WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A use of a composition consisting essentially of one or more zinc-containing components in admixture with a dermatologically or pharmaceutically acceptable carrier in the manufacture of a medicament for increasing elastin content in a region of a skin of a subject;

wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is selected from the group consisting of zinc acetate, zinc ascorbate, zinc aspartate, zinc butyrate, zinc caproate, zinc caprylate, zinc carbonate, zinc citraconate, zinc citramalate, zinc citrate, zinc EDTA, zinc formate, zinc fumarate, zinc gallate, zinc gluconate, zinc halides, zinc lactate, zinc malate, zinc maleate, zinc malonate, zinc metaphosphate, zinc monophosphate, zinc nitrate, zinc octoate, zinc orotate, zinc orthophosphate, zinc oxalate, zinc phosphate, zinc picolinate, zinc propionate, zinc pyrophosphate, zinc salicylate, zinc selenate, zinc succinate, zinc sulfate, zinc sulfonate, zinc tartrate, zinc tetrametaphosphate, zinc tripolyphosphate, zinc valerate, zinc amino acid complexes, zinc nucleotide complexes, and mixtures thereof,

wherein said one or more zinc-containing components is present in the composition at a concentration that increases elastin without causing epidermal sloughing and irritation due to zinc,

wherein said concentration is in the range of about 1 pM to about 100 mM, and

wherein the elastin content in the region of skin is increased in a sufficient amount to treat wrinkles.

2. The use according to claim 1, wherein said one or more zinc-containing components is present at a concentration in the range of about 1 pM to about 900 μM.

3. The use according to claim 1, wherein said one or more zinc-containing components is present at a concentration in the range of about 100 pM to about 500 μM.

4. The use according to claim 1, wherein said one or more zinc-containing components is present at a concentration in the range of about 10 μM to about 1 mM.

5. The use according to claim 1, wherein the one or more zinc-containing components comprises zinc carbonate.

6. The use according to claim 1, wherein the one or more zinc-containing components comprises zinc citrate.

7. The use according to claim 1, wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is present in the composition at a concentration of about 1 mM.

8. The use according to claim 5, wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is present in the composition at a concentration of about 1 mM.

9. The use according to claim 6, wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is present in the composition at a concentration of about 1 mM.

10. The use according to claim 1, wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is present in the composition at a concentration of about 10 μM.

11. The use according to claim 5, wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is present in the composition at a concentration of about 10 μM.

12. The use according to claim 6, wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is present in the composition at a concentration of about 10 μM.

13. The use according to claim 1, wherein the carrier is a dermatologically acceptable carrier

14. The use according to claim 1, wherein the composition is to be applied to one or more sites selected from the group consisting of the face, breasts, buttocks, neck, legs, arms, torso, and furrows or wrinkles in the face, hands or neck.

15. The use according to claim 1, wherein the composition comprises one or more zinc chelates.

16. The use according to claim 1, wherein the carrier is a dermatologically acceptable carrier and further comprises a moisturizer.

17. A composition for modifying the properties of tissue; wherein said composition consisting essentially of an effective amount of one or more zinc-containing components in admixture with a dermatologically or pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said one or more zinc-containing components is not a pyridine-thiol of zinc, a tautomer of a pyridine-thiol of zinc, a zinc oxide, or a zinc sulfide; and wherein said modification is for increasing fat content of tissue.

18. The composition according to claim 17 wherein the concentration of the zinc-containing components is from about 1.0 pM to about 900 μM.

19. The composition according to claim 17 wherein the concentration of the zinc-containing component is from about 100 pM to about 500 μM.

20. The use according to claim 17 comprising zinc acetate.

21. A composition for modifying the properties of tissue; wherein said composition consisting essentially of an effective amount of one or more zinc-containing component in admixture with a dermatologically or pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; wherein said one or more zinc-containing components is not a pyridine-thiol of zinc, a tautomer of a pyridine-thiol of zinc, a zinc oxide, or a zinc sulfide; and wherein said modification is for decreasing epidermal thickness.

22. The composition according to claim 21 in which the concentration of the zinc-containing components is from about 10 μM to about 100mM.

23. The composition according to claim 21 in which the concentration of the zinc-containing component is from about 100 μM to about 10 mM.

24. The composition according to claim 21 comprising zinc acetate.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Use of one or more zinc-containing components in the manufacture of a topical medicament for increasing elastin in skin, wherein the topical medicament comprises one or more zinc-containing components in an admixture with a dermatologically or pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;

wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is selected from the group consisting of zinc acetate, zinc ascorbate, zinc aspartate, zinc butyrate, zinc caproate, zinc caprylate, zinc carbonate, zinc chromate, zinc citraconate, zinc citramalate, zinc citrate, zinc EDTA, zinc formate, zinc fumarate, zinc gallate, zinc gluconate, zinc halides, zinc iodate, zinc lactate, zinc laurate, zinc laureate, zinc malate, zinc maleate, zinc malonate, zinc metaphosphate, zinc methanesulfonate, zinc monophosphate, zinc myristate, zinc nitrate, zinc octoate, zinc oleate, zinc orotate, zinc orthophosphate, zinc oxalate, zinc palmitate, zinc permanganate, zinc phenolsulfonate, zinc phosphate, zinc picolinate, zinc propionate, zinc pyrophosphate, zinc salicylate, zinc selenate, zinc stearate, zinc succinate, zinc sulfate, zinc sulfonate, zinc tartrate, zinc tetrametaphosphate, zinc titanate, zinc transferrin, zinc tripolyphosphate, zinc undecylate, zinc valerate, zinc amino acid complexes, zinc nucleotide complexes, and mixtures thereof,

and wherein zinc is present in the topical medicament in a concentration range from about 10 μM to about 1 mM, inclusive.

2. The use according to claim 1, wherein the topical medicament is for increasing the elastin in the skin of the face, breasts, buttocks, neck, legs, arms, torso, and furrows or wrinkles in the face, hands or neck.

3. The use according to any one of claims 1-2, wherein the topical medicament comprises zinc citrate, zinc carbonate, or zinc acetate.

4. The use according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the carrier is a dermatologically acceptable carrier and further comprises a moisturizer.

5. The use according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is present in the topical medicament in a concentration range of 900 μM to about 1 mM, inclusive.

6. The use according to any one of claims 1-5, wherein the zinc is present at a concentration of 1 mM.

7. The use according to any one of claims 1-5, wherein the zinc is present at a concentration 100 μM.

8. The use according to any one of claims 1-7, wherein the topical medicament consists essentially of the one or more zinc-containing components.

9. The use according to any one of claims 1-8, wherein the topical medicament contains zinc citrate.

10. The use according to any one of claims 1-8, wherein the topical medicament contains zinc carbonate.

11. The use according to any one of claims 1-8, wherein the topical medicament contains zinc acetate.

12. Use of one or more zinc-containing compositions for increasing elastin in skin, wherein the composition comprises one or more zinc-containing components in an admixture with a dermatologically or pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;

wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is selected from the group consisting of zinc acetate, zinc ascorbate, zinc aspartate, zinc butyrate, zinc caproate, zinc caprylate, zinc carbonate, zinc chromate, zinc citraconate, zinc citramalate, zinc citrate, zinc EDTA, zinc formate, zinc fumarate, zinc gallate, zinc gluconate, zinc halides, zinc iodate, zinc lactate, zinc laurate, zinc laureate, zinc malate, zinc maleate, zinc malonate,

zinc metaphosphate, zinc methanesulfonate, zinc monophosphate, zinc myristate, zinc nitrate, zinc octoate, zinc oleate, zinc orotate, zinc orthophosphate, zinc oxalate, zinc palmitate, zinc permanganate, zinc phenolsulfonate, zinc phosphate, zinc picolinate, zinc propionate, zinc pyrophosphate, zinc salicylate, zinc selenate, zinc stearate, zinc succinate, zinc sulfate, zinc sulfonate, zinc tartrate, zinc tetrametaphosphate, zinc titanate, zinc transferrin, zinc tripolyphosphate, zinc undecylate, zinc valerate, zinc amino acid complexes, zinc nucleotide complexes, and mixtures thereof,

and wherein zinc is present in the composition in a concentration range from about 10 μM to about 1 mM, inclusive.

13. One or more zinc-containing compositions for use in increasing elastin in skin, wherein the composition comprises one or more zinc-containing components in an admixture with a dermatologically or pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;

wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is selected from the group consisting of zinc acetate, zinc ascorbate, zinc aspartate, zinc butyrate, zinc caproate, zinc caprylate, zinc carbonate, zinc chromate, zinc citraconate, zinc citramalate, zinc citrate, zinc EDTA, zinc formate, zinc fumarate, zinc gallate, zinc gluconate, zinc halides, zinc iodate, zinc lactate, zinc laurate, zinc laureate, zinc malate, zinc maleate, zinc malonate, zinc metaphosphate, zinc methanesulfonate, zinc monophosphate, zinc myristate, zinc nitrate, zinc octoate, zinc oleate, zinc orotate, zinc orthophosphate, zinc oxalate, palmitate, zinc permanganate, zinc phenolsulfonate, zinc phosphate, zinc picolinate, zinc propionate, zinc pyrophosphate, zinc salicylate, zinc selenate, zinc stearate, zinc succinate, zinc sulfate, zinc sulfonate, zinc tartrate, zinc tetrametaphosphate, zinc titanate, zinc transferrin, zinc tripolyphosphate, zinc undecylate, zinc valerate, zinc amino acid complexes, zinc nucleotide complexes, and mixtures thereof,

and wherein zinc is present in the composition in a concentration range from about 10 μM to about 1 mM, inclusive.