



# Inclusive Dermatology: Creating A Diverse Visual Atlas of Skin Conditions With Consideration of Broader Impact on Patient Access and Medical Education



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## Background

- Medical conditions searched online often result in biased image return
- Need for better visual diversity regarding conditions – “Skin of Color” resources exist but may contribute to “othering”
- Lack of representation likely contributes to knowledge gaps for learners/primary care providers (PCPs) and delayed access to care, poorer prognosis in patients of color

## Objectives

- Develop an online open access resource for PCPs and patients, reflecting more inclusive approach to medical images
- Engage trainees/colleagues
- Stimulate awareness; contribute accessible and meaningful information

## Methods

- Research similar projects/initiatives
- Gain support from institutional leadership
- Collaborate with colleagues, learners to gather, organize, label and post an online collection of digital dermatologic images
- Develop sustainable action plan for continual improvements

## Example Results



- Reviewed UNM Dermatology database for exemplary photos in varying skin types
- Collated prototype skin conditions, Skin type VI-I (presented in this visual order)
- Started with basic condition titles, potential to add clinical information/education

## Early Outcomes

- Engagement of team of students (pipeline)
- Formed partnerships with institutional DEI leadership, help guide educational initiatives in this domain
- Presented at SoM Education Day
- Highlights paucity of online medical information/images specific to Native American/American Indian and Hispanic patients

## Next Steps

- Current site launch in August 2021
- Publicize to local and regional academic/clinical/educational partners
- Submit for regional/national presentations
- Continue development – Phase 2 with students this Fall 2021
- Consideration of potential for broader learning materials, such as Shelf and Board examinations, other online resources

## Acknowledgments

Student Team: Sabah Osmani (Lead), Payton Sandoval-Belt, Avalon Yi, Vanessa Iturralde Chuck Phillips, MD (VAMC Albuquerque) Gabriel Peters & Lalita Lopez de Gauntt UNM SoM Deans Office StatMats