

Oily & Breakout-Prone Skin — Home Protocol

The Intensive Problem Control range, what is actually in it, and how to use it in this climate.

Who this is for: oily, combination or breakout-prone skin, and anyone dealing with congestion and visible pores in UAE heat.

What these products are: registered cosmetics for oily and blemish-prone skin. They clean, they reduce the look of oil, and they hydrate without adding any.

What they are not: acne medication. Persistent, painful, cystic or scarring acne is a medical condition, and a dermatologist has options — topical retinoids, antibiotics, hormonal treatment — that no cosmetic can substitute for. Use this alongside that, not instead of it.

Why UAE skin gets oilier

Not a claim about the products — just the conditions they have to work in.

- **Heat and humidity.** Sebum output rises with skin temperature. Nothing you apply changes the weather.
- **Air conditioning.** Dry indoor air dehydrates the surface, and dehydrated skin behaves oilier, not drier.
- **Sunscreen and sweat together.** A necessary layer plus a full day of heat is a lot to remove properly at night.
- **Dust.** Fine particulate settles and mixes with sebum between cleanses.

Morning

1. Cleanse without rubbing

SNOW O₂ CLEANSER · 130 ml · AED 330

Apply to dry skin and let it foam. The foam comes from **methyl perfluoroisobutyl ether at 8%** with a sugar surfactant — that is the mechanism, and it is why the product works without scrubbing. On skin with active lesions, not rubbing is the point.

Rinse with lukewarm water. Hot water strips the barrier and the skin compensates with more oil.

2. Toner, where the real active is

INTENSIVE PROBLEM CONTROL TONER · 150 ml or 200 ml · AED 260

Sweep across the T-zone, chin and jawline, or spray. The working ingredient is **zinc PCA at 0.5%** — ten times the concentration in the serum that follows, and the highest in the range.

The salicylic acid on the label is **0.001%**. That is not an exfoliating dose and we are not going to describe it as one.

3. Serum

PROBLEM CONTROL SERUM · 30 ml · AED 330

Two or three drops, patted rather than rubbed. **Zinc PCA 0.05%**, neat, in a bottle that is around 90% water, with **panthenol 0.2%** and **allantoin 0.1%** for comfort.

It is not an acid step. There is no salicylic acid in it; the willow bark extract sits at **0.001%**.

4. Moisturise — do not skip it

INTENSIVE PROBLEM CONTROL CREAM · 50 g or 250 g · AED 290

The distinctive thing about this cream is what is absent: no plant oil, no butter, no wax, no emulsifier. It is 86.6% water held together by 1.3% of polymer, with the same **zinc PCA 0.05%** as the serum.

Massage it in. Skipping moisturiser on oily skin is the most common mistake there is — dehydrated skin produces more oil, not less.

5. Sun protection

ULTRA SHIELD SUN CREAM SPF 50+ PA++++ · 50 ml · AED 250

Every mark left by a blemish darkens with UV, and that is the difference between a spot that fades in weeks and one that lingers for months. This is the higher-rated of the two sun creams and it is fragrance-free.

Evening

Double cleanse

SKIN DEFENDER LIP & EYE MAKEUP REMOVER AED 290 · then **SNOW O₂ CLEANSER** AED 330

The remover is biphasic and nearly half oil phase — shake it, hold it in place a few seconds, then wipe. It takes sunscreen off properly, which water-based cleansing on its own does not.

Exfoliate, two or three times a week

EPI TURNOVER BOOSTING PEELING GEL · 120 ml · AED 250

Onto dry skin, massaged in circles. The rolling is **cellulose at 3%**, with an enzyme; **there is no AHA or BHA in this product**, whatever it may have been called before. It is a gentle mechanical clean-up, not a chemical peel.

Skip it on nights when skin is irritated or there are open lesions.

Then toner, serum and cream as in the morning

Actives get an uninterrupted run overnight. If skin feels tight, mix a drop of **MOISTURE REPLENISHING HYALURON SERUM** (AED 330) into the cream — it adds water, not oil.

Things that reliably go wrong

Most of what undoes an oily-skin routine is behavioural rather than a product problem.

- **Over-cleansing.** More than twice a day strips the barrier and the skin answers with more oil.
- **Skipping moisturiser.** The single most common mistake on oily skin.
- **Hot water.** Lukewarm, always.
- **Picking.** It spreads bacteria and turns a spot that would have faded into a mark that will not.
- **Scrubs.** Micro-tears are entry points. Use the peeling gel instead, and not more than three times a week.
- **Changing products weekly.** Give a routine four to six weeks before judging it.

What is actually in these products

Carton ingredient lists run in the manufacturer's order, not by quantity, so an ingredient can head a list and still be present in parts per million. These are the measured concentrations from the signed formulas.

INGREDIENT	WHERE IT IS, AND HOW MUCH	WORTH KNOWING
Zinc PCA	Toner 0.5% · Serum 0.05% · Cream 0.05%	The actual working active across all three, and it was named in none of them before
Salicylic acid	Toner 0.001% · none in the serum or cream	On the label, nowhere near an exfoliating dose
Willow bark extract	Serum 0.001%	The natural salicylate everyone assumes is doing the work. It is not
Panthenol, allantoin	Serum 0.2% and 0.1% · Cream 0.1% each	Comfort ingredients, at real concentrations
Trehalose, xylitol	Serum 1% and 0.5% · Cream 1.5% and 0.5%	The humectants doing the hydrating in an oil-free base
Beta-glucan	Serum 0.08% · Cream 0.1%	Soothing, present at a sensible level
Cellulose	Peeling gel 3%	What rolls off. The gel contains no AHA and no BHA
Methyl perfluoroisobutyl ether	Snow O ₂ Cleanser 8%	The foam. Second ingredient after water

A correction to our own earlier advice

An earlier version of this protocol said the serum contained **salicylic acid** and **tea tree extract**, that the toner, serum and cream all contained **niacinamide**, that the cream contained **centella asiatica**, and that the cleanser and cream contained **hyaluronic acid**. **None of those is in the product it was attributed to** — each was checked against the full ingredient list. Meanwhile **zinc PCA**, the one active present at a working dose in all three Problem Control products, was not mentioned anywhere. The table above is taken from the signed formulas.

Sets

DAILY ESSENTIALS	PRICE
SNOW O ₂ CLEANSER · 130 ml	330
INTENSIVE PROBLEM CONTROL TONER	260
INTENSIVE PROBLEM CONTROL CREAM · 50 g	290
ULTRA SHIELD SUN CREAM SPF 50+	250
Total	AED 1,130
FULL ROUTINE — ADDS THE SERUM	PRICE
The four above	1,130
PROBLEM CONTROL SERUM · 30 ml	330
Total	AED 1,460

WITH CLEANSING AND WEEKLY EXFOLIATION	PRICE
The five above	1,460
SKIN DEFENDER LIP & EYE MAKEUP REMOVER	290
EPI TURNOVER BOOSTING PEELING GEL	250
Total	AED 2,000

Prices include VAT. Orders over AED 1,000 ship free within the UAE.

What to expect, honestly: less surface oil, a more comfortable skin surface, and fewer of the small congested bumps that come from heat and sunscreen. What we will not give you is a week-by-week clearing schedule — an earlier version of this document did. If your breakouts are painful, cystic, scarring or not responding, that is a dermatologist’s appointment, not a skincare decision. Orders over AED 1,000 ship free within the UAE.

GENOSYS Middle East FZ-LLC · official UAE distributor of GENOSYS Korean dermacosmetics since 2019 · genosys.ae
Concentrations quoted are from the manufacturer’s signed formulas and certificates of analysis. Revised August 2026.