

## Bio Film

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The skin is covered with a hydrolipid film, that depending on the area of the body, comprises of secretions from the sebaceous glands and from apocrine and eccrine sweat glands. Decomposition products from cornification and corneocytes in the process of being shed are also present. This film provides a degree of waterproofing to the skin's surface, traps water to help maintain skin pliability, and provides a natural defense against pathogenic organisms. This film also attracts and holds dirt and pollutants from the environment.

The skin's surface is also home to a variety of microorganisms. In most cases these organisms, the so called 'Resident Flora' cause no harm and provide additional defense against overgrowth by potential pathogens. But these organisms can act on components of the surface film and create undesirable by-products, such as those resulting from the metabolism of compounds found in apocrine sweat that create body odor.

While the surface hydrolipid film is an important element to the skin, periodic cleansing is essential to maintain proper skin health. Periodic cleansing is also necessary to remove soil (including bacteria) from the skin's surface that is acquired by incidental contact or intentional application, e.g., medication or makeup and other cosmetic products.

This film is also what you must remove completely to insure a uniform application and absorption of chemical peeling agent. Failure to remove this film will allow uneven absorption of a peeling agent, extend recovery time in improperly cleansed areas vs properly cleansed areas and also delay client results.

The removal of this layer prior to any professional treatment is critical to the quality of the end result.

