores. With higher strengths and when applied for longer periods of time (if you have sensitive skin) be sure to begin with a lower strength or use every-other-day (QOD). Sun sensitivity, bleached hair and clothing are other reported side effects.					
<b>Salicylic acid</b>		<b>(0.5% -2%)  Wash, Cream</b>	Can cause mild stinging and skin irritation.		
MOA: Reduces shedding of cells within the hair follicles. Possibly preventing clogging of pores. May breakdown whiteheads, (clogged pores that have no opening) and blackheads (pores that are open with a dark surface).					
<b>Sulfur</b>		<b>(5%-8%)  Cream, Soap</b>	Can cause dry skin, often has an unpleasant odor.		
MOA: Often combined with other ingredients, such as salicylic acid, benzoyl peroxide or resorcinol, sulfur removes dead skin cells that clog pores and helps remove excess oil.					
<b>Resorcinol</b>	<b>(2%)  Cream, Soap, Lotion</b>		Redness and peeling of skin.		
MOA: Usually used in combination with other ingredients. May reduce comedones by helping to remove the buildup of dead skin cells.					

MOA= Mechanism of action

<b>Antibiotic based Topicals</b>		
<i>Brand name</i>	<i>Ingredient(s) and % in topicals</i>	
<b>BenzaClin</b>	Benzoyl peroxide (5%) clindamycin (1%)	<i>Gel</i>
<b>Benzamycin</b>	Benzoyl peroxide (5%) Erythromycin (3%)	<i>Gel</i>
<b>Cleocin T</b>	Clindamycin Topical (1%)	Gel, lotion, and solution

<b>Retinoids class ( related chemically to vitamin A)</b>			
<i>Brand</i>	<i>Generic</i>		<i>Notes</i>
<b>Retin-A</b>	<a href="#">Tretinoin</a>	Gel (0.025% or 0.01%)  Cream (0.1%, 0.05%, or 0.025%) Gel microsphere (0.04% and 0.1%)	MOA: May increase turnover of follicular epithelial cells
<b>Tazorac</b>	<a href="#">Tazarotene</a>	Cream or Gel; 0.05% and 0.1%	MOA: Receptor-selective retinoid. Side effects include redness, peeling, dryness.
<b>Differin</b>	<a href="#">Adapalene</a>	GEL 0.3%, LOTION 0.1%, 0.1% gel, 0.1% Cream	MOA: Retinoid that may decrease micro-comedone formation. Side effects include redness, peeling, dryness.
<b>Epiduo</b>	Adapalene and benzoyl peroxide	Gel 0.1%/2.5%	Benzoyl peroxide increases efficacy but also increases redness, scaling, dryness, stinging and/or burning.

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