今月の健康チェックポイント

This Month's Health Tips

冬の乾燥から肌を守り、皮膚トラブルを回避しましょう!

Protect Your Skin from the Dry Winter to Avoid Skin Troubles!

2月の気候は日本では昔から三寒四温と言われ、周期的に寒い日と暖かい日が繰り返しやってくる時期です。それに加え、空気の乾燥がピークを迎えます。強い風が吹く日も多く、花粉やホコリの飛散量も増加します。花粉やホコリなどによる外的刺激は誰のお肌にとっても悪い影響を与えやすく、かゆみなどのトラブルが発生しやすくなるので、肌トラブルの種類や対処を知ってこの時期を乗り越えましょう。

In Japan, the climate in February has been known as "san-kan shi-on" or "three cold, four warm," and is a time when cold days and warm days repeat periodically. In addition, it is when the air reaches the peak of dryness. There will be many days where strong winds blow, increasing the amount of pollen and dust in the air. The external stimulation from pollen and dust can easily be harmful to anyone's skin, making it likely to cause trouble such as itchiness. Learn about the various types of skin trouble and respective treatments to get through this season.

乾燥に注意!

一番の敵はやっぱり乾燥!2月の空気は1月と同様に乾燥が激しく、お肌の水分量も著しく低下します。「粉が吹く、赤みを帯びる、潤いがなくカサカサする」といった乾燥による肌トラブルも多発します。また、マスクをつけているのでこすれたりして肌荒れするなんてこともあります。

The biggest culprit is, undoubtedly, dry air. Just like in January, the air in February is extremely dry, causing moisture in the skin to drop drastically. Irritations caused by dry air such as "flaky, reddening, and rough skin devoid of moisture." In addition, the use of masks can scrape against the skin to cause damage.

冬の肌トラブルは、気温と湿度の低下によって引き起こされます。冬は肌の水分量が減少し、この時期は肌の新陳代謝が低下するのでハリがない、キメが乱れる、透明感がないといった肌の状態になりがちです。その原因が、手足などの末梢血流の低下です。夏は体を冷やすために、皮膚表面の血流を増やし、汗をかいて熱を放出しようとしますが、冬は気温の低下と共に体温も下がらないようにエネルギーを燃やし、体

温を維持しようとします。さらに皮膚の表面や手足の末梢部分は、体温を奪われない ように血流を調節するので肌細胞の新陳代謝が低下するのです。

Skin troubles in winter are caused by the drop in temperature and humidity. The skin loses its moisture in winter, and the skin metabolism drops this season, so the skin condition tends to be lacking in smoothness, fineness, and glow. The drop in peripheral blood flow is given to be the reason for this. In summer, the body tries to increase the blood flow on the skin surface and release heat through sweat, in an effort to cool the body. In contrast, in winter, as temperatures drop, the body tries to burn energy so that it doesn't lose heat, in an effort to retain body temperature. On top of that, the body controls the blood flow to the skin surface and ends of hands and feet so as to maintain the temperature in the body, which is why the metabolism of skin cells decrease.

一 対処方法 Treatment 一

潤いを持続させる Maintain Moisture

この時期の肌は、化粧水や美容液の保湿だけでは追いつきません!保湿をしたら保護力が高いクリームで肌を守ると効果的です。パックもよいでしょう。気温の低下や運動不足による体の冷えによって血行が悪くなると、血液は肌に酸素や栄養を運びにくくなり、クマが目立ちやすくなり顔がくすんだりします。対処方法は、ホットタオルで血行を促します。タオルを熱めのお湯で濡らす(火傷に注意)または、濡らしたタオルを巻いて耐熱皿に乗せレンジで1分ほど温めます。これを洗顔前に30秒~1分、顔の上にのせるだけで血行がよくなります。また、乾燥による肌のバリア機能の低下によって、ニキビの原因である角栓がつまりやすくなり、頬や口まわりといったUゾーンに大人ニキビができる可能性もあります。対処方法は、肌の保湿を強化することです。冬のニキビは乾燥が原因の事が多いので、普段使っているものより保湿力の高い化粧水や乳液に変えてみるとよいでしょう。また洗顔時にゴシゴシするのは症状を悪化させる可能性があるので、洗顔料をしっかり泡立てて洗うようにするとよいです。皮膚が薄い目元や口元は乾燥が進みやすいので、しっかり保護しましょう。

In winter, it is not enough to use toner or serum to maintain moisture on the skin! What is effective is to apply cream with high protective properties after moisturizing. Face packs would be good too. When blood flow is restricted due to the body cooling down under drops in outside temperature or a lack of exercise, it becomes difficult for oxygen and nutrients to be carried to the skin, and causes circles to form around the eyes and the face to lose its hue. The way to treat this is by encouraging blood flow using a hot towel. Heat a towel by soaking it in hot water (watch out for burns), or alternatively, bundle a wet towel on a heat-safe plate and microwave for 1

minute. Placing this over your face for just 30 to 60 seconds before washing your face can vitalize your blood circulation. In addition, due to decreased resistance in the skin caused by dry air, pores become plugged easily, which is the cause of acne. As such, the "U-zone" from the cheeks to the mouth area becomes prone to getting pimply. To treat this, care needs to be put into maintaining moisture on the skin. Zits and pimples in the winter are often caused by dry air, so it may be worthwhile to change your usual skin product to a toner or milky lotion with higher moisture—maintaining properties. Additionally, when washing your face, you should make sure to lather up the soap and wash with the foam (instead of rubbing vigorously), since rubbing pimpled skin can make it worse. Areas where the skin is thin, such as under the eyes or close to the lips, are highly prone to dryness, so make sure to protect them well.

内臓を温める Keep Internal Organs Warm

え?内臓と皮膚の乾燥?どんな関係があるの?と思われるでしょう。潤いのある肌をキープするためには、スキンケアだけではなく体の中からメンテナンスも必要です。冷たいものばかりとる状態が続いて内臓が冷えると、手足の血の流れが悪くなり、冷えや乾燥につながります。冷たい飲み物は避け、温かい飲み物、特に「白湯」がおすすめです。

Some might be thinking, What? Organs and skin dryness? How are they related?" The fact of the matter is, it is necessary to maintain the body from the inside, on top of skincare, in order to maintain a luscious skin. When organs are cooled due to mass consumption of cold foods or a continued state of stress, blood circulation in the hands and feet worsen, and can cause them to be cold and dry. Therefore, try to avoid cold drinks, and drink warm drinks instead. Hot water is recommended, if possible.

食事のバランス Eat a Balanced Diet

潤いのある肌のためには、バランスのよい食事も大切です。肌の潤いを保つビタミンAや血流を促すビタミンE・鉄分などを意識して摂取するようにしましょう。

A balanced diet is also important for luscious, moist skin. Try to eat foods with skin moisturizing vitamin A, and blood flow enhancing vitamin E and iron in mind.

よい睡眠をとる Sleep Well

潤いのある肌のためには、日々のよい睡眠が大切です。理想は7時間の睡眠です。 大切なのは寝始めてから最初の 90 分間。この間に成長ホルモンが最も多く分泌され るノンレム睡眠が訪れるので、ここでしっかり深い眠りにつけると、細胞の成長や正常 な新陳代謝が促進されて免疫力も上がり肌の保水量も高まり、自律神経やホルモン の働きもよくなります。睡眠の質を高めるためには、入浴と深呼吸がポイントです!

Getting good sleep regularly is important for luscious moist skin. Ideally, this means 7 hours of sleep. The first 90 minutes from when you fall asleep is most crucial. This is when non rem sleep occurs, where growth hormones are secreted the most, so if you are able to fall into deep sleep here, your cell growth and metabolism will be enhanced, along with an increase in your immune system, the skin's capacity to hold moisture, and nerve system and hormonal activity. The key to increase the quality of your sleep is taking a hot bath and deep breaths.

入浴 Bathing

入眠前は手足が温かくなり、からだの体温が下がります。そして、体温と皮膚の温度差が縮まると眠気が訪れます。入浴で体温を一時的に上げると、その後急激に下がるのでスムーズに入眠することができます。ポイントは、ベッドに入る 90 分前までには入浴をするようにしましょう。入浴する時間が取れない場合は、足湯で末端の皮膚温を上げるのも効果的です。

Generally, your hands and feet will be warm before sleep, and decrease your overall body temperature. Sleep will then come when the difference between body and skin temperatures lessens. Temporarily increasing your body temperature in a hot bath will allow the body temperature to drop drastically afterwards, hence allowing for a smooth entrance into your sleep. The tip is to take the hot bath at least 90 minutes before bedtime. If you have no time to take a bath, increasing the skin temperature by warming your toes in a foot bath can also be effective.

深呼吸 Taking Deep Breaths

冬は寒さや忙しさでストレスが増える時期です。自分の意思とは関係なく自律神経が常に働いており、日中の緊張時は活動モードにさせる交感神経が優位となり、食後やノンレム睡眠時は副交感神経が優位となります。副交感神経を優位にさせるためにおすすめなのは、深呼吸。ゆっくりとした深い呼吸をすることで副交感神経が刺激され、抹消の血流がよくなり、手足が暖かくなって眠りにつきやすくなります。寝る前に

深呼吸をしながら好きなアロマの香りを嗅いだりしてリラックスすると、さらに睡眠の質が高まるのでおすすめです。からだの内と外からしっかり対策をして、皮膚トラブルを最小限にしましょう。

Winter is a busy and stressful season that causes stress to mount up. Regardless of your intent, your nervous system is constantly switched on. Sympathetic nerves take the lead during the day when you are alert and active, while parasympathetic nerves take over after meals or during non rem sleep. Deep breaths are ideal for inducing parasympathetic nerves to take over. By breathing slowly and deeply, the parasympathetic nerves get stimulated, which improves the blood flow to the tip of your limbs, making your hands and feet warm and easy for you to doze off. Taking in the scent of your favorite aroma and relaxing while you take deep breaths before sleep will further enhance the quality of your sleep, and is recommended.