

RECENT SCIENTIFIC ADVANCES IN DERMATOLOGY

Recent scientific advances in dermatology include understanding the microbiome in skin inflammation, research integrity and the health of doctors themselves.

Holly Anderton from the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute says: “The finest clothing made is a person’s own skin. My interest is in what starts and drives inflammation of the skin.”

“My results show that defects in survival signalling can lead to abnormal cell death and drive inflammatory disease. An effect that is absent when microorganisms are deficient. Normal skin flora can contribute to skin inflammation by initiating cell death signalling when poorly regulated.”

Professor David Vaux, Deputy Director of The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute says: “Science is knowledge gained through repeated observation or experiment. It is communicated through publication of papers in journals. Science can only flourish if its results are reproducible, journals maintain minimal standards and papers are read critically.”

“I provide some suggestions of how to look at journal articles sceptically and will make a case for Australia to catch up with other nations around the world by establishing a National Office for Research Integrity.”

Associate Professor Raymond Martyres from the Royal Melbourne Hospital says: “Fifty-three percent of Australian General Practitioners (GPs) have considered leaving work because of stress. Male medical practitioners have a 26% and females have 146% higher suicide rate than the general population and a significant proportion don’t seek help.”

“I have been involved in the development of a national mental health survey of doctors and medical students, a literature review on the mental health of doctors and a practical guide for the self-care of doctors. Females, Indigenous students, doctors working in rural areas and young doctors appeared to be particularly vulnerable to poor mental health. Identification, prevention and support are key.”

These subjects are to be presented at the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD) Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) in Melbourne on 18 to 21 May 2019.

ENDS

Links to further information

[Annual Scientific Meeting website](#)

[A-Z of Skin](#)

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About the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD):



THE AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE
OF DERMATOLOGISTS

The ACD is the peak medical college accredited by the Australian Medical Council for the training and professional development of medical practitioners in the specialty of dermatology. They provide authoritative information about dermatology to Government, the media, other health professionals and the general public.

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