



International League of Dermatological Societies - Newsletter

ISSUE No 02/15

Greetings from the President, International League of Dermatological Societies

The ILDS has never been larger nor more broadly representative of global dermatology than it is now, and this is in large part a tribute to the many dedicated dermatologists who have served this organization so capably as executives and board members. It also affirms the fact that the ILDS is held in high regard by national and international dermatology societies throughout the world.

I have had the good fortune of meeting many dermatologists in person in my prior role as one of the organisers of the WCD in Vancouver. You gave us many excellent ideas for the Congress and I sincerely hope that it was a unique experience for you and your colleagues. Thank you for supporting the WCD so enthusiastically.

I am deeply honoured to have been given the privilege and responsibility of serving as your next ILDS President. The global dermatology community owes a special debt of gratitude to President Wolfram Sterry who led the ILDS through four very productive years from 2011-2015. I have received many warm congratulations over the last several months and I thank you for your words of encouragement and ideas.

Over the next four years I look forward to interacting with as many dermatologists around the world as possible. Although membership in the ILDS is officially at the level of dermatology societies, it's actually individual dermatologists who define and carry out our mission. Amongst other things, the ILDS will aim to engage you directly and through social media. Our specialty is truly the envy of our medical colleagues, and our work is as vital and important as ever. I look to all of you as international colleagues for your wisdom, guidance, and energy to build an even stronger ILDS. Our patients have so much to gain when we work together.



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This has been a banner year for dermatology and the future is full of opportunity and promise. I wish everyone a happy and healthy 2016!

Harvey Lui, MD, FRCPC
President, ILDS

A Farewell and Thanks to Eve Arnold

The end of 2015 marks the conclusion of a truly memorable year for global dermatology. We came together in Vancouver for the World Congress and we celebrated the 80th anniversary of the ILDS. This is also the year that we say goodbye to a dedicated, loyal, and valued member of the ILDS team. Eve Arnold has served the ILDS by running our headquarters office and administration in London since 2006. She helped oversee and implement the restructuring of the ILDS and IFD during the presidency of Professor Robin Marks, and since then has been involved in coordinating and



monitoring all of our projects while also managing the day-to-day workings of our society. For many of our member societies,

Eve has been the main face, voice, and email writer behind the ILDS for your interactions with the London headquarters.

She has an encyclopedic knowledge of the ILDS and has carried out her duties with finesse and exemplary diplomatic skill. All ILDS Board members speak glowingly of her cheerful disposition and efficiency. Eve will retire from the ILDS office at the end of 2015. On behalf of the global community of derma-tologists I am delighted to wish Eve and her husband much happiness in the years to come, and thank her for helping us build the ILDS over the last 10 years.

Harvey Lui,
ILDS President

Dear Friends,

For those of you who have not already heard, I will be retiring at the end of 2015. The timing of this ILDS Newsletter is perfect in that it gives me the opportunity to thank all of you for your friendship and support since 2006.

Having been recruited in that year by Robin Marks and Rod Hay, without having met either of them in person, was more of a challenge for them than for me, but thanks to Marilyn Benham, the CEO of the British Association of Dermatologists, and her insistence that it would be the perfect job, I hesitatingly accepted the offer of a part-time position for two days a week for a trial period of six months. That first year was a real whirlwind of events being only 12 months before the World Congress of Dermatology in Buenos Aires. Robin and Rod, thankfully, steered me through those months and all went well due to their patience and encouragement.

Jean-Hilaire Saurat became my next "boss" in 2007. His successful lobbying at the WHO resulted in the ILDS being awarded the immense honour of updating ICD10 to ICD11. The flurry of activity surrounding this enormous project, undertaken by Robert Chalmers on behalf of the ILDS, was onerous to say the very least, but extremely interesting.

In 2011 in Seoul, Wolfram Sterry was elected President of the ILDS. Those of you who were fortunate enough to attend will remember the amazing success of the 1st ILDS Dermatology Summit in Berlin in 2012 and the introduction of Wolfram's concept of the "Grand Challenges in Global Skin Health". This was a new challenge for the ILDS administration, too, being the first ILDS Member Society meeting outside of an Assembly of Delegates at a World Congress. For me, personally, this was probably the highlight of my time at the ILDS.

2015, as you know, saw the start of Harvey Lui's Presidency. Harvey has become massively involved already in the ILDS, and although I have not worked with him for long, it is clear that the organization will be in safe hands. I have been fortunate to have seen three World Congresses of Dermatology: Buenos Aires, Seoul and Vancouver and, as a result, have had the opportunity to meet many of you at these events. In my time at the ILDS I have experienced only great friendship, thoughtfulness and a sense of camaraderie.

My huge thanks also go to Mary Maloney for her guidance and friendship.

All in all, there are too many people to thank personally in this letter, but I must express gratitude to the staff at the British Association of Dermatologists, the British Skin Foundation and the Skin Health Alliance for their friendship, courtesy, help and advice, especially when my technological skills have been sorely tested and have had to interrupt their busy schedules to seek help in areas where I've clearly gone way past my "sell-by date".

Thanks also go to all of the ILDS Board Members who have served since 2006. I recall the first ILDS Board Meeting I attended in Rhodes where a serving Board Member asked me "For how long have you been doing this type of work?" My answer, to obvious dismay, was "I've never done it before". Well, I certainly have learnt a lot since then.

May I wish you and your families health, happiness and success in the future.

Warmest regards,

Eve



ILDS 2015 Young Dermatologist International Achievement Award (YDIAA) Winners



ILDS YDIAA – Europe

It is a great pleasure for me to write on my experience from the World Congress of Dermatology, which was held in beautiful Vancouver in June this year. As I guess all can agree, the meeting was a stunning success for all involved. The organization was of the highest standards, and especially helpful was the WCD app, which could help to cope with the wealth of scientific and clinical information that was delivered at any given time in the Vancouver Convention Center.

My personal areas of interest are hair, genetics and psoriasis. All these fields are undergoing great changes in last years, both in our understanding of the pathogenesis of the related diseases, and also in regards to potential treatments. Keeping track of all the recent developments in these fields is challenging. Therefore, the WCD has provided the best opportunity to hear and learn on all these subjects, joining together top experts in all dermatology fields. The participation of these speakers in the dedicated symposia and workshops was especially helpful, by allowing interactive discussions to take place in addition to providing a broad overview on different specific areas of interest. Being exposed to the most up-to-date knowledge will surely help me to better inform my patients on new therapeutic possibilities and diagnostic procedures.

Although this was my third visit to Vancouver, I was still astonished by the beautiful views and the amazing scenery. Combined with the excellent weather that we had during the meeting, this city was the perfect venue for making new connections and renewing previous ones. The gathering of dermatologists from all over the world allowed the exchange of knowledge and the exposure to new and different practices. Thanks to the social media tools, I am sure I will be able to be in touch with all the new people with whom I made connections, both professionally and personally.

I am already looking forward to the next WCD meeting to be held in Milan.

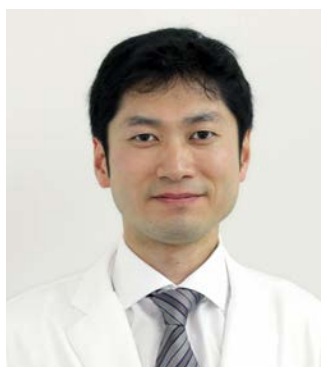
With best regards,

Yuval Ramot, MD, MSc,
Department of Dermatology,
Hadassah – Hebrew University Medical Center, Jerusalem, Israel.



ILDS 2015 Young Dermatologist International Achievement Award (YDIAA) Winners

ILDS YDIAA – Asia, Pacific



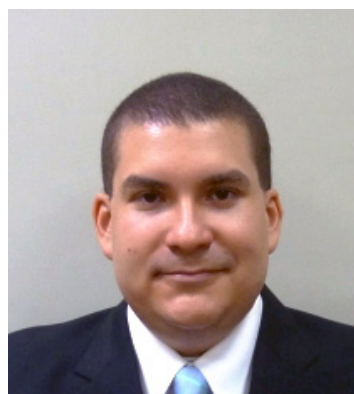
It was great honor for me to join the 23rd World Congress of Dermatology in Vancouver as an awardee for ILDS Young Dermatologist International Achievement Award. First of all, I appreciate all mentors and colleagues who have trained and supported me for long time and the Japanese Society for Investigative Dermatology that nominated me for the award.

Studying WCD this time, I have understood how challenging to organize such a big meeting is, since the preparation had started before the last meeting was convened 4 years ago. As expected, hot discussion happened in most of sessions and I felt strong enthusiasm of audience to learn the latest information. The meeting was absolutely fruitful and successful in terms of scientific activity as well as hospitality.

Having experienced the meeting with the award is a big chance for me to change myself and think of international relationship among dermatological societies. There is a Japanese word „OMOTENASHI“, a key word recently used in the final presentation for Tokyo Olympic 2020. „OMOTENASHI“ expresses the spirit of Japanese selfless hospitality originating in attentiveness to any guests. Now I believe that when scientific interest and „OMOTENASHI“ spirit perfectly matches, the meeting must become successful more than ever before. If there is an opportunity in the future, I would like to contribute to promoting the bonds of friendship among all dermatologists in the world by my own dauntless scientific activity and the warmhearted spirit as one of the Japanese dermatologists.

Hayato Takahashi, MD PhD
Department Of Dermatology
ICEO University School of Medicine
Tokyo, Japan

ILDS YDIAA – Latin America including Caribbean



Attending to the 23rd World Congress of Dermatology celebrated in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada in June, 2015, was an excellent experience for me. On June 8th, I gave a lecture titled: „Leishmaniasis: an unusual presentation“ at the session of the Iberolatinamerican College of Dermatology (Picture 1). This session was a great success for our College because we had a very good number of participants and we also got the attention of dermatologists from countries outside of our region (Picture 2). During the rest of the Congress, as a Dermatologist-Dermatopathologist, I was mainly concentrated on courses on Dermatopathology and Dermoscopy, so I could bring back to Panama the latest developing knowledge on those fields. In summary, I thank the ILDS for recognizing me with the YDIAA and for giving me the opportunity to reunite with colleagues and friends from other countries of Latin America and to meet Dermatologists from all the regions of the world. Through this interaction, some ideas have emerged, such as multicentric research projects in Latin America, invitations for lectures, new methods for teaching Dermatology to my students and different forms of inter-country cooperation.

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ILDS YDIAA - USA and Canada

I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to attend WCD as an YDIAA recipient. My area of clinical focus is psoriasis, and the high-caliber presentations on psoriasis at the WCD highlighted the amount of outstanding research and innovation in this area. In particular, data on IL-17 ligand and receptor inhibitors were presented at the WCD with regards to their efficacy, safety, and impact on life quality. I had the opportunity to present data on two studies that I participated in: (1) touch avoidance among psoriasis patients, and (2) treatment dynamics among U.S. psoriasis patients. For the touch avoidance study, we assessed the prevalence of touch avoidance and its relationship to clinical characteristics and health-related quality of life (HRQoL) among psoriasis patients. Nearly half of patients with psoriasis report experiencing touch avoidance. Those who were younger, had worse disease severity, HRQoL, itch severity, and depression reported higher levels of touch avoidance. The strongest indicators of high levels of touch avoidance were DLQI scores, QIDS scores, and itch severity. We concluded that treatments improving skin clearance may help to reduce the frequency of touch avoidance experienced by patients with psoriasis, by decreasing the signs and symptoms of the disease.

The second study that I presented at WCD was evaluating treatment dynamics in U.S. psoriasis patients. Specifically, we sought to determine overall treatment pattern and areas of under-treatment for this patient population. We found that, of 8,871,114 beneficiaries, approximately 1.7 million patients in the insured US population were diagnosed with moderate to severe psoriasis, and 59 % were not treated for their condition in the prior year.

Overall, the ILDS enabled me to attend this terrific conference and present data in the field of psoriasis. I had a chance to engage with other researchers and clinicians passionate about complex medical dermatology. I am thankful for this wonderful opportunity afforded by ILDS, and I look forward to continually contribute to the field of dermatology in meaningful ways.

April W. Armstrong, MD MPH

Associate Dean for Clinical Research

Director of Clinical Research, Southern California Clinical and Translational Science Institute (SC CTSI)

Vice Chair | Director, Clinical Trials and Outcomes Research | Director, Psoriasis Program
Department of Dermatology

Keck School of Medicine at USC, University of Southern California



June 10 - 15, 2019

The 24th World Congress of Dermatology will be in Italy



XXIV
WORLD CONGRESS
OF DERMATOLOGY
MILAN 2019



Located in the heart of the Mediterranean region, Italy is a vibrant cultural crossroads, having African, European and Middle Eastern influences. Because of its strategic position, Italy represents the perfect meeting point for those coming by land, sea or air. Italy is recognized for its international influence in strategic sectors such as fashion, automotive and marine engineering, design, and mechanics. Italian style, innovation, creativity and love for tradition are all key factors that explain the success of the „Made-in-Italy“ tag in the competitive world market. Moreover, Italy has the largest number of World Heritage (UNESCO) sites in Europe, with 47 locations listed as places of outstanding cultural and historical significance.

Italy is becoming more and more appealing for large international meetings and conventions. The number of international conferences in Italy increases every year, demonstrating Italy's reliability and credibility, with this increase serving as evidence of the improved competitiveness of Italian conference facilities. Milan and its surrounds will host WCD 2019, and Milan represents the ideal venue for WCD 2019.

Located in the heart of Lombardy, the most populated and developed region, Milan is the most important city in Northern Italy. The Milan area produces 10% of the GDP, a level equal to Brussel's or Madrid's.

This region also accounts for 40% of new innovation patents, equal to Boston's annual production. In Milan, 10 million tickets are sold yearly for art exhibits, concerts and plays, representing the same per capita rate as Berlin, Amsterdam, and Barcelona. There are 650 fashion showrooms, in line with Paris and New York. And Milan is currently hosting EXPO 2015. Milan is also full of historical treasures that are readily accessible at any time, without having to step into a museum.

Milan is easy to reach and travel expenses are reasonable. There are several low-cost airlines that have connections into Milan. For European participants, Milan can be reached by car, bus or express train. The city offers a wide range of prices for hotel accommodations as well as for meals, and this is a great advantage for residents, young dermatologists, and dermatologists from low-income countries. The city transport system is well organized and inexpensive.

The Malpensa International Airport, the second largest airport in Italy, is connected to downtown Milan via the "Malpensa Express" railway service. The Linate Airport, which is near the city limits, is used primarily for short-haul international flights. The airport of Orio al Serio, near the city of Bergamo, services the low-cost traffic of Milan. The Milan railway system, consisting of Milan's Central Station together with five additional major stations within the city, forms one of Italy's busiest railroad networks. High-speed trains connect Milan to Rome, Florence and Naples, all within a few hours.

The World Congress of Dermatology at MiCo - Milano Congressi will be a truly unique experience in terms of comfort and simplicity: welcoming conference halls, top class catering, and well-connected meeting spaces. Designed in 2002, with a doubling of its size in 2005 and an expansion in 2011, MiCo - Milano Congressi is now among the largest conference venues in Europe and even the world. It can accommodate up to 18,000 people in a total of 70 fully appointed conference rooms. There are also two plenary rooms, one with seating for 4,000 people and the other for 2,000 people. The convention center's Auditorium is the ideal venue for large-scale performances. The exhibition halls offer 54,000 sq.m of space and can also be used as extra plenary rooms for more than 5,000 people. Conference rooms within MiCo - Milano Congressi feature the full range of technologies: video projectors, sound systems, translator booths, fixed video cameras, closed circuit TV, Wi-Fi internet access and optical fiber cables.

Many of the city's finest attractions, including Leonardo Da Vinci's Last Supper, are within walking distance. MiCo - Milano Congressi has direct access to Milan's subway line 5 and the old part of town is just one Metro stop away. In Milan, one can visit the Duomo and the Sforza Castle, take a stroll around the Fashion District, or eat a great meal at some of Italy's best restaurants.

So think skin say Italy!

We await you for Milan 2019!



Prof. Sergio Chimenti



Prof. Giovanni Pellacani



ILDS 2014 Certificate of Appreciation Award



Professor Ocampo Candiani proudly presenting the ILDS 2014 Certificate of Appreciation to Professor Venkataram Mysore in Kolkata in April, 2015.



Professor Takigawa receiving his ILDS Certificate of Appreciation from Professor Miyachi in Yokohama in May, 2015.

ILDS 2015 Certificate of Appreciation Award

At the final Board meeting of the 2011-2015 Board, the following nominees were selected to receive the **ILDS 2015 Certificate of Appreciation**.

Jag Bhawan
American Society
of Dermatopathology

Eva-B. Broecker
German Dermatological Society

Pablo Campos-Macias
Mexican Society of Dermatology

Roy Kum Wah Chan
International Union of
Sexually Transmitted Infections

Harald P.M. Gollnick
European Dermatology Forum

Shiou-Hwa Jee
Taiwanese Dermatological
Association

Koushik Lahiri
Association of Cutaneous Surgeons

Cheol Heon Lee
Korean Dermatological Association

Bernt Lindelöf
Swedish Society for Dermatology
and Venereology

Larry E. Millikan
International Academy of
Cosmetic Dermatology

Benjamin Moncada
Mexican Academy of Dermatology

Samuel Moschella
American Academy of Dermatology

Amit Pandya
Skin of Color Society

Jang Kyu Park
Korean Dermatological Association

Diane Roseeuw
Royal Belgian Society of Dermatology
and Venereology

Felix Jaime Fich Schilcroft
Chilean Society of Dermatology
& Venereology



Jean Bolognia, MD, presenting the ILDS Certificate of Appreciation to Samuel Moschella, MD, at the New England Dermatological Society meeting in Boston in December 2015. In addition to a resounding round of applause, there was a standing ovation.

Yasushi Tomita
Japanese Dermatological Association

Antonella Tosti
International Society of Dermatology

Rein Willemze
International Society of Cutaneous Lymphomas

Jie Zheng
Chinese Society of Dermatology

Members of the new ILDS Board

Following the excitement of the Assembly of Delegates Meetings at the 23rd World Congress of Dermatology in Vancouver, at which the elections for the vacant seats on the ILDS Board were conducted, the new Board of Directors of the International League of Dermatological Societies is as below:



Harvey Lui
President, International Director

Jean Bologna
Secretary, International Director

Raul Cabrera
Regional Director, Latin America including Caribbean

Sergio Chimenti
President, 24th World Congress of Dermatology

Lars French
International Director

Claire Fuller
Chair, International Foundation for Dermatology

Hassan Galadari
Regional Director, South Asia, Middle East and Africa

Christopher Griffiths
International Director

Chung Hong Hu
International Director

Hemangi Jerajani
Regional Director, South Asia, Middle East and Africa

Brigitte Dréno
Treasurer, Regional Director, Europe

Wolfram Sterry
Immediate Past President

Kenji Kabashima
Regional Director, Asia Pacific

Thomas Luger
Regional Director, Europe

Omar Lupi
Regional Director, Latin America including Caribbean

David Pariser
Regional Director, USA and Canada

Jerry Shapiro
Immediate Past President, 23rd WCD

Dan Siegel
Regional Director, USA and Canada

Xuejun Zhang
Regional Director, Asia Pacific

MEMBERS' CORNER

British Journal of Dermatology publishes International Psoriasis Council psoriasis research priorities

The *British Journal of Dermatology* has published online the results of an International Psoriasis Council (IPC) survey identifying 21 psoriasis research priorities. The results will also appear in a future print edition of the journal.

The article, „Prioritizing the global research agenda in psoriasis: An International Psoriasis Council Delphi consensus exercise,” identifies priorities that will guide future research into the autoimmune disease. The council, a global nonprofit focused on psoriasis research, launched the survey because gaps exist in the understanding of psoriasis, said Dr. Bruce Strober, interim chair of the department of dermatology at the University of Connecticut, an IPC board member, and the article's lead author.

The priorities encompass a range of issues, including how the disease begins, the genetics of psoriasis, optimal treatment use, and psoriasis in children. The survey's top three priorities were:

- Determining whether early, aggressive intervention can affect the disease's progression
- Identifying biomarkers that correlate with psoriasis
- Creating a “map” that identifies genes that confer susceptibility to developing psoriasis

To determine these key research needs, the IPC used the Delphi method, a survey technique that uses a series of anonymous interspersed discussions and rounds of voting to collect data from a panel of experts, eventually reaching a consensus. For this study, the IPC surveyed psoriasis experts from around the world who belong to the council. After repeated voting online, these specialists reached consensus on the 21 priorities.

„The Delphi method has generated a more data-driven, unbiased prioritization of topics important for study,” Strober said. „This list will provide both institutions and individuals a better sense of the pressing and relevant research needs in psoriasis.”

Find the *British Journal of Dermatology* article at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/bjd.13980/abstract>

Find the 21 priorities and abstracts at <http://www.psoriasisCouncil.org/Delphi2014>

About IPC

Founded in 2004, the International Psoriasis Council (IPC) is a dermatology-led, voluntary, global nonprofit organization dedicated to innovation across the full spectrum of psoriasis through research, education and patient care.

IPC was established as an international organization of global psoriasis experts working on the advancement of psoriasis. IPC provides expert opinion on current psoriasis issues, both therapeutic and research-related, convenes roundtable conferences, contributes manuscripts to top-tier medical journals, and presents at important congresses around the world. Learn more about the International Psoriasis Council at <http://www.psoriasisCouncil.org>. Follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/international.psoriasis.council>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/IpcPs>).



IPC's Top Research Priorities 2014

Rank	Research Priority Description	Mean	Standard Deviation
1	Does early aggressive intervention impact the natural history of psoriasis?	3.78	1.13
2	Identification and validation of biomarkers of psoriasis, including those predicting response to therapy and potential drug-related toxicity.	3.76	1.17
3	Creation of a complete 'genetic map' of psoriasis susceptibility genes to define phenotype-genotype characteristics, focusing on phenotypic variants of psoriasis.	3.65	1.18
4	Registries – implementation, feasibility, clinical objectives and outcomes.	3.63	1.24
5	Effectiveness and safety of systemic treatments in pediatric psoriasis.	3.57	1.08
6	Determine whether early aggressive therapeutic intervention (oral therapy vs biologics vs UV phototherapy) reduces the increased cardiovascular risk of psoriasis.	3.53	1.29
7	Mild to moderate psoriasis: developing optimal treatments for localized disease.	3.47	1.38
8	Elucidating mechanisms of disease pathogenesis in forms of psoriasis other than psoriasis vulgaris.	3.29	1.04
9	Beginning with pediatric patients, develop robust long-term and prospective epidemiological studies to determine the prevalence and natural history of psoriasis and its relationship to other associated diseases.	3.28	1.26
10	Better define effective treatments for patients with exclusively palmoplantar plaque and pustular psoriasis.	3.26	1.17
11	Better define the systemic inflammation associated with psoriasis.	3.24	1.16
12	Combination therapy in an era with increasing choice of therapeutics.	3.22	1.14
13	Identification of psoriasis antigens and auto-antigens.	3.21	1.13
14	What are the biochemical or pathophysiological aspects of uninvolved skin of psoriasis patients that prevent psoriasis? (Research demonstrates that uninvolved skin of subjects with psoriasis is psoriasis "waiting to happen")	3.20	1.19
15	Develop a systematic approach to the relationship between arteriosclerosis and psoriasis – is the association primary or secondary?	3.18	1.20
16	Develop a systematic approach to the relationship between myocardial infarction and psoriasis – is the association primary or secondary?	3.14	1.27
17	Define the relationship between immunogenicity and clinical response/safety, and develop effective approaches to reduce immunogenicity and correlative loss of response.	3.10	1.21
18	Develop a systematic approach how to choose the best biologic in different clinical scenarios.	3.10	1.31
19	Use of biosimilars in psoriasis.	3.04	1.25
20	Better definition of the key biochemical mediators and their downstream pathways in psoriasis pathogenesis.	2.81	1.17
21	Define the effect of early therapeutic intervention and control of psoriasis with prevention of long-term psychological sequelae.	2.77	1.08



Indian Society of Teledermatology

10th May 2015 – CME on Panniculitis

10th May 2015: CME on Panniculitis

The Indian Society of Teledermatology (INSTED), conducted a CME on Panniculitis on 10th May, 2015, at Chennai. Prof. Jayakar Thomas, President INSTED gave an excellent talk on „Panniculitis – an algorithmic approach“. His lecture made the tough subject simple and easily approachable. There were many short presentations by faculty and students of various medical colleges. Azathioprine in ulcerated ENL, methotrexate in morphea profunda, lichen planus with subcutaneous extension, Sweet's syndrome in a case of ENL, facial hemiatrophy, symmetrical progressive erythrodermatoderma in siblings, arsenical keratoses, juvenile dermatomyositis, multicentric scrofuloderma, Behcet's syndrome, association of skin tags with metabolic syndrome, trichoblastoma, pilomatricoma, dermatofibroma, multiple piloleiomyomas, cerebrotendinous xanthomatosis and epithelioma cuniculatum were other topics presented and discussed in length. A live interaction with the audience made the CME more of a learning and sharing experience. Expert opinions by senior professors contributed to the academic enrichment of the whole day's programme.



First Fiji Albinism Awareness Symposium

Fiji breads new ground in the Pacific

As part of an initiative to increase knowledge of albinism, the First Fiji Albinism Awareness Symposium was held on August 12th and 13th 2015, bringing together a multidisciplinary group of people to gain a better understanding of the educational, medical and social needs of people with albinism in Fiji. After a small workshop that was conducted in November 2014, it was found that very little was known in Fiji in terms of knowledge of vision or skin issues, and the impact they have on the lives of those with albinism. The need for raising awareness and educating the people of Fiji at all levels was recognised resulting in this year's symposium. A Fijian-Australian partnership called the Fiji Albinism Project brought together a team of presenters from health and education sectors with both professional and personal experience of albinism from Australia and Fiji. The response was overwhelming, with nearly 150 people from all sectors attending, including the Minister for Health and Medical Services, ministerial secretaries, doctors, nurses, teachers, people with albinism and parents of children with albinism, other allied health workers and interested organisations.

Fijian and Australian presenters covered a variety of albinism related subjects including genetics, the skin structure and diseases of the skin, including skin cancer, as well as the effects of UVA and UVB light and the need for sun protection. Eye related topics included the ocular changes and the role of low vision clinics, low vision outreach workers and referral pathways within Fiji. Educators from the Fiji School for the Blind spoke about how they cater for their students and supported integration of children into mainstream schools.



Talks on advocacy for those with albinism in Australia and the work done by the Pacific Albinism Project in other Pacific Islands provided some insight into what can be achieved. People with albinism, and family members of those with albinism shared their personal experiences providing insight into their lives, becoming positive role models with their stories of shared challenges, successes and celebrations.

In the final session of the symposium, all participants worked in breakout groups making recommendations to identify priorities for the future and how they could be achieved. These recommendations have been presented to the Fiji Ministry of Health and will be used to direct the way forward for the Fiji Albinism Project.

With thanks to Mrs Jan Brown from the GSK sponsored Pulse Programme for her hard work helping to make the Symposium so successful.

Côte d'Ivoire:

Implementing school-based skin surveys in Côte d'Ivoire: a report on preparative activities

Côte d'Ivoire, a tropical country located in West Africa, reports the highest number of Buruli ulcer (BU) cases to the World Health Organization (WHO) annually. BU is caused by *Mycobacterium ulcerans* infection, which leads to the formation of skin ulcer(s) on the affected person's limbs and face, i.e. exposed areas of the body. The country also has a wide range of other skin diseases that are often left undiagnosed, including leprosy, yaws, and scabies, as well as non-infectious skin diseases. Many patients affected by these diseases are school-aged children. Thus, targeting schoolchildren could be an effective control measure for early diagnosis and treatment of these diseases. Over 70% of BU cases are observed in children aged under 15 years in West Africa. In the case of BU, if patients are not diagnosed early enough, they may develop life-long disabilities which may deprive them from leading a normal life. The same may occur in people that contract other skin diseases, especially leprosy.



Since December 2013, the National Programme for Leprosy Control, MAP International, the Raoul Follereau Institute Côte d'Ivoire (Côte d'Ivoire), the National Center for Global Health and Medicine, and the Leprosy Research Center (Japan) have been working together to implement school-based skin surveys in 'hot spots' of BU cases in Côte d'Ivoire. Our aim is not just to diagnose and treat people who have BU, but also to understand the distribution and the disease burden of all types of skin diseases in the country.

We first conducted a qualitative survey during May 2014 in the health district of Adzopé, a southern part of Côte d'Ivoire approximately 120 km from the capital, to gain an in-depth understanding of schoolchildren's knowledge, attitude, and practices (KAP) towards skin diseases. We found that they were able to give names of the common skin diseases of their area. They knew them either from having the disease themselves at some point or from information given by their family members, friends, or teachers. They call leprosy 'kokobé', meaning 'shame' in their local language, which reflects the stigma placed on people with the disease. BU is called 'wôpoint' in local language and any large ulcers seem to be regarded as BUs in this area.

During our fieldwork in July 2015, we identified 16 villages with a total of 49 primary schools in Adzopé for our first school-based skin survey. Some of



these villages are located in a very difficult-to-reach area. We expect an estimated 14,000 schoolchildren for the screening. During the visit we met the village chiefs and the school directors for their approval, and they all welcomed our project. The project is scheduled to take place from mid-November to mid-December 2015.

We hope this work will be extended to larger areas of the country in the future to help ensure the healthy skin and life of children in Côte d'Ivoire.

We thank the ILDS for their support in carrying out the qualitative survey in May 2014.

Rie Roselyne Yotsu



Galderma SKIN Awards

recognise four original projects that aim to generate a positive impact in the dermatology community



Thank you for supporting the Galderma SKIN PACT Awards held in partnership with the ILDS. The four winners were awarded their grants at an official event at the World Congress of Dermatology this June. These projects showed a passion and drive for improving the lives of patients with skin conditions or educating healthcare/public communities about skin health issues – principles that are at the heart of the SKIN PACT programme.

We hope that these projects will leave a lasting impression on the dermatology community and will inspire others to submit their idea for future SKIN PACT awards.

Janusz Czernielewski, Vice-President Medical Affairs, Galderma commented, „We had a very encouraging response from the dermatology community with winners chosen from an eminent talent pool of over 100 applicants from all over the world by both the dermatology community as well as expert dermatology members of the International League of Dermatological Societies. The winners' inspired visions can now become a reality, delivering significant improvements to the lives of many people reached by their work.”



Winners in the Community Leadership Award category comprise a project from Taiwan, selected by community voting, which will aim to develop an [instant, audio-assisted secretary](http://www.galdermaskinpact.org/winners/assistant) (<http://www.galdermaskinpact.org/winners/assistant>) to connect patients with epidermolysis bullosa to their physician. The other award in this category, selected by the Expert Panel, is a project led from Germany under the auspices of the European Society of Cutaneous Lupus Erythematosus that will investigate the role of [sunscreens in the prevention of lupus erythematosus flares and disease activity](http://www.galdermaskinpact.org/winners/sunscreen) (<http://www.galdermaskinpact.org/winners/sunscreen>).



The Excellence in Education Award category was awarded, as a result of the community voting to a project in Colombia designed to encourage [healthy sun protection behaviors](http://galdermaskinpact.org/winners/protection/) (<http://galdermaskinpact.org/winners/protection/>) (<http://www.galdermaskinpact.org/winners/protection/>) in children and guard against developing skin cancer. In this category the Expert Panel also awarded a project from Italy to establish a pilot [„Bed-to-Bench and Back”](http://www.galdermaskinpact.org/winners/bed-to-bench/) (<http://www.galdermaskinpact.org/winners/bed-to-bench/>) research training programme for dermatology residents. Teaching basic laboratory techniques and their applications to dermatology research, with online lectures and practical sessions, the project will aim to improve understanding of the cellular and molecular basis of skin disorders.

Prof. Wolfram Sterry, President of the International League of Dermatological Societies commented, „We would like to congratulate the winners of this year's SKIN PACT Awards. The quality of the submissions was extremely high and the Panel was delighted to see members of the dermatology community so motivated to making a difference to the lives of those working in, or affected by, skin diseases. All the winners have demonstrated a passionate commitment to delivering innovation and ensuring impact in the dermatology field.”

To learn more about these projects and be the first to find out announcements about future SKIN PACT awards please visit <http://www.galdermaskinpact.org> and follow [@skinpact](https://twitter.com/skinpact) on Twitter.





CARING to INSPIRE SKIN CONFIDENCE

2015 Awardees of L'Oréal International Awards for Social Responsibility in Dermatology „Caring to Inspire Skin Confidence“

Supported by the ILDS and the World Congress of Dermatology

During the WCD week in Vancouver, L'Oréal announced the winners of its International Awards for Social Responsibility in Dermatology, rewarding five voluntary dermatological initiatives, favoring patient support and care in order to inspire confidence and encourage social inclusion, independently from their medical treatment.

The jury members for the five geographical zones were:

Pr. Jorge OCAMPO-CANDIANI, Pr. Jerry SHAPIRO, Pr. Abdul-Ghani KIBBI, Pr. Xuejun ZHANG, Pr. Christopher GRIFFITHS and Dr Fatima LY.

The five dermatologists and projects awarded were:

* For Africa and Arab States, Prof. Khalid Mohammed ALGhamdi from Saudi Arabia

Faal – Charity Society to empower and support vitiligo patients, increasing awareness, providing training courses, education, psychological and social support

* For Asia-Pacific, Dr. Jeong Chan-woo from South Korea
Sharing skin love – Skin Health Promotion for Orphanage and for low-income children suffering from a dermatological condition, providing education, prevention and access to treatment.

* For Europe, Dr. Ksenia Sorokina from Russia

A healthy child means a healthy family – Targeting prevention of dermatitis and adherence to treatment, via training workshops for parents and children and by developing a website to allow patients living in remote areas of the Russian Federation to access a consultation and attend online training seminars

* For Latin America, Dr. Gioconda Gaudiano from Republic of Panama

Moon Children – Providing mobile surgery clinics, free consultations, medical treatment and sun education to the 40,000 indigenous people from the Archipelago of San Blas, a region with the highest incidence of albinism in the world.

* For North America, Dr. Danielle Marcoux from Canada

Camp Liberté – Summer camp for children aged 7 to 12 with moderate-to-severe skin disorders, offering support and social interaction to increase their confidence.

For more details and to watch the video of the five projects, visit

<http://www.inspireskinconfidence.com>



Awards Ceremony : Dr. Abdullah AL-EISA (on behalf of Pr Khalid Mohammed ALGHAMDI), Pr. Jorge OCAMPO-CANDIANI, Dr. Gioconda GAUDIANO, Dr. Danielle MARCOUX, Pr. Elena ARAVIISKAIA (on behalf on Dr. Ksenia SOROKINA), Nicolas Hieronimus, Dr. Jeong CHAN-WOO, Pr. Jerry SHAPIRO, Laurent ATTAL, Pr. Abdul-Ghani KIBBI, Pr. Wolfram STERRY, Pr. Xuejun ZHANG, Brigitte LIBERMAN, Pr. Christopher GRIFFITHS.

Supported by L'ORÉAL

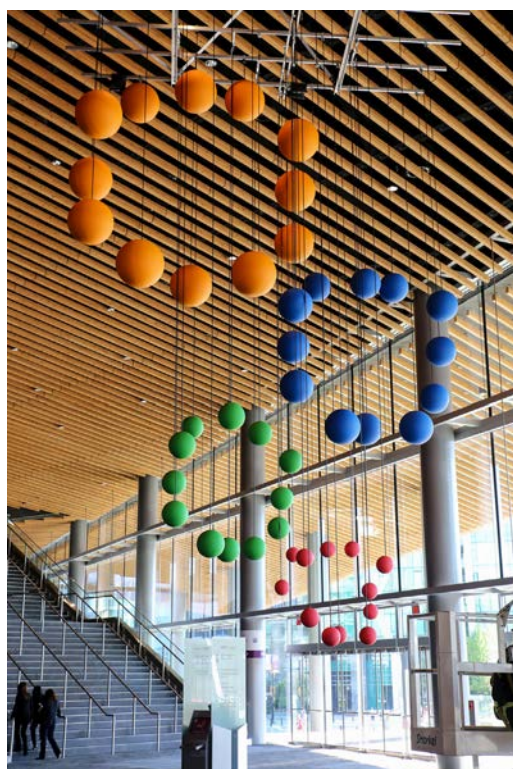




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