

## Winona: A professional skincare brand targeting sensitive skin

- Winona, founded in 2008, is a Chinese skincare brand targeting sensitive skin. Winona is under Yunnan Botanee Group, a bio-technology manufacturer.
- In 2020, Winona's parent company Botanee filed for IPO in China.
- Ranking NO.1 in sensitive skin care category in 2020, surpassed Freeplus, KAO and Curel.







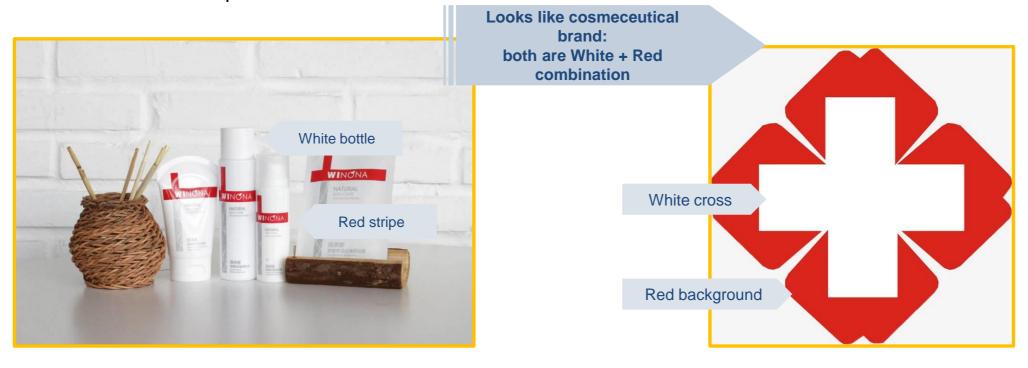
### Winona shows its professional brand image through packaging

#### **Brand Concept**

- Winona has its own product research and development team, and has been working with hospitals, dermatologists and universities, the brand has obtained a number of patents.
- Winona's brand vision is to solve the skin problems of Chinese people. The products specifically target sensitive skin.

#### **Packaging**

- White bottle with red stripe design.
- Looks like cosmeceuticals products.





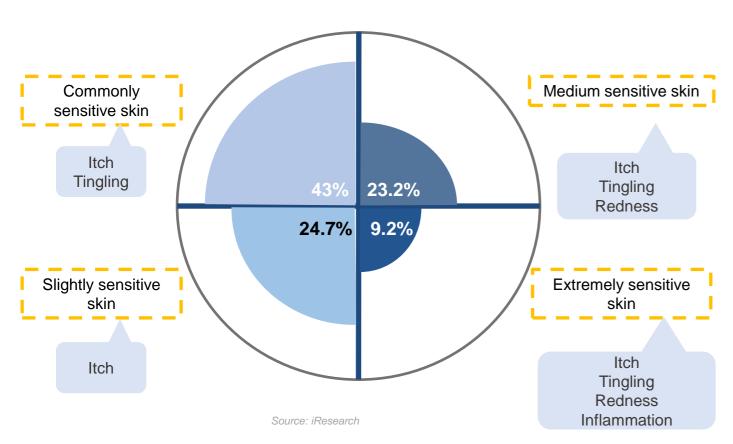


## Strategy 1: Segmentation for sensitive skincare (1/2)

- "Sensitive skin" accounts for a large proportion of skin types in China.
- After COVID-19, "How to solve the problems of sensitive skin" also becomes a popular topic on social media.

#### What is the major skin problems among Chinese customers?

(Online survey of iResearch for skincare products consumers, 2020)



#### Major skin problems among Gen Z in China after COVID-19









## Strategy 1: Segmentation for sensitive skincare (2/2)

#### **Top selling products of Winona on Tmall**











Moisturizing special care cream for sensitive skin

Moisturizing & hydrating cream

Moisturizing & repairing mask

- Winona accurately targets this specific group of customers with sensitive skin
- Winona's brand concept directly point out "This is a kind of product that is effective to solve sensitive skin's problems" which will certainly attract this specific group of customers.
- The brand concept and contents are clearly positioned as an expert in sensitive skincare category

## Sensitive skin is one of the largest skin concerns among Chinese customers



Brand concept: Focusing on sensitive skin









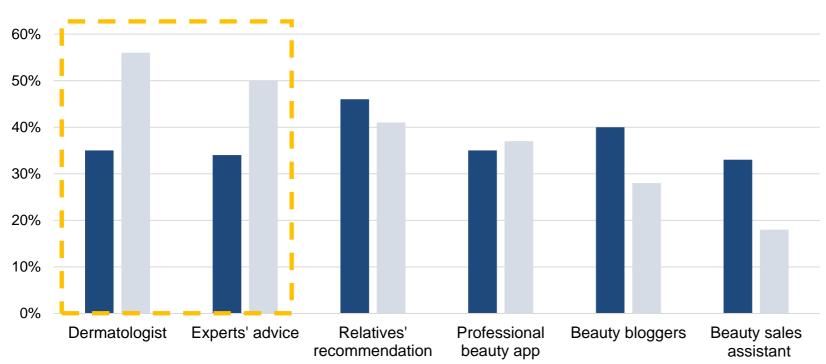
## **Strategy 2: Academic marketing (1/2)**

After COVID-19, Chinese customers trust information from professional channels more.

#### What channels do you trust the most for beauty?

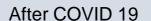
(Online survey of CBNData for skincare products consumers, 2020)

■ Before COVID-19 ■ Post COVID-19





Influenced by Relatives' recommendation & beauty bloggers



Educational posts from dermatologist or experts

Influenced by Dermatologist & experts



Source: CBNData





### **Strategy 2: Academic marketing (2/2)**

- The founder of Winona is a doctor in the industry with strong academic background.
- Most KOLs/KOCs of Winona are professional dermatologists, which is totally different from other beauty brands.
- Winona invites skincare experts to give professional advice on different skin problems.

Preview of the live stream with the dermatologists



Livestreaming without dermatologist



**9**k

Livestreaming with dermatologist



V.S

X 10 times



**Key words used for live streaming previews** 

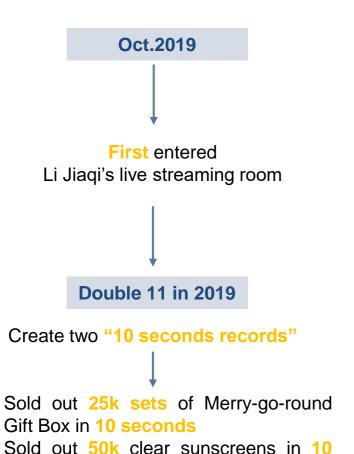
#还原护肤真相 #Reveal the reality of skin care #在线皮肤科医生答疑 #Online Q&A from dermatologists #敏感肌护肤科普 #Skincare knowledge about sensitive skin





### Strategy 3: Strategic selections for live stream hosts

- Unlike other brands, Winona holds live streams not only for selling products but also to teach customers about their skin problems.
- Dermatologists are the major live stream hosts, alongside top KOLs like Viya and Li Jiaqi.
- The brand cooperated with Li Jiaqi in the early stage of live streaming.





Li Jiaqi recommended merrygo-round gift box on Double 11 in 2019



Sold out 25k sets of "Merry-goround Gift box" in 10 seconds



Sold out 17k sets of "Prinsepia Utilis Royle Spray" in live streaming



Viya recommended Prinsepia Utilis Royle Spray in Nov. 2019





seconds

### Problems: High price & single concept of "sensitive skin"

#### Price comparison of cream from different brands

Brand name	Price	Unit-price
Winona	268 RMB/50g	5.36 RMB/g
Curel	139 RMB/40g	3.4 RMB/g
Freeplus	238 RMB/40g	6 RMB/g
La Roche Posay	145 RMB/40g	3.6 RMB/g
Avène	272 RMB/50g	5.4 RMB/g
Dr.Yu	148 RMB/50g	3 RMB/g

- The price of Winona is still a little higher than other cosmeceutical skincare brands which also focus on sensitive skin, including overseas big brands and domestic brands.
- The average unit-price of the cream from other brand are around 3 RMB/g, but Winona's unit-price is over 5 RMB/g, which is about 1.5 times more expensive.
- But for customers who are willing to pay for higher price, they would also prefer to choose big brands, so if Winona wants to attract customers, it should have some other benefits



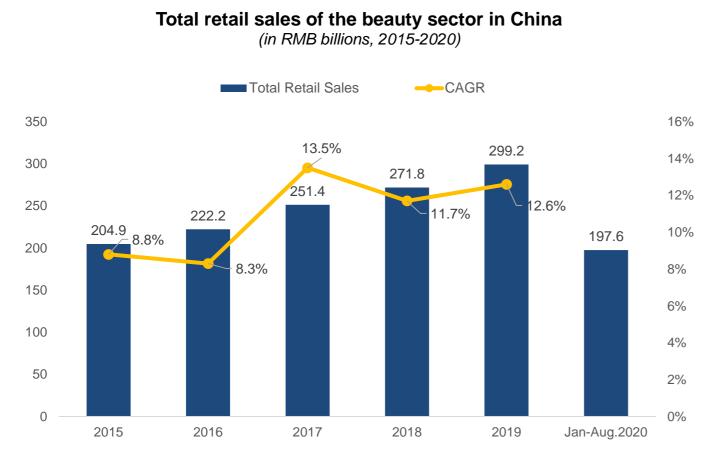
- How to further develop with the concept of "sensitive skin repair" or "Cosmeceuticals"
- When "Sensitive skincare" is no longer popular, how can they change the brand's concept.



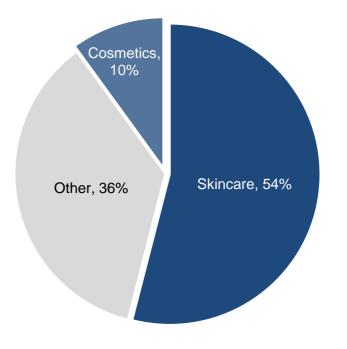


### The beauty sector in China developed steadily in recent years

- China had become the world's second largest beauty market in 2019. The sales of skincare products accounted for more than half of the beauty market in China.
- The beauty market was hit hard by COVID-19, but quickly recovered, annual beauty sales only slightly decreased



# Market share of major beauty categories in China by sales (2019)



Source: Euromonitor, iiMedia, 360 make-up, designed by Daxue consulting





### COVID-19 had a strong yet short-term impact on the beauty market

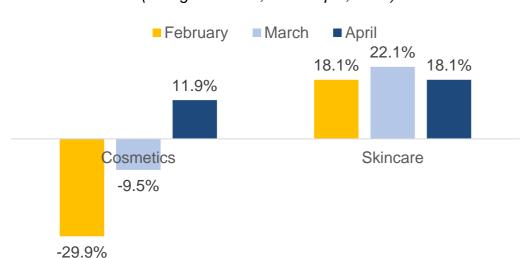
Due to COVID-19, cosmetics' sales volume in China declined by 29.9% in February 2020 compared with the same period in 2019.
 However it had recovered by April. During the outbreak, people consumed and talked more about skincare products than cosmetics.

O Since lips and much of cheeks are covered while wearing a mask, eye makeup products received more attention than before. "Mask makeup (口罩妆)" had become a hot topic among Chinese beauty consumers. The new trend helped brands and KOLs find new ways to

communicate with consumers.



(YoY growth rate, Feb – April, 2020)



Topics related to skincare at home are popular on social media like XHS. Especially, products with "skin repair", "basic skincare" and "first-aid care" functions are increasingly needed.

Source: SCMP; Taoshuju, Weibo, designed by daxue consulting









### COVID-19 brought out a beauty e-commerce battlefield

- COVID-19 caused beauty sales to move from offline to online channels as consumers were hesitant to visit offline stores.
- Additionally, foreign brands' sales declined dramatically in their home countries, thus they doubled-down on Chinese e-commerce platforms.

JD Luxury Gala 15th-25th December 2020



JD Black Friday Shopping Season 20th-29th November 2020

**1,600** brands

In 2020, 1,600 brands participated in the JD Luxury shopping festival.

**50%** 

In 2020, the sales of self-care products on JD Black Friday (27<sup>th</sup> Nov) increased 50% YoY.

**20X** 

The average turnover for the quarter increased by 20 times from last year.

+180%

Compared to 2019, the total sales of the 10-days shopping season grew 180%.

+180%

The number of first-time buyers increased by 180% YoY.



The three most popular brands in the self-care category were foreign brands Kao, Shiseido and Ryo.

Source: JD.com, designed by daxue consulting





## Live streaming and private traffic: Two key beauty market strategies

- Live streaming is increasingly popular due to the interactive experience, China's live streaming revenue has more than doubled from 2019 to 2020 (from 438 billion RMB to 961 billion RMB).
- Chinese beauty brands have a talent in leveraging private traffic. Some brands transformed their business model quickly in the heat of the pandemic, and embraced private traffic marketing.

#### Lin Qingxuan's private traffic marketing during COVID-19

Lin Qingxuan's (an original Chinese beauty brand) shopping advisors attracted new members to add customer service's WeChat account and invited them to enter a group chat.





**Before** 



#### **During**

Due to COVID-19, Lin Qingxuan started to expand its private traffic pool from WeChat to Taobao with the collaboration with DingTalk.

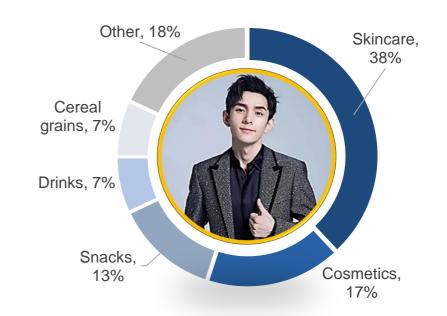






Taobao

### "lipstick king" Li Jiaqi's live streaming on Taobao (March 2020)







Average sales volume

854 thousand

Source: iimedia, Ccsight; Caixin global, designed by Daxue consulting





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Your Market Research Company in China

#### We are **daxue consulting**:

- A market research firm specializing on the Chinese market since 2010
- With 3 offices in China: in Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong
- Employing 40+ full-time consultants
- Full, complete, national coverage
- Efficient and reliable fieldwork execution across China
- Using our expertise to draw precise, reliable recommendations
- With key accounts from around the world



### Our past and current clients

#### 350+ clients with 600+ projects for the past 7 years































































































































































































































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South China Morning Post

> World Trademark Review.







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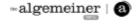




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ABOUT

#### Who we are

**Double V Consulting** - Your Insider into China market







### How we can help you?

**Double V Consulting** - Your Insider into China market

#### **TRAINING**

We offer online courses and workshops through CHINAble Academy, an affiliate of Double V.

#### **CONSULTING**

We provide brand & competitors analysis, and positioning & market entry strategy.

#### **E-COMMERCE**

We help DTC brands set up online flagship stores on Chinese major marketplaces, and enhance social commerce.

#### **BRANDING**

We cover all major Chinese social media. We help design your communication strategy and provide customized content.



#### Brands we have worked with

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