

Finacea

Finacea Gel (15% Azelaic acid) is a topical medication used in the treatment of various skin problems such as rosacea and acne. Rosacea is a chronic inflammatory condition that causes redness, flushing and pimples of the facial skin. There are often accompanying small superficial blood vessels visible underneath the skin (telangiectasias) in the affected areas.

Azelaic acid is a class of medications known as dicarboxylic acids. It is used in the treatment of both rosacea and acne. It helps by destroying bacteria that inhabit the skin pores and decreasing the tendency for the pores to become clogged. It has been shown to reduce the redness, flushing, and small pimple like bumps of rosacea.

Finacea gel is very easy to use. Apply a thin layer of the medication and thoroughly massage into the skin. This is usually done once per day. It is best not to apply immediately after washing. Occasionally Finacea causes a mild tingling or burning sensation when it is first used. If this occurs you should reduce your application of the medication or skip it for a day. Do not stop since this mild tingling is a sign that the medication is working. Finacea should not be used with harsh soaps or other abrasive facial products.

While Finacea often works very well to control the redness and inflammatory lesions of rosacea, it may not completely eliminate the broken blood vessels or completely cure the condition. Also, it may take 4 weeks or longer to see the effects of the medication. So even if immediate results are not seen, do not discontinue the use of the medication. Side effects of Finacea include: itching, burning, tingling or stinging on application. These side effects are usually very mild and will go away with continued use of the medication. Do not use Finacea if you have a history of allergies to propylene glycol which is a preservative in the gel base of the medication.

Finacea gel is an easy and effective way to treat the redness and inflammatory pimples of rosacea. In most cases it is a control for the problem so it works best if it is used regularly.

If you have any other question regarding this medication, please ask me before you leave the office.