OMICS Group
Accelerating Scientific Discovery
3rd International Conference on
Clinical & Experimental Dermatology
April 15-17, 2013, Hilton Chicago/Northbrook, USA

Advances in complex medical dermatology: A decade of new data

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Abstract

Tremendous progress has been made in complex medical dermatology over the past decade. Our approach to treatment of skin disease has become more evidence-based, integrating clinical research, practical experience, and patient expectations. Advances in therapy include the advent of new biologic and oncology drugs, and novel molecular strategies for melanoma, basal cell carcinoma, and genodermatoses. Biologic medications have currently applications to a wide spectrum of skin disease including psoriasis, hidradenitis suppurativa, vasculitis, granulomatous and connective tissue disease. A focus has been placed on patient safety, with an emphasis on the pediatric and pregnant patient. Along these lines, the FDA has started preparing a revision of its drug "use-in-pregnancy" ratings including explanatory statements. Furthermore, the use of device-based treatments for medical disease, such as photodynamic therapy, laser- and light-based therapies has broadened our therapeutic armamentarium for skin conditions such as actinic keratoses, acne and rosacea. New data has led to a better understanding of the impact of comorbidities on skin disease such as psoriasis and rheumatic skin disease. The impact of dyslipidemia and metabolic syndrome on skin disease has been significantly elucidated. Skin manifestations have been linked to internal disease, and may serve as markers of genetic syndromes. Finally, efforts have been made to focus on prevention and early detection of skin malignancies, such as malignant melanoma, following epidemiologic principles.

Biography

George Kroumpouzos, MD, PhD, FAAD, is Clinical Associate Professor of Dermatology at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University and former Instructor at the Department of Dermatology, Harvard Medical School. He is certified by both American and European Boards of Dermatology. Dr. Kroumpouzos' expertise is in the fields of obstetric/gynecologic dermatology, adverse drug reactions, connective tissue disease, complex medical dermatology, and disorders of pigmentation. He is an editorial board member in three peer-reviewed dermatologic journals, and has published more than 50 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters. Dr. Kroumpouzos has delivered numerous lectures in the US and internationally. He has been the recipient of several scholarships and awards, including awards by the International Union against Cancer and the Dean's Teaching award at Alpert Medical School of Brown University.