

# **Lifestyle Choices That Affect Acne**

### **Foods**

This is a guideline only—we are not asking you to eliminate foods or food groups completely; we do suggest you cut back and moderate some food types. The "Try to Reduce" group has been proven to be a problem for most acne sufferers. We also know that some people have trigger foods such as citrus, but this is not across the board.

Try To Reduce	Acceptable Substitute
Iodides	
Iodized Salt	Sea Salt, Uniodized Salt, Celtic Salt
Milk (including organic and especially nonfat)	Almond Milk, Coconut Milk, Rice Milk
Cheese	Nut cheese
Whey or Soy Protein Shakes and Protein Bars	Pea Protein, Egg White Powder, Hemp – still check for iodides and biotin before buying (Vega Sport Performance Protein & Perfect Fit are a few safe ones.)
Soy – e.g., tofu, soy milk, tempeh, edamame, soy sauce	
Seafood, Shellfish e.g., cod, scallops	Fresh Water Fish – lake trout, bass, catfish
Spirulina, Chlorella, Blue-Green Algae	
Kelp, Miso Soup, Seaweed, Seaweed Supplements	
Vitamins with iodides, iodine, kelp, potassium iodide (also avoid Biotin and B12)	
Foods High in Androgens	
Peanuts, Peanut Butter	Almond Butter or other nut butters
Peanut Oil, Corn Oil, Canola Oil	Olive Oil, Butter, Coconut Oil
Shellfish	
Organ Meats including patè	

A well-balanced low-glycemic diet can support all aspects of health, including your skin.

## **Supplements**

The following supplements have been found to be useful in aiding your recovery from acne. Your esthetician may make recommendations based on the type of acne you have.

#### **Zinc Monomethionine**

This form of zinc is the most bio-available form that acts directly as an anti-inflammatory. Many people with acne have low levels of zinc in their body. Supplementing with zinc has been shown to reduce the severity of cysts and inflamed lesions.

#### Omega 3 Fish Oils

Fish oil is a great anti-inflammatory and helps to alter sebum production; HOWEVER, only if it's molecularly distilled or pharmaceutical grade. Unfortunately, many fish oil supplements are oxidized which actually creates more inflammation. So, only take it if you are sure about your source. Read our handout if not buying from your Face Reality Certified Acne Specialist.

#### **Probiotics**

These are good bacteria that colonize the digestive tract and the skin. They can help people who have been on long-term antibiotics (both oral and topical). These good bacteria compete with the pathogenic bacteria and can help improve the incidence of breakouts.