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## Client / Skin Classification

One of the most difficult aspects of skin care is knowing the best products to prescribe and the best direction for their use. With that said, the additional aspect of multiple products with varying degrees of active ingredients does not make it any easier. This section will help bring clarity as well as introduce a step by step process on how to apply the same classification process to each client. Using the most widely used skin care classification systems, the Fitzpatrick Scale, along with the most basic descriptions - Dry, Oily, Normal, Sensitive, Combination, Acne or Aging. With this method it is possible to bring about a better understanding and confidence within your client's skin care regimens and overall concerns.

*With each client it is important to fill out the necessary 'Client Forms'. This will help guide you and record your clients skin type, skin condition and skin care goals.*

### 'Onion Skin' Method

The main point or steps to remember in the 'Skin Classification' process is to start from a larger view and through questions and 'Client Forms', break down your client's skin type, condition and method of treatment into smaller and smaller pieces. Another way to look at this process is comparing your initial consultations to that of peeling an onion. There is the larger view which is equal to the first classification (first layer) and then there is each issue or concern represented by each additional inside layer. Handling your client in this manner will always insure that your educating and prescribing the most suitable products for their skin care needs.

Fig A. Illustrates the 'Onion Skin' method

