

MIRVASO (BRIMONIDINE GEL)

Mirvaso is a new topical therapy that can be of significant benefit for patients who have redness on the face. Sun damage and rosacea are common conditions in adults. These may lead to red areas on the face with visible blood vessels on the surface of the skin. It is often noticeable on the nose, cheeks, and chin but can be anywhere on the face. This is a skin problem and not related to any internal problems. Some patients who have facial redness develop occasional pimple-like lesions as part of the rosacea condition. These often respond to the usual oral or topical medicines used to treat rosacea. Unfortunately, these medicines may not help the flat red areas on the skin.

Mirvaso (brimonidine gel) is a topical medication applied in a pea-sized amount to the red areas of the face once or twice a day. It is normally used in the morning. It is best to wash your hands after applying the medication. Try not to get the gel in your mouth or eyes.

Mirvaso gel works by reducing the blood flow to the skin by narrowing the blood vessels, a process called vasoconstriction. The effect of the Mirvaso gel in terms of decreasing the redness is somewhat temporary and the redness may return at the end of the day or by the next morning depending on when it is applied. It may not make your face appear less red permanently, but it is quite effective if it is used each day. Usually, there are no side effects with Mirvaso gel. Similar to any topical medicine, there are occasional cases patients who experience slight irritation. Fortunately, this is very uncommon. Mirvaso gel is currently available only by prescription.

If you have any other questions regarding the Mirvaso gel or the application, please let me know before you leave the office.