

No More Sleepless Nights!

BANISH BACK PAIN INSTANTLY

FIRST LADY

Michelle Obama In Her Best

> Shape At 48!

Her Wonder Workout

The Deadliest Driving Mistake

You Don't Know You're Making

Are Your Shoes Making You Fat?

LAB-TEST SHOCKERS

MARCH | 2012

+skin smarts

THE TREATMENT

Alkaline Diet v

WHAT IS IT? A few studies have shown acidity can be damaging to the body, so it's thought by some that eating mostly alkaline-forming (acid-lowering) foods like fruits and vegetables may slow skin aging. DOES IT WORK? There's no research proving this theory. (Our bodies do a good job of regulating acidity regardless of diet.) But there is anecdotal support: "My clients who eat 80% alkaline-forming foods notice fewer lines and more hydrated skin in weeks," says nutritionist Kimberly Snyder. BOTTOM LINE: The diet won't erase wrinkles, but eating more fruits and veggies improves overall health-and that can only be good for skin.





THE TREATMENT

Skin Needling A

WHAT IS IT? In this painless procedure, you roll a needle-covered device over your face to create tiny, temporary pricks in your skin, which may trigger a healing response (similar to what occurs after a cut), leading to a smoother complexion.

The Rodan + Fields AMP MD System (\$200; rodanandfields.com) includes a skinneedling device, shown above, as well as a peptideand retinol-based serum

DOES IT WORK? San Francisco dermatologist Kathy Fields, MD, who helped develop a home needling device for Rodan + Fields. says her company's analysis shows using it can induce skin's collagen-building process and improve penetration of anti-aging ingredients applied afterward. But there aren't peer-

reviewed studies of at-home devices, and Dr. Stuart believes needling is safer and more effective done in a derm's office with a pro version of the tool. BOTTOM LINE: Used before a retinol-based product.

an at-home skin-needling tool can smooth skin, but it's likely the retinol doing most of the work.