



**Position Statement**

**on**

**Isotretinoin**

**(Approved by the Board of Directors December 9, 2000;  
Amended by the Board of Directors March 25, 2003 and March 11, 2004)**

1. The Association is committed to the safe and responsible use of isotretinoin.
2. The Association promotes compliance with the manufacturer-sponsored and FDA-approved risk management program for prescribing isotretinoin.
3. The Association opposes on-line Internet dispensing, sharing, or reuse of isotretinoin, which may not provide for sufficient patient education about isotretinoin risks and which may not include participation in the manufacturer-sponsored and FDA-approved risk management program.
4. The Association supports continuing education for physicians, their office staff, allied medical personnel, and patients on pregnancy and other potential risks connected with the use of isotretinoin.
5. The Association calls on the FDA to continue to permit qualified patients, in consultation with their physician, to receive isotretinoin.
6. The Association recognizes there is sufficient evidence for the use of isotretinoin in severe forms of acne, particularly cystic acne or acne which has proven refractory to other forms of therapy. Assessment of severity includes the impact of the disease on the patient, both physical and psychological.
7. The Association acknowledges that isotretinoin has been demonstrated to be effective in the treatment of disorders of cornification in chemoprevention of skin cancer in high risk individuals who are actively developing multiple basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas, patients with xeroderma pigmentosum, the nevoid cell carcinoma syndrome, or those who are immunosuppressed, and for other dermatologic conditions as determined by the treating physician.