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by the skin responses to UV in the tape-stripped skin of healthy volunteers. After two days of lipid application, the areas were irradiated with UV and skin samples were obtained 24 hours after irradiation. The study found that topical cholesterol can protect the barrier-disrupted skin against UV-induced damage, while linoleic acid or N-oleoyl-phytosphingosine alone has the potential to aggravate the damage.

Another skin moisturizing lipid product is OLEOVA, a natural egg oil extracted from chicken eggs containing mainly triglycerides with cholesterol and phospholipids. It can be used in skin care products like moisturizers, lotions and sunscreens to help nourish skin and maintain its protoplasmic structure. Its properties promote the growth of new hair and can be applied to hair oil formulations.

Ceramides also belong to the lipid family and are comprised of sphingosine and fatty acids. They are an integral part of skin cell membranes and have been shown to protect the skin barrier. A ceramide-containing ingredient by P.L. Thomas, Lipowheat, is extracted from non-transgenic wheat and can be integrated into cosmetic products for use as a skin moisturizer. According to clinical studies, 95 percent of subjects in the Lipowheat group exhibited noticeably increased skin hydration, while there was no difference in the placebo groups. A separate study evaluated the ability of Lipowheat to form and stabilize emulsions.⁴ The rheological properties of the emulsions were tested during a 30-day storage period at three different storage conditions (cold, room temperature and 40 degrees Celsius). A stable simple emulsion was selected to realize percutaneous absorption and evaluate properties of Lipowheat along with droplet size distribution of the cream. A chief result of the study was that Lipowheat was able to allow formulation of a multiple emulsion using only one surfactant.

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