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## SPOTLIGHT ON: Pore Minimizers

For long-term pore perfecting, doctors are taking a page from steam-happy aestheticians and turning up the heat. A series of Photodynamic Therapy (PDT) sessions, in which an energy source such as blue light or Intense Pulsed Light (IPL) activates Levulan (the topical prescription form of aminolevulinic acid), is one of the most effective killers of acne-forming bacteria. The reaction also shrinks oil glands, so pores appear smaller. The next generation of PDT combines Levulan with the recently FDA-cleared Isolaz, a vacuum-tipped machine that generates broad-spectrum light to treat acne and evacuate pores. Mitchell Chasin, MD, a Livingston, New Jersey, laser surgeon, is currently evaluating the duo. After a first pass with the Isolaz to "pull out sebum and dead cells," he coats skin with Levulan, then does a second round of Isolaz. "A clear passageway could let Levulan penetrate even deeper into the dermis," Chasin says.

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