

# NEW CLINICAL EVALUATION METHOD FOR LESION COUNT IN PATIENTS WITH TRUNCAL ACNE

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## INTRODUCTION & OBJECTIVE

Acne is a skin condition of the pilosebaceous unit that affects mainly the face, chest and trunk. Most studies focus on facial acne. Few papers specifically address truncal acne: (Tan, 2021; Dréno, 2021)<sup>1,2</sup>, most of which being directed to the back and upper chest. Nevertheless, approximately 50% of patients with facial acne also have acne on the trunk. Taking into account that acne can affect all truncal area, during the evaluation of anti-acne products, it is important to delineate the area that will be evaluated by the dermatologist to reduce intra and inter-evaluators variabilities the studies limitations. Therefore, this study aims to include a new methodology to evaluate the truncal count of lesions.

## MATERIALS & METHODS

Using as reference the methodology of lesion count developed by Lucky (1996) for facial acne, it was proposed an individual repositioning mask to count the acne lesions by the dermatologist on the chest and back, including non-inflammatory and inflammatory acne lesions (Figure 1). A transparent film paper was positioned on the upper back. Then the dermatologist would delineate with a ballpoint pen the area between the shoulders and the scapula tip, where the counting of lesions would be performed (Figure 2). On the chest, the same procedure was performed, delineating the area between the clavicle and xyphoid. The lesions were counted and reported on the form. The lesions were not marked on the mask, in order to keep it clean for the return visit.

## RESULTS

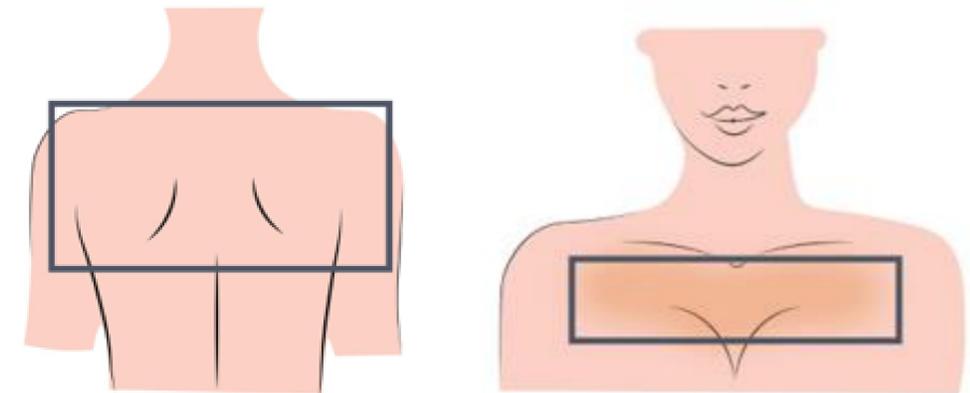
The effectiveness of the individual repositioning mask to count the acne lesions has already been demonstrated in a single center, open-label, clinical study evaluation the efficacy of a dermocosmetic in acne. This study enrolled 51 subjects with a mean age of 23YO (13-30) and evaluated the efficacy of a cleansing gel indicated for truncal acne over a period of 84 days (D0, D42, D84). In this study, the dermatologist could correlate the improvement of truncal acne with the investigational product, since the dermatologist has the same region delineated by an individual mask.

## DISCUSSION

The inclusion of the simple individual repositioning mask allows the count of lesions on the same area in all timepoints and can be included in all clinical studies that intend to evaluate the efficacy of products to treat truncal acne.

## REFERENCES

- 1-Tan JKL and Dirshka T. *T Dermatol Ther (Heidelb)*: 2021; **11**: 665-668
- 2-Dreno B and Tan JKL. *J Acta Derm Venereol*: 2021; **101**: adv00495
- 3-Lucky AW et al. *JAAD*: 1996; **35**: 559-65



	CLOSED COMEDONES	OPEN COMEDONES	PAPULES	PUSTULES	NODULES
Back					
Chest					
Total					
<b>Total inflammatory + non-inflammatory</b>					

Figure 1: Truncal counting lesions areas and form to count the acne lesions



Figure 2: Individual repositioning mask to count the acne lesions.

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## Disclosure

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