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Mederma® Skin Care for Scars™ Proven To Improve Appearance of Scars

GREENSBORO, N.C. – New study shows Mederma®'s efficacy. Study results published recently in the *Journal of Cosmetic Dermatology* and conducted by Dr. Zoe Diana Draelos, MD, a clinical and research dermatologist, with a special interest in problems associated with skin, hair and nails show the proprietary blend of ingredients in Mederma® work to improve the appearance of scars.

The study involved 60 subjects over a three month period, with reviews at weeks 2, 4, 6 and 10 that included photography, subject evaluations and investigator assessments.¹ The goal of the study was to measure the effectiveness of Mederma® on the cosmetic appearance of scars. Two symmetrical lesions were removed from each subject's upper chest, on opposite sides. As Mederma® should only be applied after a wound has healed; each subject was allotted 2-3 weeks healing time and then reported back to the research center to receive random assignments placing them in either a treatment group or no-treatment group.¹

"This study utilized a method that evaluated scarring in a controlled setting after the wound had healed," says Dr. Draelos. "At the end of the 10 weeks, the results clearly showed the ingredients in Mederma® significantly improved scar softness, redness, texture and global appearance of the scar at weeks 4, 6 and 10."

The flagship over-the-counter scar therapy was the first of its kind in the category and was launched by Merz Pharmaceuticals in 1997. Since that time, Mederma® has become the scar solution of choice and has long been the #1 doctor- and pharmacist-recommended product for scars, helping to soften, smooth and reduce the appearance of old and new scars caused by burns, injuries, surgery, acne and stretch marks.

Wound healing proceeds quickly at first with the earliest stage of a scar occurring two weeks after injury. The latest study results show that the combination of physical massage and onion extract gel treatment may be beneficial in improving the appearance of scars.¹ According to the investigator of this study published in the *Journal of Cosmetic Dermatology*, 77% of subjects noted

moderate to significant improvement overall on scars treated with Mederma® over untreated scars at week 10.

Mederma® is available in food, drug and mass stores nationwide in 20-gram and 50-gram tubes. The 20-gram tube, which retails for approximately \$15, is suitable for scars up to three inches in length while the 50-gram tube is suitable for larger scars 8-10 inches in length and retails for around \$30. In addition to Mederma®, Merz Pharmaceuticals has recently introduced Mederma® Cream + SPF 30, a cream formula and the only scar product with SPF 30. Mederma® Cream + SPF 30 provides the same therapeutic ingredient as original Mederma®, available in a cream formula that also offers protection from sun exposure, which can cause scar discoloration.

If you don't see it on the shelf, ask your pharmacist for assistance. For additional information about Mederma®, call 1-888-925-8989 or visit www.mederma.com.

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Merz Pharmaceuticals is a specialty pharmaceutical company dedicated to addressing patients' unmet medical needs with innovative healthcare solutions. Merz Pharmaceuticals distributes Naftin® (naftifine HCl 1%) Cream and Gel and several non-prescription products, including physician-recommended Mederma®, the #1 doctor- and pharmacist-recommended product for scars; Mederma® for Kids™, the #1 pediatrician-recommended product for children's scars; Aqua Glycolic®, a dermatologist-recommended alpha hydroxy acid-based (AHA) skin care system; and Appearex®, the #1 dermatologist-recommended product for strengthening nails. Merz is known worldwide for its development of original compounds and formulations sold to medical professionals and consumers in over 90 countries.

1. "The ability of onion extract gel to improve the cosmetic appearance of postsurgical scars," by Zoe Diana Draelos, MD, 2008, *Journal of Cosmetic Dermatology*, 7, p. 101-104. Copyright 2008 by Blackwell Publishing.