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Skin Science Issue

dayspamagazine.com \$5.00

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Celling Strategies

Are stem cells in skincare a passing fancy or a future staple? Here, industry leaders share their knowledge and opinions.

Why do you think stem cell technology in skin care has gained so much attention in the past several years?

Charlene DeHaven, clinical director, INNOVATIVE SKINCARE®: Skin care now has become very scientific, so anything that happens in any area of science affects us. There has been a lot of media coverage regarding stem cells, really fascinating stuff that sounds miraculous. As a result, it extended over into our industry.

What distinguishes one stem cell product from another, and how can a buyer make sure to choose wisely?

DeHaven: The truth is, a lot of baseline science knowledge is required just to start investigating. Then a lot of time is needed to research particular products, studies that have been performed and the technology involved. Seek out a professional who has special training or special interests.

What are we still learning about stem cell technology in skin care? What are the biggest misconceptions?

DeHaven: Most people in skin care right now don't understand the technology. They think they can put stem cells on the face and that they will penetrate the skin and regenerate it. This isn't possible. We all have stem cell actives already in our skin; the product "talks" to the existing skin cell to help it ramp up.