Claims

1. A topical formulation comprising:
   a dispersed phase comprising:
      5 to 15% w/w (percentage weight/weight) nicotinamide;
      10 to 60% w/w of a partition coefficient enhancer (Pc enhancer), having a structure of the general formula: $C_nH_{2n+2}O_2$ where n represents an integer from 3 to 6 inclusive; and
         ≤ 10% water
   and a continuous phase,
   wherein the formulation has a pH of above 4.0.

2. The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the Pc enhancer is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, butylene glycol, pentylene glycol, hexylene glycol, and 1,5 pentane diol and a combination thereof.

3. The formulation according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the Pc enhancer is propylene glycol.

4. The formulation according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the formulation further comprises 2 to 10% w/w of a polyhydroxy acid.

5. The formulation according to claim 4, wherein the polyhydroxy acid is selected from gluconolactone, galactose and lactobionic acid.

6. The formulation according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the formulation further comprises about 0.5 to about 10 % w/w of a co-enhancer, selected from the group consisting of a C_{12} to C_{14} straight chain fatty acid and a C_{14} straight chain primary alcohol.

7. The formulation according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the continuous phase comprises:
      5 to 45% w/w of a first dimethicone macromer mixture including a dimethicone macromer and a hydrocarbyl methyl siloxane emollient selected from the group consisting of an alkyl methyl siloxane, an aryl methyl siloxane and an alkyl aryl methyl siloxane, and
      5 to 45% w/w of a second dimethicone macromer mixture including a methyl siloxane compound and a cross linked dimethicone macromer.

8. The formulation according to any of the preceding claims wherein the formulation does not comprise one or more of the following components: tranexamic acid, zinc salt, zinc salt of a conjugate base of polyhydroxy acid, vitamin D, derivatives of vitamin D, and metabolites of vitamin D, such as calcipotriol.

9. The formulation according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the formulation comprises a sun-blocking agent, a sun-screening agent or combinations thereof.

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the formulation according to claims 1 to 9.

11. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10 for use in therapy.

12. Use of the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10 in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing and/or treating a skin cancer.

13. The use according to claim 12, wherein the method of preventing and/or treating a skin cancer is selected from a method of preventing actinic keratosis, treating actinic keratosis, preventing melanoma, preventing recurrence of melanoma, treating melanoma, achieving complete or partial remission of melanoma, preventing squamous cell carcinoma, preventing basal cell carcinoma, treating squamous cell carcinoma, treating basal cell carcinoma, achieving complete or partial remission of squamous cell carcinoma, and achieving complete or partial remission of basal cell carcinoma.

14. The use according to any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein the method consists essentially of application to skin once a day or twice a day.

15. Use of the formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 9 as a cosmetic agent.

16. Use of the formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 9 for treating and/or improving a condition selected from abnormal skin pigmentation, skin aging or damage associated with sun exposure.