

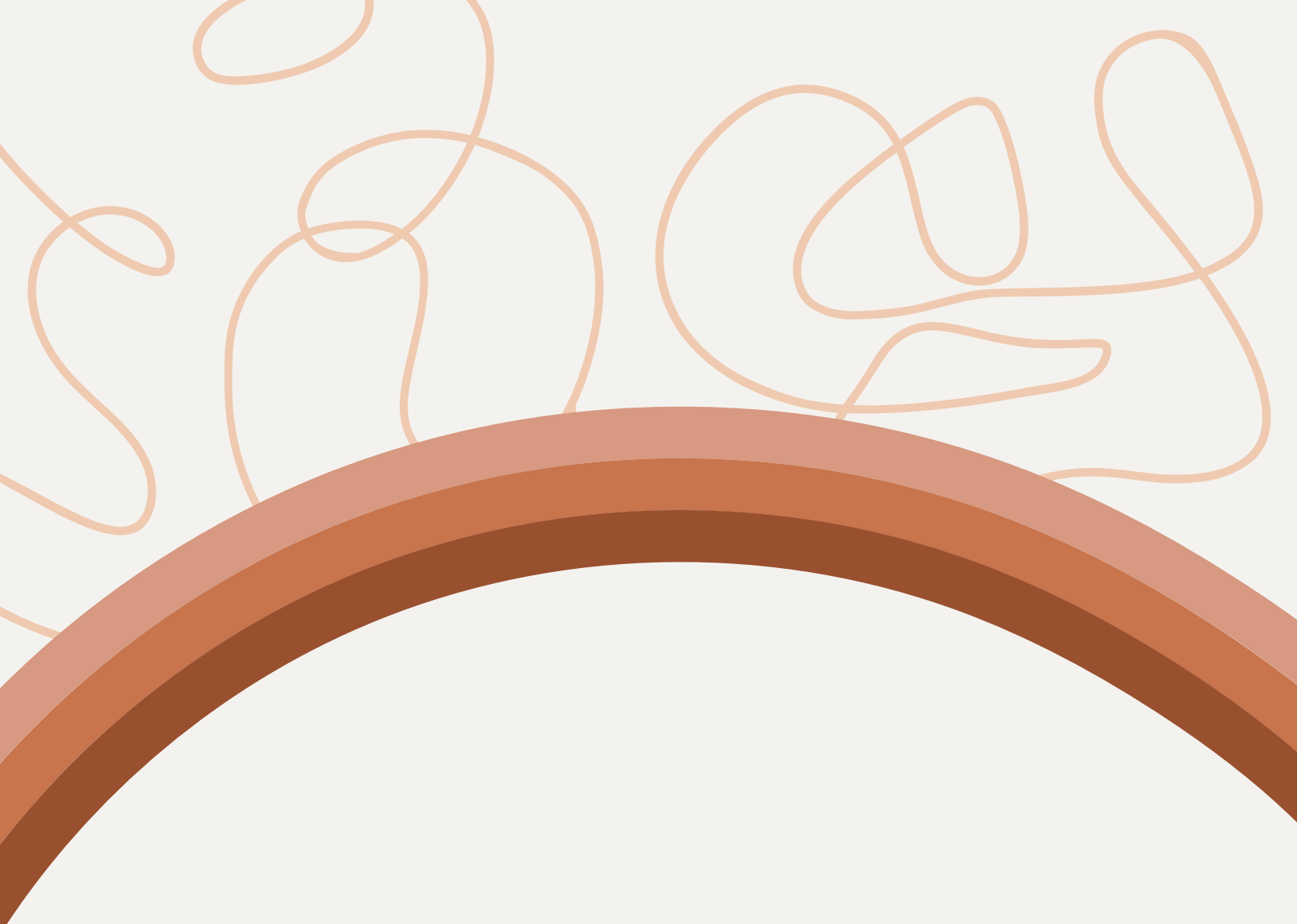
*7th Annual*  
**SKIN SPECTRUM SUMMIT**  
The Canadian Conference on Ethnodermatology

# Conference Pre-Read

---

[www.skinspectrum.ca](http://www.skinspectrum.ca)

Virtual Skin Spectrum Summit  
November 4 & 6, 2021



This report is prepared for the exclusive use of delegates to the 2021 Skin Spectrum Summit virtual online program.

It summarizes recent findings on the general dermatologic concerns of patients with skin of colour, new and emerging treatments, and the development of strategies and tools to better manage patients with skin of colour.

This Group Learning program has been certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Ontario Chapter for up to 6.75 Mainpro+ credits.



## Background

Statistics Canada predicts that by 2036, visible minorities will make up more than 40% of Canada's population. And, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2020 people of colour made up about 38.3% of the American population.

Despite these numbers, according to a study published in October 2017 in the *Journal of Investigative Dermatology Symposium Proceedings*, only 3% of dermatologists in the U.S. identify as Black, and 4% as Hispanic.<sup>1</sup>

These low numbers are coupled with a lack of training for doctors in conditions affecting skin of colour and a lack of clinical trials focusing on how skin conditions affect BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour) individuals.

The result is a disparity in diagnosis and treatment for BIPOC patients affecting conditions ranging from acne and Lyme Disease to skin cancer and Covid-19.

1. van Voorhees AS, Enos CW: Diversity in Dermatology Residency Programs. *Journal of Investigative Dermatology Symposium Proceedings* 2017; 18(2):S46-S49. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jisp.2017.07.001>

According to the American Academy of Dermatology,<sup>2</sup> “Skin cancer in patients with skin of color is often diagnosed in its later stages, when it’s more difficult to treat. Research has shown that patients with skin of color are less likely than white patients to survive melanoma. Twenty-five per cent of melanoma cases in African American patients are diagnosed when the cancer has spread to nearby lymph nodes, while 16 per cent are diagnosed when the cancer has spread to distant lymph nodes and other organs.”

The American Cancer Society states that white adults in the U.S. with melanoma have a five-year survival rate of 92%, while this rate is just 67% for African American people.

A lack of training material on skin of colour has been a long-standing problem. These disparities have been brought even further into focus during the Covid-19 pandemic. Dr. Jenna Lester, of the University of California San Francisco, led a study, published last year in the *British Journal of Dermatology*, that showed a glaring lack of dark skin in articles on Covid-19.<sup>3</sup>

“Our analysis demonstrates that articles describing the cutaneous manifestations of Covid-19 almost exclusively show clinical images from patients with lighter skin,” the authors stated in the study. “Based on our analysis, there are no published photos of the cutaneous manifestations in dark skin. This is a problem because skin disease often presents differently in skin of colour.”

2. *Skin cancer*. American Academy of Dermatology 2021. <https://www.aad.org/media/stats-skin-cancer>

3. Lester J, Jia J, Zhang L, Okoye G, Linos E: Absence of images of skin of colour in publications of COVID-19 skin manifestations. *British Journal of Dermatology* 2020; 183(3):593–595. <https://doi.org/10.1111/bjd.19258>



In an interview with *The Chronicle of Skin & Allergy*, Dr. Lester—who will be presenting on skin of colour images in medical studies at the 2021 Skin Spectrum Summit on Saturday, November 6th—pointed out that minority communities have been among the hardest hit by Covid.

“I thought it was a pretty huge injustice that the very people worldwide who have been identified as having the worst outcomes in terms of hospitalization and death rates were not represented in these photos,” she said.

Delays or complete lack of diagnosis can also stem from obstacles created by structural and systemic racism and poverty. In a March 2021 article in *Practical Dermatology*,<sup>4</sup> Dr. Corey Hartman, a dermatologist in Birmingham, Ala., explained the impact that segregation can have on patient care.

“You go to other areas and there are no dermatologists for miles and miles and miles. That’s going to impact their ability to get help for all these issues that we’re talking about, which only feeds the problem because then they don’t have access to clinical trials, preventative care, healthy choices. Doctors don’t get to see them and learn the way that these different disease states present.”

4. Brieva P, et al: Diversity and inclusion in dermatology: The impact of systemic racism in dermatology and opportunities for change. *Practical Dermatology*, March 2021 (Supplement).

Background

Skin Spectrum Summit

Such barriers can also be a major factor in care for isolated Indigenous communities in Canada. Dr. Rachel Asiniwasis—a Regina-based dermatologist who will be presenting on skin conditions in Indigenous communities and the use of tele dermatology at the 2021 Skin Spectrum Summit on November 6th—discussed the prevalence of atopic dermatitis among Indigenous children earlier this year at the first Indigenous Skin Spectrum Summit.

“When you consider barriers unique to these remote populations—such as poor access to and inflated costs for basic skin care products needed for the fundamentals of bathing and moisturizing—and add environmental issues such as water restrictions and crowded housing, you end up with a potential disaster, and that's what we're seeing on these reserves,” she said.

In a January, 2021 editorial in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*,<sup>5</sup> Dr. Lester addressed these issues.

“Structural racism and the way it manifests within the health care system, as well as the communities where we practice, should be of concern to every physician because of the implications on public health.”

5. Lester JC, Taylor SC: Resisting racism in dermatology. *JAMA Dermatology* 2021; 157(3):267. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamadermatol.2020.5029>

Background

Skin Spectrum Summit

# Learning Objectives

Presented by Curriculum Chair,  
Dr. Gary Sibbald

By the end of the conference, delegates will:

- Learn about skin disorders affecting Canada's ethnic populations, including unique manifestations of common dermatologic problems in skin of colour
- Recognize how optimal treatment differs across skin types and be able to provide appropriate and culturally safe care for patients with skin of colour
- Improve their diagnostic practices of different common and complex skin conditions in ethnic populations
- Adopt strategies and tools to more effectively manage patients with skin of colour, and develop cultural competence to recognize potential unique challenges that they may face in their treatment
- Recognize the impact of cultural determinants of health such as education, food security, and environment, especially on Indigenous populations in Canada
- Understand the impact of technology and tele dermatology on access to and quality of care for remote or underserved communities
- Learn about the underrepresentation of skin of colour in dermatologic education and about the progress of skin of colour education in Canada

Learning Objectives

Skin Spectrum Summit

## Presentation Highlights

**Dr. Danielle Marcoux** is a clinical associate professor at the University of Montreal and CHU Sainte-Justine, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Dermatology. She will be presenting on pediatric dermatology in skin of colour.

Related Reading: Atopic dermatitis is more prevalent in children of colour, especially those who are of African, Asian or Pacific Islander descent, than children with Caucasian skin.

**Dr. Jaggi Rao** is an Edmonton dermatologist and a clinical professor of medicine in the faculty of medicine and dentistry at the University of Alberta. He will be presenting on rosacea and teledermatology for remote communities.

Related Reading: In British Columbia, Shared Care's Teledermatology initiative has resulted in a one day response for 75% of requested consultations. In many cases, these consultations provided access to dermatology expertise for primary care physicians in rural and remote communities – reducing long wait times for patients, and reducing the need for long-distance travel by 50% for patients to access care.



**Dr. Bolu Ogunyemi** is the assistant dean, social accountability and a clinical assistant professor of medicine in the faculty of medicine at Memorial University in Newfoundland. He will present on skin of colour in medical education.

Related Reading: In a 2017 study on The State of Ethnic Dermatology in Canada, Dr. Ogunyemi wrote that “The Royal College of Physician and Surgeons of Canada's Objectives of Training in Dermatology states that residents must demonstrate the requisite knowledge, skills, and attitudes for effective patient-centred care and service to a diverse population.”

**Dr. Andrew F. Alexis** is the vice-chair for diversity and inclusion for the Department of Dermatology and a dermatologist at the Center for Diverse Skin Complexions at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York City. He will speak on distinguishing symptoms of scleroderma from vitiligo in patients with skin of colour.

Related Reading: “When there is a striking contrast of normal and involved skin, and it has that sort of milk-white appearance, it is usually vitiligo. However, not all depigmented patches on the skin are vitiligo. We have to keep an open mind and consider other diagnoses,” Dr. Alexis said at a previous Skin Spectrum Summit.

**Dr. Gary Sibbald** is a professor of medicine and public health at the University of Toronto, co-founder of the Canadian Association of Wound Care (now Wounds Canada) and the former director of the Wound Healing Clinic at Women's College Hospital, Toronto. He will present on wound care for skin of colour patients.

# Conference Agenda

Thursday November 4, 2021: Modules I & II

\* all times listed are in EDT

## Module I: Common Skin Conditions

6:30 PM	<b>Opening remarks</b>	Dr. Shafiq Qaadri, <i>Moderator</i>
6:35 PM	Learning objectives	Dr. R. Gary Sibbald, <i>Curriculum Co-Chair</i>
6:40 PM	Acne in skin of colour	Dr. Renita Ahluwalia
6:50 PM	Psoriasis in skin of colour	Dr. Yvette Miller-Monthrope
7:00 PM	Rosacea in skin of colour	Dr. Jaggi Rao
7:10 PM	Melasma in skin of colour	Dr. Jason Rivers, <i>Curriculum Co-Chair</i>
7:20 PM	Pediatric dermatology for skin of colour	Dr. Danielle Marcoux, <i>Curriculum Co-Chair</i>
7:30 PM	Atopic dermatitis in skin of colour	Dr. Marissa Joseph
7:40 PM	<b>Panel Discussion: Common Skin Conditions</b>	
8:00 PM	<b>PROGRAM BREAK</b>	
8:05 PM	<b>Unaccredited: New Players in Moderate to Severe Atopic Dermatitis: Novel JAK Inhibitors</b>	Dr. Jensen Yeung <b>Sponsored by Pfizer</b>

## Module II: Complex Skin Issues

8:25 PM	Hidradenitis Suppurativa in skin of colour	Dr. Afsaneh Alavi
8:35 PM	Skin cancer in skin of colour	Dr. Andrew F. Alexis
8:45 PM	Inflammatory disease in skin of colour	Dr. Joël Claveau
9:00 PM	Sickle cell disease and ulcers	Dr. Brian Kunimoto
9:10 PM	<b>Panel Discussion: Complex Skin Issues</b>	
9:30 PM	Closing Remarks	

Conference Agenda

Skin Spectrum Summit

## Saturday, November 6, 2021: Modules III, IV, V, VI

\* all times listed are in EDT

### Module III: Aesthetic Medicine in Skin of Colour

10:00 AM	Review learning objectives	Dr. Shafiq Qaadri, <i>Moderator</i>
10:10 AM	Concepts of beauty in Asians: Using injectables	Dr. Monica K. Li
10:20 AM	Top 5 Tips for Hair & Scalp in Afro-textured Tresses	Dr. Renée A. Beach
10:30 AM	Laser and energy-based devices for skin of colour	Dr. Vincent Richer
10:40 AM	Cosmeceuticals for skin of colour	Dr. Heather Woolery-Lloyd
10:50 AM	<b>Panel Discussion: Aesthetic Medicine</b>	
11:10 AM	<b>PROGRAM BREAK</b>	
11:15 AM	<b>Unaccredited:</b> Managing acne in skin of colour	Dr. Jerry Tan & Dr. Andrew F. Alexis <b>Sponsored by L'Oréal Canada</b>
11:35 AM	<b>Unaccredited:</b> Advances in the management of moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis: JAK inhibitors	Dr. Marissa Joseph <b>Sponsored by AbbVie</b>

### Module IV: Advanced Wound Care

12:00 PM	Wound care for skin of colour patients	Dr. R. Gary Sibbald
12:20 PM	Diabetic ulcers in Indigenous populations	Dr. Veronica McKinney

### Module V: Skin Conditions in Underserved Communities

12:40 PM	Environmental and cultural health factors in Indigenous and remote communities	Dr. Alike Lafontaine
12:50 PM	The changing face of HIV dermatology in South Africa	Dr. Ncoza Dlova
1:10 PM	Skin conditions in remote Canadian Indigenous communities and the use of virtual care	Dr. Rachel N. Asiniwasis
1:20 PM	<b>Panel Discussion: Wound Care &amp; Skin Conditions in Underserved Communities</b>	

### Module VI: Technology & Education

1:50 PM	Tele dermatology for remote communities	Dr. Jaggi Rao
2:00 PM	An anti-racist curricular review in Canada	Nickoo Merati
2:10 PM	Skin of colour images in medical studies	Dr. Jenna Lester
2:20 PM	Skin of colour in medical education	Dr. Bolu Ogunyemi
2:30 PM	<b>Panel Discussion: Technology &amp; Education</b>	
2:50 PM	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Dr. Shafiq Qaadri, <i>Moderator</i>