



## **Isotretinoin information for female patients**

At your first visit today, you should have completed several important steps in preparing for the use of Isotretinoin. These initial steps include:

- Education about the importance of birth control while taking Isotretinoin.
- Receiving your iPledge Educational Kit/Booklet.
- Initiation into the iPledge Program by one of our staff.
- Completion of your initial urine pregnancy screening test.
- Fill out and sign the iPledge Patient information/informed consent and Patient information/informed consent about birth defects.

There is a **30 day waiting period** between your first visit and your second visit when you will be prescribed Isotretinoin for your acne. The things that you will be responsible for prior to your second visit with us include:

- Read your iPledge Education Kit/Booklet and understand your responsibilities with this program and the use of Isotretinoin.
- It is your responsibility to choose and initiate the use of the acceptable forms of primary and secondary birth control methods as outlined in the iPledge Birth Control Workbook found in your iPledge Educational Kit/Booklet. Your choice of birth control method has to be used for at least 30 days before starting Isotretinoin.
- Your primary physician or gynecologist will be responsible for prescribing your birth control medication/device if you do not meet the surgical **or** abstinence exception as described in your iPledge Educational Kit/Booklet.
- Prior to every visit you will need to have a pregnancy test and fasting blood tests before receiving your months supply of Isotretinoin. You will have a standing order for labs and will only need an initial written prescription for lab work which we will provide. Please plan your lab testing and your follow up appointments within the same week. It is **imperative** that you have your appointments with us within the same week as having your lab testing done. There is a **seven day** window to fill your prescription for Isotretinoin after getting your labs and pregnancy test. You will also need to have a pregnancy test at the completion of your course of treatment **and** 1 month after completion to fulfill your iPledge agreement.

You will be given your first months prescription for Isotretinoin at your **second** visit.

The typical course of Isotretinoin is 6 months.

If you have any questions during your course of treatment, do not hesitate to contact us at (865)-233-7351.