

Jane Yoo MD

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K-BEAUTY KORNER NEWSLETTER

WHERE SCIENCE, BEAUTY AND INNOVATION COLLIDE

MAY 2026



- Dr. Yoo curated and moderated the first dedicated K-Beauty program at a major U.S. cosmetic science conference, K-Beauty Immersion at NYSCC Suppliers' Day, held at the Javits Convention Center in New York City.
- Spicules: the buzzy K-beauty ingredient taking over social media, and the clinical breakdown every patient should know before trying it.
- Olive Young, Korea's beloved K-Beauty playground, is opening its first U.S. stores in Los Angeles on May 29. What to know before you go.

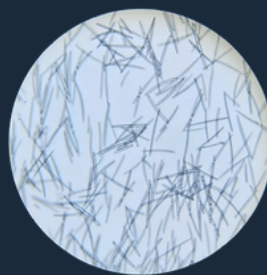
Dr. Yoo x NYSCC: K-Beauty Immersion at Suppliers' Day

- On May 19, Dr. Yoo curated and moderated K-Beauty Immersion at NYSCC Suppliers' Day, the first program of its kind dedicated entirely to Korean beauty at a major U.S. cosmetic science conference, held at the Javits Convention Center in New York City.
- The half-day program brought together experts from NielsenIQ, Spate, L'Oréal, dsm-firmenich, Amorepacific, LG H&H, Charlotte Cho of Soko Glam, and ingredient suppliers SEPPIC, INOLEX, BASF, and Cosmax, covering market trends, SPF innovation, skin-of-color inclusion, and the science behind ingredients like PDRN, spicules, and exosomes.
- For Dr. Yoo, curating this program reflects a core mission: elevating Korean beauty beyond trend status and into the scientific and clinical conversations it deserves. "K-beauty is not a trend to be managed. It is a lens through which some of the most rigorous thinking in skincare has happened."



SPICULES: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

K-BEAUTY SCIENCE DEEP DIVE · DR. JANE YOO, MD



- What they are:** Microscopic, needle-like bio-silica structures derived from marine sponges, ranging 100–300 micrometers. First used in cosmetics in Germany in the 1960s, they work as a physical, not chemical or biological, delivery technology.
- How they work:** When massaged into skin, spicules create thousands of tiny, temporary microchannels in the superficial epidermis. Most people feel mild tingling. These microchannels temporarily enhance penetration of actives like retinoids, peptides, and vitamin C, while mechanical stimulation encourages cellular renewal.
- Evolution of the technology:** First-generation spicules were used for exfoliation. Newer synthetic spicules allow precise control over size and tip sharpness, reducing discomfort while maintaining efficacy as ingredient delivery systems.
- Not the same as microneedling:** Spicules remain in the superficial skin layers, cause no bleeding, and require no downtime. They are not interchangeable with clinical microneedling, which penetrates deeper to stimulate collagen remodeling under professional oversight.
- Use with caution if:** You have rosacea, a compromised barrier, active acne, or are melasma-prone. Microtrauma can worsen inflammation or trigger post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation. Consult your dermatologist before adding to your routine.

SPICULE PRODUCT RECOMMENDATION

VT COSMETICS CICA
Reedle Shot 100



⚡ New U.S. Sunscreen Filter Approval Imminent

Bemotrizinol, also known as **Tinosorb S**, is a broad-spectrum sunscreen filter that covers both **UVA and UVB rays**. Long used in Korea, Europe, and Australia, it is now on track for FDA approval by this year. K-beauty sunscreens have relied on this filter for years, which is a big reason they can feel so lightweight, elegant, and cosmetically appealing compared to many U.S. formulas. Once approved, it could be a game-changer for American sunscreen formulation. Another area where K-beauty was simply ahead.

OLIVE YOUNG COMES TO THE U.S.

Korea's largest health and beauty destination, Olive Young, is opening its **first U.S. stores** in **Pasadena and Westfield Century City, Los Angeles on May 29**, and it's bringing the full K-beauty playground experience with it.

Both stores will feature walk-in skin scans, personalized product recommendations, and a discovery-first shopping floor with beloved K-beauty brands including Anua, Biodance, Mediheal, Belif, Bioheal Boh, and Colorgram.

Use code **JANEYOOMD25** at **oliveyoung.com** for 5% off.

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