

MELANOMA SCREENING AND SUN EXPOSURE

Guiding
community
opinion

DERMATOLOGY IN AFRICA

Exploring dermoscopy in skin of colour while teaching in Uganda

JOINING FORCES

Advancing a National Targeted Screening Program for Melanoma

THE PATHWAY TO INNOVATION

Elevating curiosity is key according to Prof Fiona Wood AO

From the editor

2024 HAS ALREADY BEEN A BUSY ONE AT COLLEGE AND THIS REVAMPED ISSUE OF *THE MOLE* DETAILS SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES OUR COLLEGE AND OUR FELLOWS HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKING OVER THE SUMMER MONTHS.

The dermatology world and the medical profession at large were saddened to say goodbye to Prof Saxon Smith AM who passed away after a long battle with cancer in February. Prof Smith was actively involved in College life and will be missed.

Our policy and advocacy work continues with the publication of new position statements on population-based screening for melanoma and on sun exposure, as well as advocacy for a national targeted screening program, and joining forces with the Quality Use of Medicines Alliance to bring a focus to atopic dermatitis in primary care.

The 56th Annual Scientific Meeting is fast approaching and we are excited to have Prof Fiona Wood AO to deliver the John Reid Oration. Details of the program and an interview with the inspiring Prof Wood are contained in this issue.

Thank you to all Fellows who contributed to this issue, we encourage all Fellows and trainees to contribute to future editions.

Dr Anousha Yazdabadi
Honorary Secretary

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Australasian College of Dermatologists acknowledges the Cammeraygal people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands upon which the College head office is located. The College also acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Custodians of the lands upon which Australian dermatology services are delivered, and Elders past and present.

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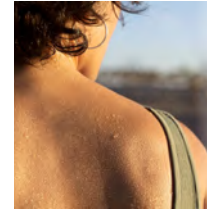
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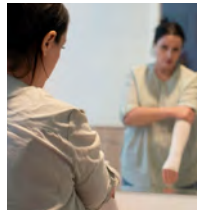
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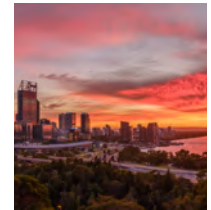
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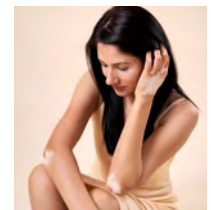
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From the President

It is hard to imagine that we are already well into 2024 and the Annual Scientific Meeting in Perth is just around the corner. The new year brings with it our new Strategic Plan for 2024-2027 and builds on our mission and values with our goals encompassing Workforce for our Communities, Service for our Members and Education for our future.

It has been a busy start to the year, as College works towards our strategic goals, continues with business as usual for members and trainees, and addresses the evolving regulatory requirements being imposed on specialist medical colleges. By way of background, the Health Ministers' commissioned reviews of both accreditation of specialist training sites and International Medical Graduate assessment and have issued Policy Directions to AHPRA and the Medical Board regarding these.

As a result of this, a new communications protocol regarding accreditation of training sites have already been adopted by the Australian Medical Council (AMC) and implemented. Accreditation of training sites has been reviewed

by the National Health Practitioner Ombudsmen and has resulted in recommendations intended to improve the transparency and accountability in specialist site accreditation. College will work with AHPRA, the AMC and specialist medical colleges to ensure we meet these requirements while maintaining a robust, fair system of accreditation which ensures our trainees continue to receive high standards of training and supervision.

Parallel to this, National Cabinet commissioned an Independent Review of Overseas Health Practitioner Regulatory Settings (The Kruk Report) which has made recommendations regarding assessment of International Medical Graduates (IMGs). Some of these will simplify and streamline the processes and some may impact the pathways for IMG assessment. College will continue to advocate for comprehensive, fair, transparent assessments with patient safety utmost.

These new recommendations are being enforced from the highest levels and we will keep you informed about any changes. If you are interested in finding out about this further, please contact College.

In March I was delighted to escape the hot weather of Melbourne and head north to the notably cooler weather of Brisbane and give the McCallum Founders Lecture at the University of Queensland. It was an honour to deliver this and gave me the opportunity to learn about Dr Norman Yates McCallum, a foundation member of College and to reflect on our rich history and how far we have evolved over the years. I extend my thanks to the family who continue to honour his name.

In the following pages, you will also hear about our time spent with Prof Victoria Mar and Prof H Peter Soyer along with the ACEMID and MSCAN teams at Parliament House in Canberra checking the skins of a number of politicians and highlighting our position statement regarding skin cancer screening and continuing to advocate for dermatology services.

As a reminder, the Annual General Meeting will be held virtually on 22 May 2024 and I hope you can all join us.

Dr Adriene Lee
President

Leadership



From the CEO

Welcome to ACD's new look *Mole*. A big thank you to Anita Allen, Marketing and Communications Manager for crafting the refreshed look of College's quarterly publication and bringing together an excellent range of relevant and timely articles by your colleagues and College staff. I hope you enjoy it and I encourage Fellows and trainees to consider contributing to future editions. Our goal is to ensure that *The Mole* captures what you need and want to know, and that it reflects the breadth of activity across College.

The year is off to a great start with the implementation of our new Strategic Plan 2024-27. ACD's key strategic themes are Workforce for our Community; Services for our Members; and Education for our Future. On the Workforce front, we are delighted to have been successful once again in securing Commonwealth funding via the Flexible Approach to Training in Expanded Settings (FATES) program, this time to support a 2-year pilot to develop service and

training opportunities in Western NSW – an area the size of the United Kingdom with significant unmet patient need. Following pilots in Darwin, Townsville and Hobart, this is College's fourth successful Commonwealth grant, demonstrating the government's confidence in our capability and commitment to improve access to specialist dermatology care for regional and rural communities.

In Member Services, we continue to work with the AMC, the Medical Board and AHPRA to maintain compliance with the new CPD Homes accreditation standards. In addition to AHPRA's changes to individual practitioner registration requirements, which we have been helping Fellows to navigate over the last year, this has also involved the opening up of medical colleges' CPD Programs to accommodate for junior doctors, career medical officers and other non-vocationally trained doctors working in applicable scopes of practice. We are working through the most appropriate way to address these

standards. Our focus is to ensure that Fellows continue to receive the highest quality tailored CPD program. With the Perth ASM just around the corner, this is the perfect opportunity to showcase what's on offer.

In Education, I extend a very warm welcome to our newest trainees and congratulate them on entering this important phase in their careers. The Training Program team is there to support you as you embark on this journey.

In other news, we have made the difficult decision to not seek TEQSA reaccreditation of the Master of Dermatology and the Master of Cosmetic Dermatology but are looking at new ways to offer this quality education to Fellows.

I look forward to seeing you at the Perth ASM on 11 May 2024. And for your diary, ACD's Annual General Meeting will be held virtually on 22 May 2024.

Dr Haley Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

WHAT'S ON

56TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING



11-13 MAY 2024



PERTH EXHIBITION AND
CONFERENCE CENTRE

The 56th Annual Scientific Meeting is fast approaching and the program is shaping up to be another exciting and insightful one. Go to [page 22](#) for more information and don't forget to [register now](#) and take advantage of our discounted flights and accommodation packages.

APPLICATIONS OPENING FOR 2024 SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FUND



13 MAY 2024

Applications for the 2024 Scientific Research Fund will open on Monday 13 May and close on Sunday 16 June 2024. College is offering a single Grant of \$50,000 for 2024.

Eligibility requirements, and terms and conditions are now available on the College [website](#). There have been some changes to the terms and conditions so all members who are considering submitting an application are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these.

For further information, please contact grants@dermcoll.edu.au.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Scientific Research Fund, please email finance@dermcoll.edu.au.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



END OF QUARTER 1

We are now into the second quarter of the CPD annual cycle and all Fellows should be working on their Professional Development Plan (PDP) for 2024. It is also a good time to ensure that you have entered your CPD activities for the first quarter to avoid the end of year rush. Please contact our CPD team at cpd@dermcoll.edu.au if you have any questions.

CONQUERING SKIN CANCER FILM AND CAMPAIGN



CALL FOR CHAMPIONS

College is one of a number of organisations partnering with film makers Moonshine Agency to produce an independent film campaign, *Conquering Skin Cancer*. The aim of the campaign is to raise awareness in the community and reduce skin cancer incidence and mortality. The film features interviews with patients including high profile melanoma survivors Deborah Hutton and Olympic Swimmer Cate Campbell, as well as ACD President, Dr Adriene Lee and Australians of the Year, Prof Georgina Long AO and Prof Richard Scolyer AO.


To promote the film and its message, we are seeking ACD Fellows to act as 'Champions' and be involved in supporting a screening of the film at a local cinema. Champions are involved primarily by inviting friends, family, colleagues and networks to a screening, however they can also make the event their own by organising a Q&A session or fundraiser to accompany the film. The Conquering Skin Cancer team will handle all the screening logistics with the cinema, arrange media coverage, and help promote the event on social media. The screenings are currently scheduled for November 2024.

If you are interested in being a Champion for Conquering Skin Cancer, please contact policy@dermcoll.edu.au.

Visit the website and view the film trailer [here](#).

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS – ACD 8TH RURAL DERMATOLOGY MEETING

 **6-8 SEPTEMBER 2024**

 **HOBART FUNCTION AND CONFERENCE CENTRE,
TASMANIA**


Abstracts are now open for ACD's 8th Rural Dermatology Meeting and will close on 27 May 2024.

Early Bird Registration will open on 22 April 2024 and close on 29 July 2024.

For more information, visit our [website](#).



TRAINING PROGRAM DATES

 **1 APRIL 2024**
2025 Training Program Applications close

24-25 AUGUST 2024
Interviews will be held

4-5 JUNE 2024
Fellowship examinations: Writtens
(held in local cities)


20 JULY 2024
Fellowship examinations: Clinical Viva
Part 1 (held in local cities)

10-11 AUGUST 2024
Fellowship examinations: Clinical Viva
Part 2 (Sydney, NSW)

1 NOVEMBER 2024
2nd Year Workshop



RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS

 **ACD PROVIDES A RANGE OF
RESOURCES FOR OUR MEMBERS ON
OUR WEBSITE INCLUDING:**

[Career Opportunities](#)

[CPD information](#)

[Upcoming events](#)

[Publications and policies](#)

[Position statements](#)

Vale Prof Saxon Donald Smith AM

12 September 1976 - 8 February 2024

PROF ALAN COOPER AM



Prof Saxon Smith completed his HSC at Shore (Sydney Church of England Grammar School) North Sydney in 1994. He enrolled in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Otago, New Zealand and graduated at the end of 2000. In 2001 he worked as an intern at the Gold Coast Public Hospital, Southport, Queensland. In 2002 Prof Smith was an RMO at Royal North Shore Hospital when he did a term in the dermatology department. By this time, he was already an elected member of the Australian Medical Association (NSW) Council, a role he maintained until 2021.

Prof Smith completed a Masters of Health Law at the University of Sydney in 2006. From 2003 to 2007 he worked in a number of capacities including Senior-in-Charge of the Emergency Department at Manly Hospital and Career Medical Officer for the Transfusion Medicine Department at the Australian Red Cross Blood Service.

In 2008 he became the Dermatology Research Registrar at Royal North Shore Hospital (RNSH) and over the following four years completed his dermatology training at the Skin Cancer Foundation Darlinghurst, John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle, Liverpool Hospital, and back to RNSH for his final year.

After obtaining his FACD Prof Smith commenced private practice on the Central Coast of NSW, and became a Visiting Medical Officer and subsequently staff specialist at RNSH. He progressed from Clinical Senior Lecturer to Clinical Associate Professor, to Clinical Professor at the Northern Clinical School of the University of Sydney, and subsequently Clinical Professor at Australian National University.

In 2013 Prof Smith completed his company director course to become a GAICD. Between 2014 and 2018 he completed his Doctor of Philosophy (Medicine) at the University of Sydney.

In 2017 Prof Smith was a director of the Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD). He was a member of the NSLHD Teaching, Research and Education Committee and Chair of the NSLHD Health Care Quality Committee. Between 2013 and 2019 he served on a number of NSW government committees and working groups.

Prof Smith made extensive contributions to the Australian Medical Association (AMA). He was on the Council of the AMA (NSW) from 2005-2021 and was on the Board of Directors from 2007-2017. He was AMA (NSW) Vice President from 2012-2014 and President 2014-2016. He served on and chaired numerous



PROF SMITH WITH HIS WIFE CAMILLE AND SON ELLIOT PROMOTING THE LAUNCH OF AN ECZEMA BOOK FOR CHILDREN WHICH HE CO-AUTHORED.

committees during his time with AMA (NSW).

Prof Smith served on the AMA Federal Council from 2014 to 2020. During that time he served on numerous committees and working groups and was the face of the AMA in the media on every possible issue, requiring him to carefully research each topic before making himself available.

He consulted to MDA National from 2008 and served on the NSW Advisory Committee from 2017 including as Chair from 2022.

Prof Smith made many contributions to ACD, serving on committees and working groups, and being elected NSW Faculty Chair from 2017-2019. He was also active in the Australasian Society of Cosmetic Dermatologists being the inaugural co-editor of their journal.

Prof Smith was a friend and mentor to a generation of young dermatologists who joined him in his many research projects. His academic output was prodigious. He had 116 peer reviewed publications, 144 published

abstracts, 3 book chapters, 84 other published articles, 146 presentations at local, national, and international meetings and 143 posters at national and international meetings.

Prof Smith received numerous awards and accolades throughout his career. In 2018 he received the AMA (NSW) President's Award and in 2019 he was the recipient of the AMA (Federal) Roll of Fellows. In 2019 he was the recipient of College's Certificate of Meritorious Service and in 2022 he was recognised as a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia.

Away from medicine Prof Smith had numerous interests including music and dance. He was a member of the Southern Alps Ski Club and a Life Member of the NSW Rugby Union. He was a qualified rugby union coach and coached junior rugby for the Chatswood Junior Rugby Club and Norths Pirates Junior Rugby Club between 2018 and 2023.

In late 2019 Prof Smith detected a suspicious lump. It was biopsied at the beginning

of 2020 and a rare nerve sheath sarcoma was identified. A significant surgical procedure was necessitated. Over the following years he underwent several further major surgical procedures and commenced chemotherapy. He also volunteered for various clinical trials of novel experimental treatments.

Throughout all his achievements Prof Smith was strongly supported by his wife Camille. When he was dealing with the challenges of his illness in recent years Camille was a tremendous emotional and physical support. Prof Smith was incredibly proud of his son Elliot and he enjoyed sharing stories of Elliot's achievements. Our deepest sympathies go to Camille and Elliot.

Despite the unfavourable odds, Prof Smith carried on with his usual enthusiasm and optimism, continuing to provide patient care while attending to administrative, teaching and research responsibilities. He is remembered as a most extraordinary individual. A life lived without a minute wasted. ●



Balancing benefits and risks

Guiding community opinion on
population-based screening for
melanoma and on sun exposure

A/PROF STEPHEN SHUMACK

Guidance

The information provided in College's position statement on *Population-based screening for Melanoma* and the College-endorsed statement *Balancing the risks and benefits of sun exposure: A revised position statement for Australian adults* will enable current best practice advice and the ability to comment on questions raised by our patients and our medical colleagues.

Earlier this year, two important documents were released. The first was College's position statement on *Population-based screening for Melanoma*. This position statement followed on from the Melanoma Screening Summit held in March 2019 attended by representatives from government, cancer control agencies, specialist medical colleges, research institutions and consumer organisations and has been endorsed by two consumer organisations - Melanoma

Patients Australia (MPA), and the Melanoma and Skin Cancer Advocacy Network (MSCAN).

The second was the publication in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health on *Balancing the risks and benefits of sun exposure: A revised position statement for Australian adults*.

This publication resulted from the findings and conclusions of the Sun Exposure Summit held in March 2021. The statement was endorsed by College and the other groups involved in the Melanoma Screening Summit. The delegates to this Summit included many of the representatives listed above. The lead author is Prof Rachel Neale from QIMR Berghofer in Brisbane, and College was represented by Fellows A/Prof David Francis, Prof H Peter Soyer, and myself.

The aim of these two position statements is to express current learned opinion and advice in these two areas of significant community and media interest. Position statements such as these give College the opportunity to guide community opinion in Australia.

The publication of College's position statement on population-based screening for melanoma is important as it makes the point that College does not recommend general population-based screening for melanoma because of insufficient evidence

demonstrating that such screening reduces mortality. Further, College recommends ongoing government investment in research and programs to improve and standardise risk stratification including the optimal use of new diagnostic technologies, and to inform an evidence-based equitable targeted screening program for melanoma.

Balancing the risks and benefits of sun exposure: A revised position statement for Australian adults, further clarifies the information and advice provided in previous position statements – the last update being in 2016. The most important change in this new position statement is to provide an opportunity for more personalised advice to individuals concerning their need for sun protection, and the risk of sun exposure based on skin types and other factors. This is a move away from the more general 'one size fits all' approach of the previous statements.

I encourage all Fellows and trainees to familiarise yourselves with the information provided in these documents. This will enable you to be across current best practice advice and be able to comment on questions raised by our patients and our medical colleagues.

Both position statements are available on the Statements, Guidelines and External Resources page on the College [website](#). ●



Joining Forces on a National Targeted Screening Program for Melanoma

On 29 February, the Melanoma and Skin Cancer Advocacy Network (MSCAN) hosted a Parliamentary Friends of Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness morning tea at Parliament House, Canberra. College was delighted to attend and support this event alongside the Australian Centre of Excellence in Melanoma Imaging & Diagnosis (ACEMID).

CAROLINE ZOERS, DIRECTOR, POLICY, ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT

The event provided MPs and Senators the opportunity to hear from melanoma and skin cancer patients, as well as Australia's leading clinicians and researchers about the world-leading innovation, technology and research shaping the future of skin cancer early detection.

Opening the panel discussion MSCAN Founder and Director, Tamara Dawson spoke about the confusion Australians face in knowing whether they need to get a skin check, how often and who to see and the incredible research underway on risk stratification, and to inform a national targeted screening program.

Craig Lawn, Stage IV melanoma patient and Chair, ACEMID and Melanoma Institute Australia Consumer and Community Committee, shared his own journey, the impact of melanoma on the lives of individuals and their families and the importance of ongoing investment in research and clinical trials.

College President, Dr Adriene Lee highlighted the critical importance of skin cancer prevention, early detection and access to optimal treatment and

care, and College's commitment to growing the dermatologist workforce and upskilling primary care in detection, surveillance, management and knowing when to refer for specialist care.

Prof Anne Cust, Deputy Director, The Daffodil Centre and Professor of Cancer Epidemiology Faculty, Melanoma Institute Australia, highlighted Australia's place as the world leader in melanoma prevention and care, the need to optimise early detection of skin cancer alongside continued investment in primary prevention, particularly for young people for whom melanoma is the most common cancer in people aged 15-39 years.

College Fellow, Prof Victoria Mar, Director, Victorian Melanoma Service expanded on the work being undertaken through the ACEMID program of research (see [Winter Mole 2023](#) for overview) including the establishment of the world's largest comprehensive data set, the potential of artificial intelligence and the importance of integrating these technologies safely and effectively so that they benefit people without adding undue burden to the health system.



Prof Monika Janda, ACEMID and a Professor of Behavioural Science noted that Australia is now ready to move towards a national melanoma screening program with a targeted, personalised and technology-facilitated approach that would see a shift away from a one size fits all approach to a risk stratified approach. She noted that the



Prof Victoria Mar with Parliamentary Friends of Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness Co-Chairs, the Hon Jason Clare MP (L) and the Hon Darren Chester MP (R)



Panellists Craig Lawn, Dr Adriene Lee, Tamara Dawson, Prof Monika Janda, Prof Anne Cust and Prof Victoria Mar.



Prof H Peter Soyer and ACD President, Dr Adriene Lee

current program of research and advancements in technology are paving the way for delivery of a robust, efficient and equitable screening service that can be rolled out in a systematic way nationwide and that would see Australia leading the world once more towards the eradication of advanced melanoma.

Complementing this powerful panel discussion, College Fellows showcased the expertise of dermatologists by providing skin checks to MPs and Senators. These generated a lot of interest, and our thanks go to Dr Lee, Prof H Peter Soyer and Prof Mar for conducting over 35 skin checks over the course of the morning. This was an invaluable opportunity to engage with politicians on all sides of Parliament on the importance of ongoing investment in innovation and research to reduce the burden of skin cancer, and to highlight the need for increased investment in the dermatologist workforce.

The Parliamentary Friends of Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness - co-chaired by the Hon Jason Clare MP and the Hon Darren Chester MP - was launched in February 2023. It is an initiative to work together, alongside influential melanoma and skin cancer organisations,

to shine a spotlight on tackling melanoma and skin cancer in Australia.

Our engagement with stakeholders continued with a meeting held with Cancer Australia Medical Director, Dr Vivienne Milch at the Department of Health and Aged Care. Dr Milch was able to share key insights from the work currently underway to establish Australia's first targeted screening

program - for lung cancer. This provided an opportunity to explore the data, research and policy questions that remain to be answered to progress a national targeted melanoma screening program and we look forward to further discussions.

Special thanks to Tamara Dawson, MSCAN and our Fellows for their hard work in organising and supporting these excellent engagement opportunities. ●



ACD President, Dr Adriene Lee speaks with Dr Mike Freelander MP, Chair of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport



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Abbreviation: TB, tuberculosis. **References:** 1. Otezla[®] (apremilast) Product Information. 2. The Australasian College of Dermatologists Consensus Statement: Treatment goals for psoriasis. March 2017.

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AMGEN

Support

Getting on the front foot in primary care with atopic dermatitis

DR LI-CHUEN WONG

Atopic dermatitis management in primary care is a focus for a new quality use of medicines program funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care.



College has been working closely with the Quality Use of Medicines Alliance, a consortium of eight health professional, research and consumer organisations, to develop a national program to support consumer health literacy and improve the use of medicines for atopic dermatitis, gout, antidepressants in older people and oral anticoagulants.

A multifaceted program of educational activities and resources has been designed for atopic dermatitis with the guidance and input of a number of College Fellows. Fellows have been involved through key opinion leader interviews, and as representatives on the multidisciplinary Expert Working Group and Stakeholder Reference Group. Fellows have also been actively involved in reviewing the clinical material developed for health professionals and resources for consumers, as well as participating in webinar and podcast panels.

SUPPORTING PRIMARY CARE PRACTITIONERS

An extensive research and design process identified multiple gaps and barriers to improving the management of atopic dermatitis in primary care. It confirmed misconceptions surrounding treatment options, particularly regarding topical corticosteroids

safety, often resulting in poor adherence and suboptimal outcomes. Addressing practice gaps and providing accurate, up-to-date, evidence-based information is critical for optimising atopic dermatitis management.

A range of resources and educational activities are being delivered for general practitioners, pharmacists, nurses and Aboriginal health workers. These include peer group learning, online case studies, practice audits, webinars, podcasts, communication videos, and a range of in-consultation resources for consumers.

ADDRESSING PRACTICE GAPS AND PROVIDING ACCURATE, UP-TO-DATE, EVIDENCE-BASED INFORMATION IS CRITICAL FOR OPTIMISING ATOPIC DERMATITIS MANAGEMENT.

ADAPTING COLLEGE'S MANAGEMENT FLOWCHART FOR ATOPIC DERMATITIS PATIENTS

At the forefront of the new resources is the adaptation of College's Atopic Dermatitis Management Flowchart for a primary care audience. Fellows have worked closely with the Quality Use of Medicines Alliance team to design an algorithm that emphasises the foundational and first-line management of atopic dermatitis for consumers most commonly presenting in primary care settings.

The adapted algorithm/flowchart is complemented by an Eczema Care Plan for all health professionals to use with their patients. This management plan serves not only as a record for the consumer, but also as a communication tool between different health professionals. These two resources are available on the program's online learning platform and also via the Statements, Guidelines and External Resources page on College's website [here](#).

HELPING PATIENTS THROUGH THE TREATMENT AND INFORMATION MAZE

For consumers, who are often caught in a cycle of misinformation and disinformation, a range of evidence informed and peer reviewed content will be available on a dedicated information hub. The Eczema Care Online Toolkit is available through [Eczema Support Australia](#). The hub includes videos, webinars, digital content and other trusted sources of information.

MORE INFORMATION

Resources for health professionals are now available through the [QHUB](#) online learning platform that will continue to grow across the course of the program.

College will update members as more resources and activities become available. ●

THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE NEW RESOURCES IN PRIMARY CARE CANNOT BE OVERSTATED. THE GUIDANCE WE ARE PROVIDING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND CONSUMERS ALIKE WILL HELP ENSURE THAT THERE IS MORE CERTAINTY, LESS AMBIGUITY AND A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THOSE LIVING WITH ECZEMA.



Quality Use of Medicines Alliance



Helping consumers and health professionals make safe and wise decisions about medicines and diagnostics. Funded by the Australian Government through the Quality Use of Diagnostics, Therapeutics and Pathology Program.

Innovation

Curiosity in the Raw
– The Pathway to
INNOVATION



PROF FIONA WOOD AO

College is pleased to have highly respected plastic and reconstructive surgeon and world leading burns specialist Prof Fiona Wood AO delivering the John Reid Oration at this year's 56th Annual Scientific Meeting.

WE CAUGHT UP WITH PROF WOOD TO DISCUSS HER PASSION FOR INNOVATION AND THE ROLE OF CROSS COLLABORATION IN DELIVERING INNOVATIVE OUTCOMES IN THE FUTURE.

ONE OF THE THEMES OF OUR ASM IS INNOVATION. COULD YOU DISCUSS YOUR PATHWAY TO INNOVATION AND WHAT INSPIRED YOU.

When I first started I'm not even sure we used the word 'innovation', but what I can recognise in myself, and those around me in this space, is a hunger for knowledge and a hunger for understanding how to apply that knowledge. In our context of course, we are aiming to reduce the suffering of the patients in front of us, so I think I come to the table with that sort of energy and that absolute curiosity in the raw.

I think innovation is fascinating because it's much more talked about these days - we now almost teach it as a subject. Innovation is open to everyone. However when you start a journey that can be quite challenging, then having that absolute raw curiosity at the core of it helps you through the rough times because I actually just want to know – How can I do this? How can I do this better?

WHAT DOES INNOVATION MEAN TO YOU?

Innovation for me is the edge of knowledge, but not just that, because we've got an explosion of knowledge - it's making the knowledge useful to people. It's that nexus of taking this knowledge that's been generated by someone out there such as dermatologists, plastic surgery or orthopaedics and saying 'well how does that apply to me? How does that apply to my patients and how can I get the benefit of this?' It's having that curiosity and recognising that there is a lot out there but not in



our main field of vision, so keeping the blinkers off. It's wanting to harness knowledge so things can be better tomorrow.

HOW DOES CROSS SPECIALTY COLLABORATION CONTRIBUTE TO INNOVATION?

There is no substitute for many hands make light work and many brains make things happen, so collaboration is fundamental. I see so many times the comment 'oh we've been doing that for years' and I think 'well why haven't we?' because sometimes we just don't talk to each other enough. So that for me is a philosophy and a way of approaching the business at hand.

HOW DO YOU SUPPORT INNOVATION IN YOUR WORK?

Interestingly, I've realised that the whole concept of leading from the front, which is the way I was brought up, the way I have been driven, is all well and good but sometimes you are so far down the rabbit hole or so far in front that the elastic snaps, because you aren't paying enough attention to those that could potentially come with you and overtake you. So offering that support, that hand of

INNOVATION

friendship, is really important and it has to be done in a number of ways. For example, telling someone 'this is how I did it' only takes you so far because we have different barriers these days and it's about trying to help people over these barriers. It's saying 'well I did it this way and this is what I learnt but how can we put that framework onto the current practice?', or 'how can we put that framework onto the contemporary frameworks of health that we work in?'

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE BARRIERS TO INNOVATION IN TODAY'S HEALTH FRAMEWORK?

Health is much more complex than when I started. There are barriers within the complexity of contemporary health but also enablers. Within this complexity of health there is enormous capacity to do extraordinary things but it comes with a lot of perceived barriers, like governance.

Governance keeps us safe as patients, safe as inventors and safe as practitioners so why wouldn't we want it? But we want to engage in it so it's useful, so it's user friendly, not a barrier. So while the complexity of the health system can be seen as a barrier, it can also be an enabler. It's the attitude you take to the table, and that's key.

WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF INNOVATIVE CROSS COLLABORATIONS YOU HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH?

There are so many examples of cross collaboration. I have lived my life as the conduit to the front line, to the patients, but collaboration has been fundamental. For example, with our neurological work, burns meets brains. I work very closely with neurophysiologists and with our cell therapies. In our spray-on skin cell story, which is ongoing as we try to enhance it, I work very closely with cell biologists and material scientists. In work around the systemic response to injury I work very closely with incredible biochemists and those who understand data analytics in a way that I dream of, and the list goes on.

HOW DO YOU SEE CROSS COLLABORATION SHAPING THE FUTURE?

I think we've been through a period of time of an increasing sub specialty approach which I think is appropriate - I am a card carrying sub specialist with a focus on burn injury and scarring - yet I can't do that in isolation. I think it is a really big challenge to facilitate that cross discipline collaboration, within medicine and without, because it is increasingly complex and there is a lot of information and knowledge there. I think things like machine learning and artificial intelligence will open doors that could facilitate the collaboration across specialties

because it will no longer be in one specific plain, it will be accessible to a broader audience. and in doing so we will all be able to advance further.

The current opportunities to revisit old questions with new technology are fantastic and exciting and I am impatient as I haven't got another 30 years!

HOW DO YOU SEE DERMATOLOGY INNOVATION AFFECTING YOUR WORK IN THE FUTURE?

We are clearly focused on the same space. I think skin is the window to many things and understanding how our skin interacts systemically with the rest of us is increasingly important for the future when we think about diagnostics, for example. The skin microbiome, the dynamism of skin and its responses to the surface microbiome but also to the systemic microbiome, gives us an opportunity in the future to understand things in a way we haven't before and I am certainly looking forward to all this new knowledge tumbling out of that space.



**INNOVATION FOR ME IS THE
EDGE OF KNOWLEDGE**

PROFESSOR FIONA WOOD — AO, FRCS, FRACS

Fiona Wood has been a burns surgeon and researcher for over 30 years and is Director of the Burns Service of Western Australia (BSWA). She is a Consultant Plastic Surgeon at Fiona Stanley Hospital and Perth Children's Hospital; co-founder of the first skin cell laboratory in WA; Winthrop Professor in the School of Surgery at The University of Western Australia; and co-founder of the Fiona Wood Foundation (formerly The McComb Foundation).

Professor Wood's greatest contribution and enduring legacy is her work with co-inventor Marie Stoner, pioneering the innovative 'spray-on skin' technique (Recell), where today the technique is used worldwide.

In October 2002, Fiona was propelled into the media spotlight when the largest proportion of survivors from the 2002 Bali bombings arrived in Perth where Fiona led the medical team at Royal Perth Hospital to save many lives.

Throughout Fiona's career, she has received prestigious accolades in recognition of her clinical excellence and burns research outputs that have improved the quality-of-life outcomes of burn patients locally and worldwide.

- 2003: Order of Australia Medal
- 2003: Australian Medical Association 'Contribution to Medicine' Award
- 2004: WA Citizen of the Year Award
- 2004: National Living Treasure (Australia)
- 2004: Dr Michael Chin Humanitarian Award
- 2005: Australian of the Year
- 2005: ATSE Clunies Ross Award for Medical Science
- 2006: Honorary Life Membership, Australian College of Educators
- 2007: Honorary Life Membership, Australian and New Zealand Burn Association (ANZBA)
- 2007: Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine, Leeds University
- 2009: Fellowship, King's College London
- 2011: WA Women's Hall of Fame
- 2022: Australian Society for Medical Research Medallist
- 2023: Monash Medal
- 2024: Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) ●



THE SKIN MICROBIOME, THE DYNAMISM OF SKIN AND ITS RESPONSES TO THE SURFACE MICROBIOME BUT ALSO TO THE SYSTEMIC MICROBIOME GIVES US AN OPPORTUNITY IN THE FUTURE TO UNDERSTAND THINGS IN A WAY WE HAVEN'T BEFORE AND I AM CERTAINLY LOOKING FORWARD TO ALL THIS NEW KNOWLEDGE TUMBLING OUT OF THAT SPACE.

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Before prescribing, please refer to the approved Product Information available at https://medsinfo.com.au/product-information/document/Sotyktu_PI or by contacting Bristol Myers Squibb Australia Medical Information, telephone: 1800 067 567, email: MedInfo.Australia@bms.com

References: 1. SOTYKTU Product Information. 2. Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods. Available at: <https://www.ebs.tga.gov.au/>. Accessed October 2023.

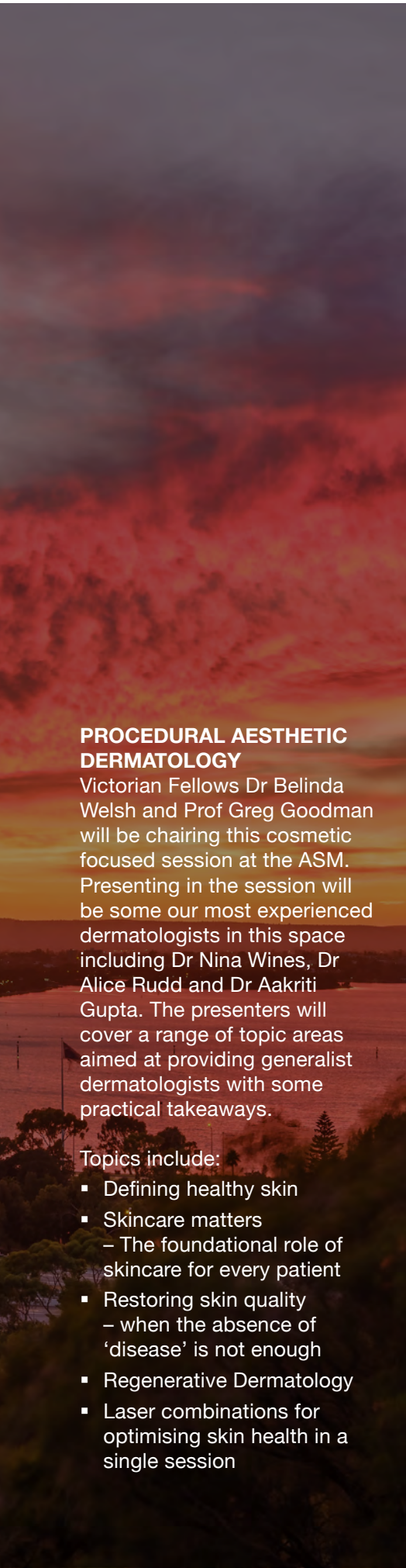
Meeting

ASM56 in Perth

A view to the future

The program for the 56th Annual Scientific Meeting in Perth covers a wide range of topics and will provide insightful and relevant content for all delegates.





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

GENETICS: EMBRACING GENOMICS IN DERMATOLOGY PRACTICE

Delving into the evolving landscape of genetics, the Sunday Plenary chaired by Dr Rachael Foster and Prof H Peter Soyer will explore what a dermatologist really needs to understand about genetics.

Perth based Clinical Geneticist Prof Gareth Baynam who has interests in rare diseases in Indigenous health, equitable innovation, clinical genomics, digital health and artificial intelligence will be discussing “The Common Cause of Suffering and Death - what you already know, what you need to know, and what to do about the great mix up”.

Consultant Paediatric Dermatologist Dr Kin Fon Leong from Malaysia will be discussing “Genetics of vascular malformation: what and why?”

Prof Ingrid Winship will be presenting on “Genomic Testing and Dermatology Phenotyping: The Perfect Partnership”, followed by Dr Cathy Poulton who will be discussing “Approach to Genetic Testing: An Update for Dermatologists with Illustrative Cases”.

Finally, Prof Aideen McInerney-Leo, Principal Research Fellow at the Frazer Institute at the University of Queensland will be providing an overview of “Melanoma Genetic Testing: From the Rare to the Common”.



PROCEDURAL AESTHETIC DERMATOLOGY

Victorian Fellows Dr Belinda Welsh and Prof Greg Goodman will be chairing this cosmetic focused session at the ASM. Presenting in the session will be some of our most experienced dermatologists in this space including Dr Nina Wines, Dr Alice Rudd and Dr Aakriti Gupta. The presenters will cover a range of topic areas aimed at providing generalist dermatologists with some practical takeaways.

Topics include:

- Defining healthy skin
- Skincare matters
 - The foundational role of skincare for every patient
- Restoring skin quality
 - when the absence of ‘disease’ is not enough
- Regenerative Dermatology
- Laser combinations for optimising skin health in a single session



SUSTAINABILITY IN HEALTHCARE – JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Once again this year, the ASM keeps a focus on sustainability in the context of dermatology practice. The session led by Dr Fiona Bruce, Dr Austen Anderson and Dr Eugene Tan provides an excellent platform for discussing how we can collectively and individually contribute to more sustainable healthcare.

Speakers and presentations for this session include:

- Dr James Anderson – Getting Sustainability Done in the Public Health System
- Dr Eugene Tan – Sustainable dermatology: A practical guide for the Australian dermatologist
- Dr Alex Buller – Lean and Green: real world eco-actions for a medical practice that save money, save time and improve quality
- Dr Misha Rosenbach – Climate Change & Dermatology: a review of the literature highlighting gaps and needs
- Prof Sarah Dunlop – Plastics and human health.



**FINAL PLENARY GUEST
SPEAKER – FUTURIST GIHAN
PERERA**

Gihan Perera will be leading our final plenary session on Monday afternoon where he will be inviting attendees to join him on a fascinating journey towards future readiness in his presentation, “Fit for the Future”.

With the world hurtling forward at breakneck speed, Gihan will be painting a vivid picture of uncertainty intertwined with boundless opportunity. From the expansive realms of digital innovation to the urgent call of climate action, from the dynamic landscape of workplace evolution to the intersection of high-tech healthcare and human-centric expectations, every disruption becomes a gateway to your next big breakthrough.

Dispelling the myth of a future beyond our control, Gihan will talk about empowerment, declaring that while we can’t predict every twist and turn, we possess the power to shape our destinies. He will encourage moving towards future readiness, and embracing change as a catalyst for growth.

Gihan will unpack the trends shaping our tomorrow, illuminating the essential skills and mindsets needed to not

just survive, but thrive in the whirlwind of change. With an infectious blend of insight, humour and reflection, he will be inviting attendees to challenge assumptions and envision new possibilities.

In this interactive session, prepare to engage your mind, heart, and sense of adventure as Gihan equips you with a personalised game plan for navigating the fast-changing landscape ahead. Leave inspired, armed with practical strategies and a renewed sense of purpose, ready to seize the opportunities awaiting in the ever-evolving world. ●

**DON'T MISS YOUR
CHANCE TO EMBARK
ON THIS JOURNEY WITH
GIHAN PERERA. COME
READY TO THINK, LAUGH,
LEARN, AND DISCOVER
WHAT IT TRULY MEANS
TO BE “FIT FOR THE
FUTURE”.**



Teaching Dermatology in Uganda

In 1989, the Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) was established in the Southwest of Uganda. It is now ranked as the second university in the country after the long established Makerere University in the capital, Kampala.

DR TIM O'BRIEN

In 1998 a Dermatology Department was established at MUST by a German doctor, Professor Gerold Jaeger. Subsequently a training program was established, the Master of Medicine in Dermatology, to train dermatologists. Dr Grace Mulyowa, the current department head, was the first graduate in 2003. In that same year, a teaching program of Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO) was established, linked with the American Academy of Dermatology.

The Mbarara program has become one of the major training centres for dermatology in East Africa. Currently there are 13 trainees in the 3 year program. Of these trainees, seven are from Uganda and others are from Kenya, Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia and

Sierra Leone. Dr Grace Mulyowa is the principal dermatologist. Sadly the second dermatologist, Dr Peter Mugisha, died of Covid-19 in 2020. Two other dermatologists from Masaka (2 hours away) and Kampala (5 hours away) visit for 2 days each week to assist with teaching in the clinic.

The current HVO site director is Dr Alexia Knapp from St Paul, Minnesota. With the help of a dermatopathologist, Dr Elen Blochin from New York, she has continued to provide regular Zoom teaching since the onset of Covid-19.

Recently, with my wife Fran, I visited Mbarara again to teach in the postgraduate dermatology training program. This was our 8th visit to Mbarara since 2010. Due to Covid-19 restrictions we had



Postgraduate
trainees

not been for 5 years and there was still a notable absence of international community and health volunteers compared with previous visits.

Our visit was for 3 weeks. We were given a comfortable house in the University compound and the dermatology clinic could be accessed in a few minutes by using the footbridge over the highway although most of the locals seem to take their chances with the busy traffic below. The clinic is quite crowded – as well as the 13 trainees there may be another dozen or so medical students and student nurses in small rooms.

Uganda has a current population of 45 million. The population in Africa is young with 80-85% of Ugandans reported to be less than 35 years old. Poverty is very common especially in rural areas. The spectre of HIV is still very evident with 5.8% of the population having positive serology. Fortunately, now 85% of those affected are on Anti Retroviral Therapy.



In many ways dermatology in Africa is the polar opposite to my practice in Australia. In Australia almost all patients have white (Caucasian, Type I -III) skin. Increasingly skin cancer and pigmented lesions dominate my work. More and more patients are of advanced age. Furthermore, unlike Uganda, new biologic therapies for inflammatory disorders are dramatically improving the lives of patients with moderate or severe psoriasis and eczema.

BY CONTRAST IN UGANDA:

VIRTUALLY ALL PATIENTS HAVE WHAT THEY REFER TO AS BLACK AFRICAN SKIN (SKIN OF COLOUR, TYPE IV V VI SKIN). READING THE VISUAL LANGUAGE IN THESE SKIN TYPES INITIALLY PRESENTS A CHALLENGE. SINCE 2010, I HAVE SPENT A TOTAL OF 6 MONTHS IN UGANDA AND ALTHOUGH I AM NOW MORE CONFIDENT IN DIAGNOSIS, THERE ARE STILL SUBTLETIES IN COLOUR AND TEXTURE BETTER NOTICED BY THE LOCAL PRACTITIONERS.

SKIN CANCER IS QUITE RARE. EXCEPTIONS ARE ACRAL MELANOMAS, ALBINOS, SCC OF THE PENIS AND CUTANEOUS LYMPHOMAS.

CHILDREN ARE STRONGLY REPRESENTED IN THE CLINIC. 50% OF THE POPULATION IN AFRICA ARE LESS THAN 15 YEARS OLD. PRESENTATIONS WERE USUALLY INFECTIONS SUCH AS TINEA OR PYODERMAS, SCABIES AND PAPULAR URTICARIA OR INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS ESPECIALLY ECZEMAS. GENODERMATOSES ARE MORE COMMON.

IN THIS VISIT THERE WERE FEWER INITIAL PRESENTATIONS OF HIV INFECTION, FOR EXAMPLE, PRURITIC PAPULAR ERUPTION OR HZV, THAN ON PREVIOUS VISITS. AS BEFORE, LICHEN PLANUS WAS MORE COMMON THAN PSORIASIS.



Acrokeratoelastoides

Three areas of emerging significance were:

1. ALOPECICIA

It is said that 100% of African woman have traction alopecia. Scarring alopecias especially folliculitis decalvans, were frequent.

2. FACIAL DYSCHROMIAS

This is an intriguing clinical picture with at least 12 named conditions contributing. It causes much distress. It may be caused by or aggravated by the many over the counter products which often contain clobetasol or high concentrations of hydroquinone.

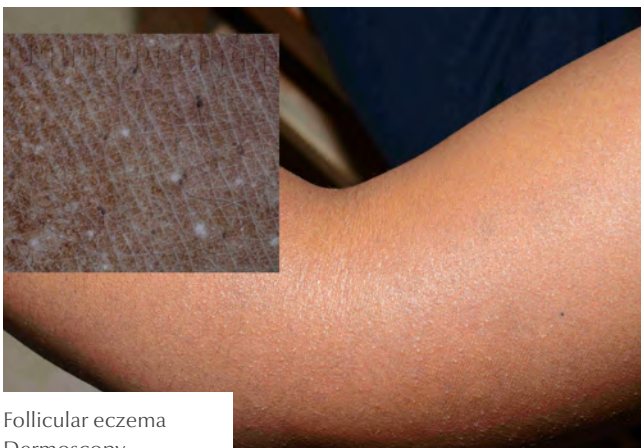
3. PHOTOSENSITIVITY

I think this may be a “sleeper” in Africa. So many patients, if asked, described this symptom. Clinical signs were difficult to interpret. Often changes were quite subtle, for example follicular eczemas, pinpoint polymorphic light eruption, dermatophyte IDs, drugs and topical allergens. In my opinion this deserves much more investigation.

A new skill which both the trainees and I learned together was dermoscopy in skin of colour. This appears to be helpful in facial pigmentary disorders without having to resort to a biopsy and also for alopecias. One trainee’s thesis is the demoscopy of lichen planus and another’s is on the dermoscopy of pityriasis versicolor. Using a Dermlite Foto pro with an SLR camera, we tried to build up a library of images.

The trainees are highly motivated and hard working. Unfortunately, they lack easy access to journals and their learning is based more on textbooks. They have a reasonably good library, which they care for. ACD has funded the new edition of Braun Falco from the IDOC fund. They do have other equipment from German donations; a NB UVB cabinet and 2 lasers – CO2 and Nd yag, all of which get regular use.

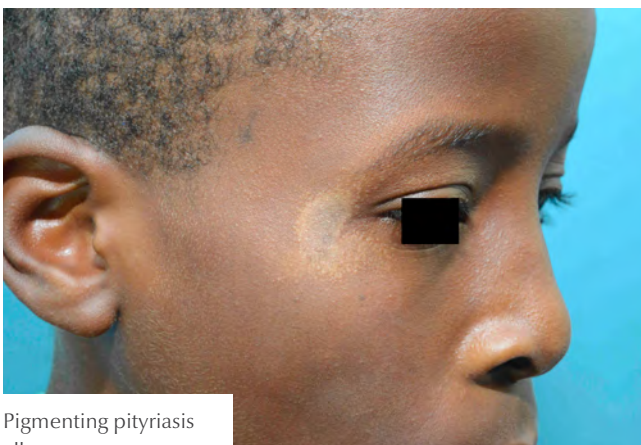
For me, it was a privilege to teach these young and enthusiastic doctors. I would recommend this HVO program to other dermatologists as a fascinating and worthwhile experience. ●



Follicular eczema
Dermoscopy



Hypertrophic lichen planus dermoscopy



Pigmenting pityriasis alba

2023 Australasian Journal of Dermatology: A year in review



In 2023, the Australasian Journal of Dermatology (AJD) continued to go from strength to strength, and we thank our previous Editors-in-Chief, Prof Kiarash Khosrotehrani and A/Prof Helmut Schaidler for their enormous efforts and dedication to expanding both the impact and profile of the Journal. We now welcome the new Editors-in-Chief, A/Prof John Frew and Dr Harriet Kennedy, who have commenced with great enthusiasm and will no doubt continue to invest

in improving the growth of the Journal over the next few years.

The 2022, 2 year Impact Factor was 2.0. While the impact factor is slightly down on the previous year (2.481), this was like many other journals as the impact factor is now reported to one decimal place.

Readership remains strong, with an increasing average of full-text downloads. In 2023, 249,080 articles were downloaded, which was only slightly behind the

2021 spike in readership and the second-highest year recorded. Of those downloads, the United States continued to have the highest number, accounting for 19%, followed by Australia (15%) and mainland China (11%).

The number of new submissions (both accepted and published) increased in 2023, with 227 articles published. There has also been a significant increase in open access publication from 2% in 2020 to 33% in 2023. ●

READERSHIP REMAINS STRONG, WITH AN INCREASING AVERAGE OF FULL-TEXT DOWNLOADS.

FULL-TEXT DOWNLOADS OVER THE PAST 5-YEARS

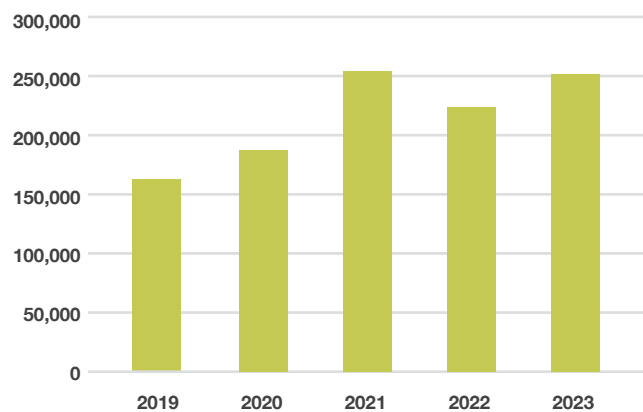


Figure 1. Full-text article downloads by year

TOP 10 DOWNLOADING COUNTRIES 2023

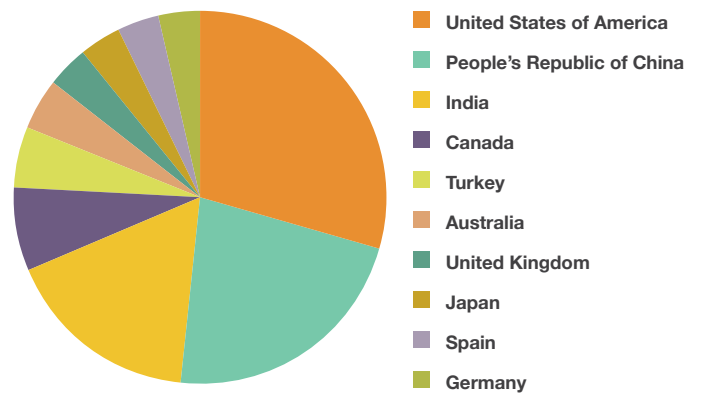


Figure 2. Top 10 Downloading Countries, 2023

FULL-TEXT DOWNLOADS OVER THE PAST 5-YEARS

1. Lee et al. A review of JAK and IL23 inhibitors to treat vitiligo.
2. Foley et al. Australian consensus: Treatment goals for moderate-to-severe psoriasis in the era of targeted therapies.
3. Khan et al. Double vision due to lateral rectus injury after cosmetic botulinum toxin injections.

NEWS

— FROM THE —

Faculties



The SA State CME meeting was a success (above)
Farewell dinner for Dr Catherine Reid (below)

NEW SOUTH WALES FACULTY

The NSW Faculty was saddened by the passing of Prof Saxon Smith in February. Prof Smith was a great contributor to College and the Faculty and his loss is felt throughout our Faculty and profession. We extend our condolences to Prof Smith's family. To read the full obituary see page 6 in this edition of *The Mole*.

We welcome our new Fellows Dr Rose Liu, Dr Stephanie Blake, Dr Alexander Coe, Dr Thomas Stewart, Dr Samra Saikal, Dr Anes Yang, Dr Kirsty Wark and Dr Emily Forward to the Faculty and look forward to hosting our New Fellows dinner. We are also pleased to welcome our new trainee cohort.

For those interested in rural dermatology, we are currently working to try to fill positions in rural locations with a number of opportunities available. To find out more please get in touch with us through College.

The AGM and Newcastle clinical meeting was held on 6 April we are excited that the Faculty now has a College supported administration role to help lift the load from the Faculty Fellows and enable us to focus on achieving more of our objectives. We will soon be starting our own Faculty newsletter to keep Fellows up to date with State based news, events and other relevant content.

Dr Rebecca Saunderson
Chair, NSW Faculty



SOUTH AUSTRALIA FACULTY

The South Australian Faculty State CME was organised by Dr Chloe Lim at the Royal Adelaide Hospital on 8 November 2023. The meeting had 53 delegates in attendance and highlighted presentations from interstate speakers Dr Jennifer Cahill who presented a contact dermatitis update, Dr Marguerite Seith who presented a nail update, and local speakers Dr Melissa Jiang and Dr Owen Watson.

Congratulations to Dr Medhir Kumawat from Adelaide University who won the student quiz this year and was presented with a prize at this meeting.

As the year begins, we are pleased to welcome our new Fellows Dr Nicholas De Rosa, Dr Kathleen Wang, Dr Alain Tran and Dr Brittany Wong to SA dermatology workforce.

Dr Sachin Vaidya
Chair, SA Faculty

VICTORIA FACULTY

After a well deserved break for many of our members, 2024 is back into full swing. The Victorian Faculty AGM was held on 2 March, following the St Vincent's Hospital clinical meeting.

We have been planning an exciting schedule of clinical meetings for 2024, which will involve a mix of in-person meetings at the Alfred Hospital, fully virtual meetings such as St Vincent's, RMH/Genetics and Royal Children's Hospital, and hybrid meetings for

most other sites including the Skin Health Institute. Please look out for these dates in the calendar, all members and trainees are invited to attend. We are looking forward to the face to face opportunities for registrar training and expert opinions on complex patients that face to face contact with patients will provide, and also to welcoming participation by local, regional and interstate colleagues that the online format facilitates.

Dr Aaron Robinson
Victoria Faculty Chair

WESTERN AUSTRALIA FACULTY

We have sweltered through the hottest summer on record in Western Australia and the slightly cooler days of Autumn have been a relief. We warmly welcome our new trainees Dr Matthew Ghodsian and Dr Amanda Tillmann on to the Training Program. We also welcome back four of our registrars from maternity leave. We wish Dr Heather-Lynn Kessar all the best for her overseas fellowship year in Singapore.

Currently we have 9.5 training positions in WA including our new STP funded position which is largely based in private practice. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Supervisors of Training, Heads of Departments and Director of Training, as well as all of the WA Fellows who

contribute towards the tutorial program.

We welcome Dr Louise O'Halloran as our new Secretary and extend a huge thank you to Dr Rachael Foster our outgoing Chair for her productiveness and dedication to the role over the last 2 years.

Dr Anne Halbert has recently announced her retirement from private practice, however we are thankful she will continue sessions at the Perth Children's Hospital. We would like to thank Dr Halbert for her significant contribution to dermatology service provision particularly in the area of Paediatrics over the last 30 years.

Finally, the WA Faculty looks forward to welcoming everyone to Perth for this years' ASM in May.

Dr Su-Lin Chan
WA Faculty Chair

QUEENSLAND FACULTY

The Queensland Faculty had an exciting and busy start to the year. We have seven new trainees starting this year, Dr Prue Gramp, Dr Lubna Siddiq, Dr Rachel Pugh, Dr Charlotte Cox, Dr Claire Mahon, Dr Thomas Pagliaro and Dr Michael Cao have all started training in one of our nine training sites across the state. We now have a training position at the Gold Coast University Hospital which is very exciting news for the Faculty. A great deal of work went into getting this and other new jobs up and running. Well done and congratulations to all those involved. Along with Sunshine Coast University Hospital, Townsville University Hospital, Cairns Hospital and now Gold Coast University Hospital, we now have four training sites outside of the capital city, with seven trainees now working at those sites. What a great leap forward in building a sustainable workforce in rural and remote areas to deliver dermatology services throughout Queensland!

Thank you to A/Prof Erin McMenimen who has completed her two year term as Queensland

Faculty Chair. The Queensland Faculty would like to thank her for her tremendous contributions to College. We would also like to thank the College Policy, Advocacy and Engagement team for their ongoing assistance in clarifying the changes to isotretinoin prescribing rights in Queensland. Since 2021, endorsed and supervised general practitioners and nurse practitioners can prescribe isotretinoin in Queensland. College has been working with Queensland Health to clarify the process that went into this policy change as well as the effect, be it positive or negative, on Queensland patients. The clarification process is ongoing and we thank College for the support.

Finally, we had an enjoyable Faculty dinner in early February that was very well organised by Dr Charlotte Man and Dr Jean Marie Tan. We welcomed Dr Alison Lewin, Dr Mitchell Robinson and Dr Alexander Tedman to the Faculty at the dinner and we look forward to working with them, I know they will all bring a great deal to the College and Faculty.

Dr Salvatore (Sam) Scuderi
Queensland Faculty Chair



Australian Dermatology Nurses' Association

Promoting and Developing Excellence in Dermatology Nursing



WELCOME TO AUSTRALIAN DERMATOLOGY NURSES' ASSOCIATION

ADNA is committed to providing you with the opportunity for professional development and support. We are a professional nursing organization encompassing a broad range of nurse specialists, reflective of the common goal of achieving optimal care for patients presenting with dermatological conditions.

Let's See What We Do?

The aim of the ADNA is to promote the best standard of care for the dermatology patient.

Our goal is to promote the development and recognition of the nurses' role in dermatology for the benefit of the patient and to promote the education and professional development of the dermatology nurse.

Let's See Who We Are?

Formed in 1990, ADNA has a national membership base drawn from across the public and private health sectors encompassing the fields of adult, paediatric, surgical and medical dermatology, specialty treatment modalities, research and cosmetic dermatology.



ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Together with The Australasian College of Dermatologists, ADNA hold a National Conference.



STATE EDUCATION DAYS

- Educational Opportunities
- Attendance to Education Days at membership rates
- Access to members section of the ADNA website
- Eligibility for Awards to travel Interstate and Internationally to education events.
- Professional & Networking opportunities



JOIN NOW!

Our membership year runs from 1 April to 31 March each year. Membership to a professional organization is Tax Deductible.

GET IN TOUCH

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The Skin Hospital's Educational Series for Dermatologists and Registrars

The Skin Hospital's Educational Series is off to a strong start in 2024. Already this year, The Skin Hospital has hosted two educational webinars for dermatologists and dermatology registrars.

In February, Dr Li-Chuen Wong provided an overview on paediatric psoriasis. In March, A/Prof Robyn Saw, presented on the surgical management of melanoma and other skin cancers. These presentations were both very well attended by dermatologists.

If you would like to be included on our mailing list to receive news on The Skin Hospital's upcoming educational events, please email: Communications@skinhospital.edu.au.

In addition, you can also stay up to date on The Skin Hospital's Educational Series for Dermatologists in 2024 by visiting our website and following us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

Clinical Trials and Research

As part of our ongoing commitment to advancing dermatological research, The Skin Hospital is pleased to provide an update on our recent research endeavours and clinical trials.

Recent Research Studies

Throughout the past year, our research department has been actively engaged in several studies aimed at improving our understanding and treatment of various dermatological conditions.

Two notable examples include:

- Redeveloping non-cultured epidermal cellular grafting for the surgical treatment of vitiligo in the Australian setting.

- Investigation of a potential link between Covid-19 disease, vaccinations, and disease progression in patients with vitiligo.

The Skin Hospital is happy to announce that our Dermatology Bio-Specimen Bank has received re-certification under the NSW Health Biobank program. This certification underscores our

commitment to enhancing statewide consistency, compliance with regulations, and the overall quality of biobanking in NSW. The Bio Bank will play a pivotal role in advancing our understanding of dermatological diseases and skin cancers at a biological level, ultimately leading to improved treatments.

Clinical Trials in Progress

Our clinical trials program continues to thrive with ongoing studies focusing on various dermatological conditions. Some of the trials, which are currently underway include:

- A phase 3 clinical trial to evaluate efficacy and safety of twice-daily applications of delgocitinib cream 20 mg/g compared with cream vehicle for a 16-week treatment period in adolescents 12-17 years of age with moderate to severe chronic

hand eczema (DELTA TEEN)

- A Phase 3, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Trial to Evaluate the Efficacy, Safety, and Pharmacokinetics of Baricitinib in Children from 6 Years to Less than 18 Years of Age with Alopecia Areata
- A Phase 3 Randomized, Double-Blind 52-week Placebo controlled, multi-center study to investigating the efficacy, safety and tolerability

of ritlecitinib in adult and adolescent participants with non-segmental vitiligo.

- A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Phase 3 Study to Evaluate the Pharmacokinetics, Efficacy and Safety of BMS-986165 in Adolescent Subjects with Moderate to Severe Plaque Psoriasis

For further information on our clinical trials, please visit - www.skinhospital.edu.au/clinical-trials/.

Research Projects in Progress

In addition to clinical trials, The Skin Hospital's research projects cover a diverse range of topics aimed at improving patient care and outcomes. Projects include:

- Assessing a nurse-led home-based phototherapy program for vitiligo patients.

- Analysing outcomes from the Australian clinical quality registry for Mohs Micrographic Surgery.
- Examining factors associated with patient-initiated communication after Mohs surgery.

Get Involved

If you are interested in learning more about our research initiatives or participating in our clinical trials, please contact Dr. Cindy Kok at 02 86512042 or ckok@skinhospital.edu.au.

Your involvement and support are instrumental in furthering our mission to advance dermatological knowledge and improve patient care. ●





2024 Triennial Cosmetic Dermatology Education series

In February, the Skin Health Institute and ACD collaboratively launched the 2024 Triennial Cosmetic Dermatology Education series to great success. The initial two sessions saw high attendance and garnered positive feedback from participants.

2024 TRIENNIAL COSMETIC DERMATOLOGY EDUCATION SERIES



Upcoming sessions are listed below. Registration details will be provided via email closer to the event dates.

- Thursday 9 May 2024 – Treatment of Acne Scarring, Pathogenesis of Keloids & Scar Revision Techniques for Post-Traumatic Scars presented by Prof Greg Goodman AM & A/Prof Patrick Mahar OAM
- Thursday 16 May 2024 – Hyperhidrosis and its Management presented by A/Prof Vanessa Morgan
- Thursday 20 June 2024 – Endovenous Laser, Radiofrequency, Glue and Surgical Techniques presented by Dr Stefania Roberts

Upcoming Education Events at SHI

MAY AND JUNE

- Tuesday 14 May 2024 – Clinical Treatment Series on Hair presented by Dr Jane Li and Dr Laxmi Iyengar
- Wednesday 29 May 2024 – Member Spotlight Series on Dr Francis Lai Interviewed by A/Prof Aaron Robinson
- Tuesday 18 June 2024 – Clinical Treatment Series on Atopic Dermatitis presented by Dr Lena Ly and Dr Laxmi Iyengar

Scan the QR code to sign up for these events or to explore our other forthcoming education events.

UPCOMING EDUCATION EVENTS AT SHI

MAY & JUNE

14
MAY

CLINICAL TREATMENT SERIES
HAIR PRESENTED BY DR JANE LI AND
DR LAXMI IYENGAR

29
MAY

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT SERIES
ON DR FRANCIS LAI
INTERVIEWED BY A/PROF AARON ROBINSON

18
JUNE

CLINICAL TREATMENT SERIES
ATOPIC DERMATITIS PRESENTED BY DR LENA LY
AND DR LAXMI IYENGAR

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER NOW



The latest updates from ATEP

The Advanced Therapeutics Education Portal (ATEP) continues to be a valuable source of information for clinicians. We are excited to announce recent enhancements to various drug pages within the portal, reflecting our commitment to providing you with the latest advancements in advanced targeted therapy options.

These updates aim to ensure that you have access to comprehensive and current information for your clinical practice. These updates include:

- Sanofi's Dupixent page now has a revamped design incorporating more in-depth information and resources for your reference.
- Updated contact information for AbbVie is now available on the psoriasis prescribing chart.
- Explore the new Bimzelx Tracker, a valuable addition to our clinical resources.

Scan the QR to visit ATEP now to keep yourself informed of these new updates.



Currently Recruiting Clinical Trials

The Skin Health Institute is currently recruiting for clinical trials on vitiligo, hidradenitis suppurativa, alopecia, psoriasis and chronic inducible urticaria (CIndU). We also have upcoming studies on atopic dermatitis that will be open for recruitment in the coming months.

If you have patients who may be eligible, please send your referrals through to explore these innovative treatment options.

For further information on our clinical trials, please email trials@skinhealthinstitute.org.au or scan the QR code.



Referring your patients for clinical trials

The Skin Health Institute (SHI) offers patients specialised treatment and access to cutting-edge therapies, potentially transforming lives. Referrals to SHI clinical trials provide advanced care, holistic support, and connect patients with a multidisciplinary

team for comprehensive understanding of their needs.

Committed to medical advancements, SHI values referrals as pivotal contributions to improving patient outcomes and advancing dermatology. Participants in clinical trials are


reimbursed for study related expenses, making it an accessible and rewarding experience.

As a trusted healthcare professional, your referral to clinical trials could help shape the future of treatment and advance dermatological care. ●



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