

Global Psoriasis Atlas

PHASE III

Annual Report

April 2024 – March 2025



Mission

The mission of the GPA is to provide the common benchmark on the burden of psoriasis in all countries and regions throughout the world. The GPA will leverage existing data from publications and registries; where gaps are identified additional studies will be commissioned. The GPA is a long-term project that seeks both to drive continuous improvement in the understanding of psoriasis and uncover how it affects both the individual and society at large.

Vision

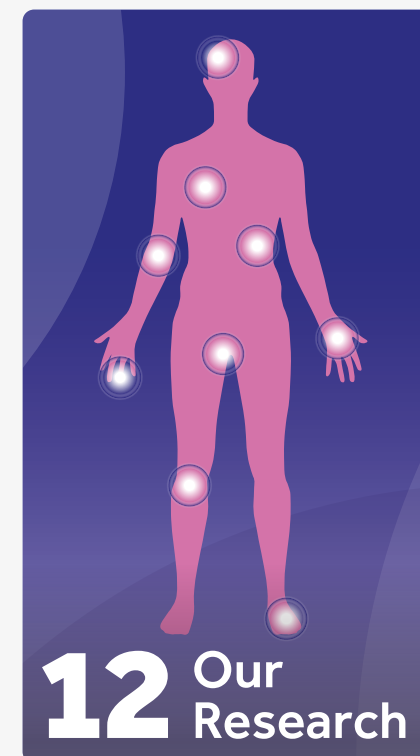
The vision of the Global Psoriasis Atlas is to become the leading epidemiological resource globally on psoriasis.

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Foreword



It's hard to believe but another year has flown by, such is the pace of change for the Global Psoriasis Atlas (GPA). This year's annual report is a cornucopia of events, presentations, publications and progress from our international team. Highlights include our new Scientific Advisory Board, led by Professor Luigi Naldi, who provide sage advice to the GPA team and our three collaborating organisations so important in keeping us on track to hit our milestones.

I am particularly excited about the energy and opportunities generated by our interactions with the three other atlases under the umbrella of the ILDS's "Grand Challenges in Global Skin Health" namely Atopic Dermatitis, Vitiligo and Hidradenitis Suppurativa. Two recent events have reinforced how we have an economy of scale that is at the same time synergistic: (i) a strategy day was held in London on 28 February, with a follow-up to include other stakeholders such as industry, planned in early October; and (ii) the annual in-person, two-day event that the ILDS WHO committee organises with our cognate team leads at the WHO in Geneva. I lead the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) sub-committee which includes all four atlases. We are fortunate to be joined by our colleagues from Global Skin at these events and we are now part of the WHO Global Coordinating Mechanism on NCDs.

An imminent and huge opportunity is around the fact that Côte d'Ivoire, together with Nigeria, Togo, Micronesia, China, Egypt and Colombia is leading an initiative to place skin diseases firmly on the global public health agenda and have proposed a World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolution on "Skin diseases as a global public health priority". The vote on this will take place at the WHA in May; if successful this will be a game-

changer for people with skin disease and their clinical teams worldwide. Fingers crossed.

Research, under the leadership of Professor Darren Ashcroft, continues to deliver with the third edition of our global systematic review of psoriasis prevalence and incidence worldwide due to be published on World Psoriasis Day in October in addition to reports on the SKINSCAPE field survey, environment and psoriasis in Canada and the psychosocial detriment of living with psoriasis in Kabul, Afghanistan amongst many others.

In addition to attending the annual meetings of the EADV in Amsterdam in 2024 and the recent AAD in Orlando the GPA team was out in force at the triennial Psoriasis: from Gene to Clinic congress in London in December 2024 – the congress dinner at the Natural History Museum will live long in the memory. Thank you to all those who agreed to pose for GPA photographs.

Our international leadership team has expanded markedly in the past several months as we have been joined by an enthusiastic band of new National Coordinators representing more than 40 countries and regions from Mauritania to Montenegro. It was standing room only at our Steering Committee meeting in Orlando in March!

Our youth team is so important to us, and we have been fortunate to host a number of IPC Fellows over the years, most recently Dr Bryan Guevera (Philippines) in 2024 and for this year Dr Doriane Sabushimike (Burundi).

I close though with some very sad news. As I write this report on a beautiful early Spring Day in London, the news has just broken about the huge earthquake in Myanmar and its devastation of infrastructure, destruction of property and overwhelming of the fragile healthcare system. The grim statistics of many thousands killed or injured throughout Myanmar and adjoining countries such as Thailand, tell only a fraction of this human tragedy. Our thoughts are with our colleagues and friends in Myanmar at this harrowing time. If you wish to donate to the earthquake appeal the link can be found via the Burma Skincare Initiative website www.burmaskincare.org/donate.

Professor Chris Griffiths OBE
Director, Global Psoriasis Atlas

The GPA: A Strong Organisation Built to Collaborate

The GPA is a collaboration between three leading international organisations in world dermatology: IFPA; the International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS); and the International Psoriasis Council (IPC) with The University of Manchester (UoM) as the host academic institution.

The GPA project success is a result of the strong, integrated partnerships between our academic institution and these global leaders in psoriasis care and dermatology. These organisations represent psoriasis associations around the world, international dermatology societies and the education and empowerment of global key opinion leaders in psoriasis.

IFPA is a non-profit umbrella organisation uniting all people living with psoriatic disease – regardless of where they live, what type of psoriatic disease they have, or how it impacts their lives. IFPA was founded in 1971 and, together with international member associations, represents and advocates for over 60 million people around the world. Read more about IFPA, our members and our activities at www.ifpa-pso.com

"IFPA, together with global member organizations, is honored to collaborate with ILDS and IPC on the Global Psoriasis Atlas (GPA) project."

The GPA provides essential data on the global burden of psoriasis, mapping disease prevalence and its impact on quality of life. This evidence supports IFPA's advocacy mission to improve the lives of individuals with psoriatic disease. By leveraging this data, IFPA can drive global recognition and action, ensuring that the needs and voices of those affected by psoriasis are acknowledged and addressed."

The International League of Dermatological Societies has been promoting skin health around the world for over 80 years. Through its official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO), the ILDS advocates for the inclusion of skin health in global health policy. It is committed to advancing education, clinical care, research, and innovation to improve skin health outcomes worldwide. The ILDS represents dermatology at the highest level, with 217 member organisations from more than 100 countries representing over 215,000 dermatologists worldwide. www.ilds.org

"The International League of Dermatological Societies is honoured to collaborate with the Global Psoriasis Atlas (GPA) and deeply appreciates their ongoing commitment to advancing the understanding of psoriasis. This partnership is crucial in driving continuous progress and enhancing patient care worldwide."

The International Psoriasis Council is a global, nonprofit organisation led by over 200 physician experts and researchers from more than 45 countries. IPC provides education for healthcare professionals, fosters international research collaboration, and advocates for improved psoriasis care worldwide. www.psoriasisCouncil.org

"The International Psoriasis Council is proud to collaborate with global leaders to improve care for people with psoriasis worldwide. Through education, research, and advocacy, IPC is dedicated to empowering healthcare professionals and strengthening research efforts to advance psoriasis care everywhere."

The University of Manchester is the GPA's host academic institution. The University is a powerhouse of research and is ranked first in Europe and second in the world for social and environmental impact (Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2024). From tackling cancer and poverty to finding the energy solutions of the future, the University's research helps make a real difference to the quality of people's lives across the globe. This research is internationally recognised, with current rankings placing The University of Manchester among the world's leading universities. www.manchester.ac.uk/research



Our Team

Research Team

 **Professor Chris Griffiths**
GPA Director
The University of Manchester

 **Professor Darren Ashcroft**
GPA Research Director
The University of Manchester

 **Thomas Rogers**
GPA Programme Manager
The University of Manchester

 **Dr Alison Wright**
GPA Research Fellow
The University of Manchester

 **Dr Ahmad Aalemi**
GPA Research Fellow
The University of Manchester

 **Dr Paul Dimmock**
GPA Research Associate
The University of Manchester

 **Dr Alexandre de Fatima Cobre**
GPA Research Associate
The University of Manchester

 **Alice Silk**
GPA Administrator
The University of Manchester


Collaborating Organisations

 **Arpita Bhose**
ILDS Chief Executive Officer
London, UK


 **Jennifer Kilmer**
ILDS Global Skin Health
Project Coordinator
London, UK

 **Christy Langan**
IPC Chief Executive Officer
California, USA

 **Frida Dunger**
IFPA Executive Director
Sweden

 **Dr Sicily Mburu**
IFPA Scientific Officer
Sweden

Board of Governors

 **Professor Henry Lim**
Chair of the Board of Governors,
President of the ILDS
Detroit, USA

 **Ingvar Ágúst Ingvarsson**
President of IFPA
Iceland

 **Professor Bruce Stober**
President of the IPC
USA

Regional Coordinators




 **Dr Claudia De la Cruz**
Chile

 **Professor Ricardo Romiti**
Brazil

 **Dr Wilson Liao**
USA

 **Professor Wayne Gulliver**
Canada



 **Professor Asja Prohic**
Bosnia and Herzegovina

 **Professor Mahira El Sayed**
Egypt

 **Dr Arnon Cohen**
Israel

 **Dr Murlidhar Rajagopalan**
India


 **Professor Jacek Szepietowski**
Poland

 **Professor Ncoza Dlova**
South Africa

 **Professor Nejib Doss**
Tunisia



 **Professor Chris Baker**
Australia

 **Professor Vermen Verallo-Rowell**
Philippines

 **Professor Min Zheng**
China

 **Professor Xuejun Zhang**
China

 **Dr Colin Theng**
Singapore

 **Dr Hazel Oon**
Singapore

Expanding Global Network









National Coordinators

GPA Regional and National Coordinators are a global network of passionate experts committed to understanding the epidemiology and burden of psoriasis and facilitating access to the best care for people living with the disease worldwide.

The GPA Coordinators play key roles in helping advance the collaboration, data collection and impact of the GPA. Their expertise are crucial for understanding and developing a comprehensive global picture of psoriasis.

Following on from the successful formation of the National Coordinator Network in Latin America during Phase II of the project, the GPA team are now expanding this initiative in Phase III.

South America

-  Professor Mario Amaya Guerra
Mexico
-  Dr Andre Carvalho
Brazil
-  Dr Cristina Echeverria
Argentina
-  Dr Benjamin Hidalgo-Matlock
Costa Rica
-  Dr Cesar Gonzalez
Colombia
-  Dr Farah Novoa Boza
Peru
-  Dr Enrique Rivas
Guatemala
-  Professor Fernando Valenzuela
Chile




Europe

-  Professor Jo Lambert
Belgium
-  Professor Claus Zachariae
Denmark
-  Professor Matthias Augustin
Germany
-  Professor Brian Kirby
Ireland
-  Professor Paolo Gisondi
Italy
-  Professor Tiago Torres
Portugal
-  Dr Anna López Ferrer
Spain
-  Professor Curdin Conrad
Switzerland
-  Dr Ana Popovic
Montenegro
-  Professor George-Sorin
Tiplica
Romania
-  Professor Elke de Jong
Netherlands
-  Professor Romana Ceovic
Croatia
-  Professor Rolland Gyulai
Hungary
-  Professor Zeljko Mijušković
Serbia

South-East Asia Region

-  Professor Seong Jin Jo
South Korea

African Region

-  Dr Sulafa Abdalla
Sudan
-  Dr Mariem Kebe
Mauritania
-  Dr Houda Hammami
Tunisia

Western Pacific Region

-  Dr Marius Rademaker
New Zealand

Structure and Governance

Board of Governors

Professor Henry Lim
Chair of Board of Governors,
President of the International
League of Dermatological Societies



Ingvar Ágúst Ingvarsson
President of IFPA



Professor Bruce Stober
President of the IPC



The Board of Governors membership includes: the Presidents of the three Collaborating Organisations and other non-voting members. The Board of Governors is chaired by the ILDS President.

Steering Committee

The GPA Steering Committee is chaired by the GPA Director and is composed of a lead from each of the Collaborating Organisations (IFPA, ILDS and IPC), along with the members of the Project Management Team comprising the GPA Research Director, GPA Programme Manager and GPA Administrator.

Regional and National Coordinators
Part of the GPA Steering Committee.

Collaboration Team

Membership includes executives and members from the Collaborating Organisations and the GPA Programme Manager.

Researchers

Research Fellows and Research Associates.

Scientific Advisory Board

The GPA Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) provides the Board of Governors with independent and international scientific oversight of the work of the GPA. They are responsible for reviewing research priorities and advising on significant developments which may affect the GPA.



Professor Luigi Naldi



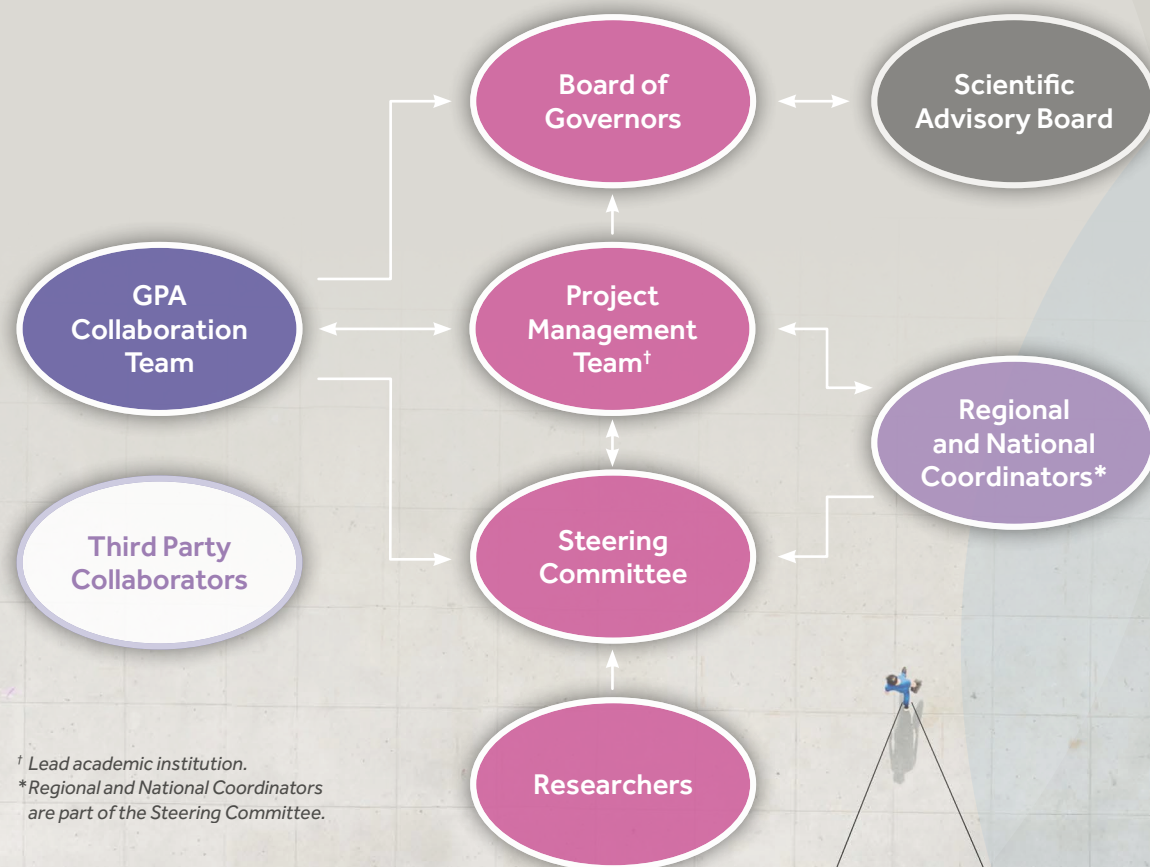
Professor Mohsen Naghavi



Professor Tamar Nijsten



Professor Joel Gelfand



† Lead academic institution.

* Regional and National Coordinators are part of the Steering Committee.

Areas of research focus Phase III (2023-2026)

Epidemiology of Psoriasis

Implement an extensive update to our large international dataset and provide updated prevalence estimates on a country-to-country basis.

Conduct new epidemiological studies in selected countries, based on existing knowledge gaps, using electronic health records or field work to collect data.

Conduct new epidemiological studies on Generalised Pustular Psoriasis (GPP).

Understand and Characterise the Economic Impact of Psoriasis

Conduct new studies to identify, and then quantify, the use of healthcare resources and associated costs to the healthcare system.

Conduct new studies to understand the impact of living with psoriasis including the impact on health and capability, wellbeing, productivity, access to treatments, and psychosocial burden.

Recognising the Comorbid Disease Burden of Psoriasis

Conduct new studies to improve knowledge about the comorbid disease burden of psoriasis.

Conduct new epidemiological studies to examine the clustering of comorbid diseases in psoriasis.

Improving the Early Diagnosis of Psoriasis

Development of the diagnostic training tool as an online resource to be hosted on the GPA website to support the training of health care professionals on early and correct diagnosis of psoriasis.

Trialling of the clinical diagnostic training tool in other countries.

Our Research

Four Key Research Areas

This section explores the GPA research team's progress over the last year, highlighting our global research collaborations and publications.



Epidemiology
of Psoriasis



Understand and
Characterise the
Economic Impact
of Psoriasis



Recognise
the Comorbid
Disease Burden
of Psoriasis



Improve the
Early Diagnosis
of Psoriasis





Professor Darren Ashcroft
GPA Research Director



Dr Alison Wright
GPA Research Fellow



Dr Ahmad Aalemi
GPA Research Fellow



Dr Paul Dimmock
GPA Research Associate



Dr Alexandre de Fatima Cobre
GPA Research Associate



Introduction from Professor Darren Ashcroft

It has been a huge pleasure to meet up with our expanding international network of GPA Coordinators this year at the 10th Psoriasis Congress: from Gene to Clinic in London in December 2024 and the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) annual meeting in Florida in March 2025. Each meeting has generated so many opportunities to further develop our global psoriasis research programme. Our GPA team presented updates on several of our recent research achievements at these meetings, alongside planning our future research.

Over the last year, we welcomed Dr Bryan Guevara from the Southern Philippines Medical Centre to spend time with the GPA. Bryan has used our GPA survey to examine the lived experience of psoriasis for people in the Philippines and has already presented some of his emerging findings at the IPC Think-Tank

meeting in London and the AAD annual meeting. We are continuing to expand our research plans with Bryan in the Philippines.

This built on the work of Dr Jaqueline Barboza da Silva from Santa Cruz do Sul in Brazil who conducted a cross-sectional survey of 563 Brazilian adult residents who had been diagnosed with psoriasis. We found that the severity, and associated comorbidities of psoriasis negatively impacted health-related quality of life and capability, along with feelings of stigmatisation and barriers to access specialist treatment. Over 86% of respondents reported feeling anxious and/or depressed, and this work has recently been published: "Experience of living with psoriasis in Brazil: a Global Psoriasis Atlas online survey", <https://doi.org/10.1111/ijid.17387>.

Our team are also working hard to update our global systematic review examining the epidemiology of psoriasis. This project is at an advanced stage, and we are looking forward to launching the third edition of the Global Psoriasis Atlas presenting this new data on World Psoriasis Day 2025.

Development and evaluation of an online training tool to aid in the diagnosis of chronic plaque psoriasis

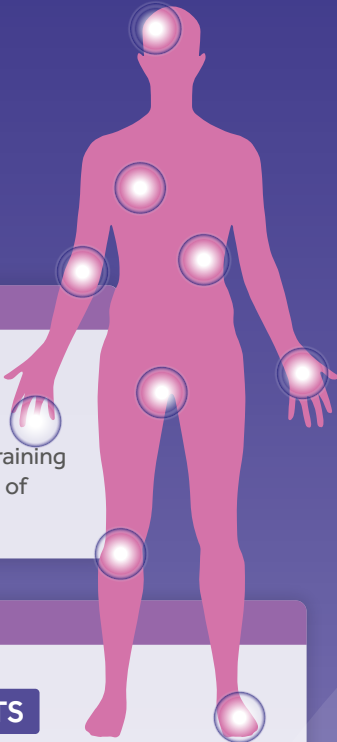
We know that many people with psoriasis experience delays in diagnosis and may even receive an incorrect diagnosis. This can result in them receiving inappropriate treatments and can cause increased levels of anxiety and distress for the individual.

Having identified the knowledge gap in psoriasis diagnosis, Global Psoriasis Atlas PhD Graduate, Dr Maha Abo-Tabik, developed a set of diagnostic criteria for psoriasis, and an online training tool to improve the diagnostic skills of primary care professionals for chronic plaque psoriasis. The tool

contains written recommendations for the diagnosis of plaque psoriasis in different skin colours and a medical artist's illustrations of psoriasis to overcome the lack of representative images of the disease in skin of colour and to illustrate the salient features more clearly than clinical photographs.

Our evaluation of the performance of the newly developed training tool involving three groups of primary care health professionals (general practitioners (GPs), nurses, and pharmacists) found that the training tool improved participants' diagnostic skills. Participants found the training valuable and relevant to diagnosis in primary care settings. We are supporting the wider dissemination of the tool to enable more timely diagnosis and treatment of psoriasis and support relevant and faster referral to specialist dermatology clinics.

Development and evaluation of an online training tool to aid in the diagnosis of chronic plaque psoriasis (CPP)



BACKGROUND

Chronic plaque psoriasis (CPP) is underdiagnosed, undertreated and mistaken for other skin conditions such as eczema, tinea corporis and pityriasis rosea.



OBJECTIVES

To develop and evaluate an online training tool to improve the diagnostic skills of primary care professionals for CPP.



METHODS

The study involved:

- 1 Developing an online training tool to improve CPP diagnosis by primary care professionals.
- 2 Evaluating the performance of the newly developed training tool by conducting a before-and-after exploratory investigation.



Participants included three groups of primary care professionals: general practitioners (GPs), nurses and pharmacists.

The tool contained written recommendations for the diagnosis of CPP in different skin colours and a medical artist's illustrations of psoriasis to overcome the lack of representative images of the disease in skin of colour and to illustrate the salient features more clearly than clinical photographs.



RESULTS

In total, 60 participants completed the study (20 per participant group).

The training tool improved participants' diagnostic skills for CPP across all three groups of primary care professionals.

The diagnostic ability of GPs was, on average, higher than nurses and pharmacists before and after training. Participants found the training valuable and relevant to CPP diagnosis in primary care settings.



CONCLUSION

Our findings show that a training tool for primary care professionals, using medical illustrations, can be beneficial in terms of recognition of CPP.

This may lead to more timely diagnosis and treatment of psoriasis and support relevant and faster referral to specialist dermatology clinics.

Potential use of the training tool is to improve diagnosis of psoriasis in low – and middle-income countries where access to dermatologists and specialised dermatology care is limited.

Examples of illustrations of psoriasis used in the training tool



A
Plaque psoriasis on light skin colour. Showing characteristic well-demarcated pink/red plaques covered with silvery white scales.



B
Plaque psoriasis on darker skin colour showing grey plaques.

Generalised Pustular Psoriasis in Malaysia

Incidence and prevalence of generalized pustular psoriasis in multiethnic Johor Bahru, Malaysia: a population-based cohort study using routinely captured electronic health records in the Teleprimary Care (TPC®) clinical information system from 2010 to 2020.



BACKGROUND

Generalised pustular psoriasis (GPP) is a rare and severe form of psoriasis characterised by recurrent, sudden flares of widespread sterile pustules.

GPP greatly impacts on physical and mental health and quality of life and can lead to potentially life-threatening complications.

Due to its rare nature, few studies have examined the burden of GPP. Reported prevalence rates range widely from 1.76 per million people in France to 124 per million people in South Korea.



WHAT WE DID

We conducted a cohort study using electronic health records routinely captured in the Teleprimary Care (TPC®) clinical information system in Johor Bahru.

Calculated the incidence (per million person-years) and prevalence (per million) of dermatologist-diagnosed GPP in each year from 2010 to 2020.

Examined flare episodes and identified trigger factors of GPP flares.



WHAT WE FOUND

We identified

230

people with GPP among 1.16 million Malaysians

67%
had pre-existing plaque psoriasis

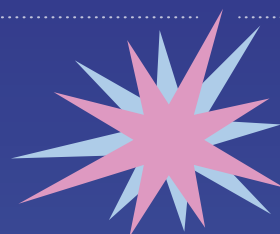


Prevalence varied across different ethnicities; highest rates seen in the Chinese population (271/million), followed by Malays (186/million) and Indians (179/million)

Prevalence of GPP

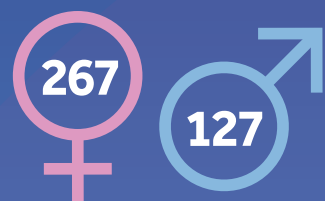
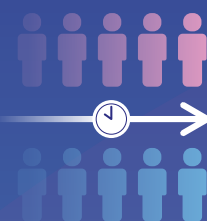
198
per million

(95% CI 172-224)



Common trigger factors for a GPP flare included: current use of or withdrawal of systemic corticosteroids; infections, particularly URTIs; use of medications including traditional medicines, nonbiologic systemic therapies, antibiotics, and NSAIDs; pregnancy; stress; menstruation.

GPP has two peaks of onset: the first at age 20-29 years and the second at age 50-59 years



Prevalence (per million) of GPP was higher in women than in men

Incidence of GPP

27.2

per million person-years (95% CI 22.8-31.6)

Incidence and prevalence of generalized pustular psoriasis in multiethnic Johor Bahru, Malaysia: a population-based cohort study using routinely captured electronic health records in the Teleprimary Care (TPC®) clinical information system from 2010 to 2020. Siew Eng Choon, Alison K Wright, Christopher E M Griffiths, Kit Wan Wong, Kwee Eng Tey, Yee Ting Lim, Keow Yin Chua, Darren M Ashcroft. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjd/ljad158>

Epidemiology of generalised pustular psoriasis in Malaysia

There is limited understanding of the epidemiology of generalised pustular psoriasis (GPP) internationally. There were no population-based estimates of GPP in Southeast Asia therefore we worked closely with Prof Siew Eng Choon to determine for the first time the incidence and prevalence of GPP in the Malaysian population.

We conducted a population-based cohort study using the Teleprimary Care clinical information system database between January 2010 and December 2020.

The prevalence of GPP was 198 per million (267 women, 127 men) and incidence was 27.2 per million person-years (35.3 per million person-years for women and 18.3 per million person-years for men). Rates were higher in Chinese individuals than in the Malay population or the Indian ethnic group. Annual prevalence was consistently higher in women than in men and highest among the Chinese population, followed by the Indian and Malay populations. Overall, 67% of patients with GPP had associated plaque psoriasis.

These important new findings are contributing to the global mapping of GPP, which will help inform the management of this rare condition.

You can read the full results from this study in our published paper in the British Journal of Dermatology (<https://doi.org/10.1093/bjd/ljad158>) and watch our video giving an overview of this study here <https://youtu.be/XPzk3Xnv7Dg>.

Prevalence of anxiety and depression symptoms among patients with psoriasis in Kabul, Afghanistan

Emotional stress plays an important role in the onset and exacerbation of psoriasis, with studies showing that

stress worsens psoriasis symptoms in approximately 37-78% of patients. Despite this known relationship, no studies have examined the prevalence of mental health symptoms in individuals with psoriasis in Afghanistan.

To address this gap, Global Psoriasis Atlas Research Fellow Dr Ahmad Aalemi conducted a cross-sectional study at the Dermatology Department of Maiwand Teaching Hospital in Kabul, Afghanistan, between November 2020 and December 2021. Participants included individuals aged 18-80 years with dermatologist-diagnosed psoriasis who had no comorbid skin disorders or history of psychiatric illness. The Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) was used to assess psoriasis severity, and the Persian version of the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) was employed to evaluate anxiety and depression symptoms.

The study recruited 340 individuals with psoriasis, 66 (19.4%) had mild psoriasis and 274 (80.6%) had moderate to severe psoriasis. Moderate to severe anxiety symptoms were reported in 25.9% of patients and 31.8% reported having moderate to severe depression symptoms. Factors associated with increased anxiety included female gender, age ≥ 40 years, limited education, short nocturnal sleep (≤ 5 hours), low socioeconomic status, comorbid systemic disease, psoriasis affecting multiple anatomical sites, presence of multiple psoriasis symptoms, joint pain, moderate to severe psoriasis, and longer psoriasis duration. Factors associated with depression were similar to those linked to anxiety, except for the lack of association with age and systemic disease.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/ijd.17343>

These findings align with previous studies indicating a significant psychological burden associated with psoriasis. A systematic review reported an average prevalence of anxiety of 30.4% and 27.6% for depression in individuals with psoriasis, reinforcing the mental health challenges faced by this population.

Skin diseases among adults in Tasiilaq, East Greenland

Cold climate and unique genetic and environmental factors may influence the prevalence of skin diseases in Greenland. However, there is a lack of epidemiological studies on skin diseases in the adult Greenlandic population.

In May 2022, the Global Psoriasis Atlas team with colleagues from Denmark and Switzerland conducted a cross-sectional study to address this unmet need and estimate the prevalence and clinical manifestations of skin diseases among adults in East Greenland.

All adults ≥ 18 years in the town of Tasiilaq were invited, and 295 individuals aged 18-78 years participated (22.5% of the overall adult population in Tasiilaq). Two-hundred and three participants (69%) had visible signs of current skin disease, and among these, 242 cases of dermatoses were identified. The most common skin diseases were hand eczema (22.4%), lichen simplex (9.5%), discoid eczema (7.1%), psoriasis, atopic dermatitis and acne vulgaris (5.8% each). Scabies was the most frequent infectious skin disease (4.4%). Atopic dermatitis and psoriasis presented with disease that was of limited extent and different from the classical presentations.

Skin diseases showed a high prevalence among adults in East Greenland, and some of them were severe. This indicates a noteworthy public health problem that warrants better access to dermatologist support. This study was recently published in the International Journal of Circumpolar Health <https://doi.org/10.1080/22423982.2024.2412378>

Psoriasis: from Gene to Clinic Congress



GPA Director Professor Chris Griffiths and GPA Research Director Professor Darren Ashcroft.

From the 5th–7th December 2024 the GPA team attended the Psoriasis: from Gene to Clinic Congress at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre in London.

The Congress was co-chaired by GPA Director and Emeritus Professor of Dermatology at The University of Manchester, Professor Chris Griffiths and Professor Jonathan Barker, Professor of Medical Dermatology at St John's Institute of Dermatology, King's College London.

The Congress was a huge success with over 600 people in attendance. The GPA exhibition stand provided a great opportunity for the team to meet face-to-face with many of the GPA Regional and National Coordinators as well as members of our collaborating organisations and research colleagues from around the world.



From left to right: Programme Manager Thomas Rogers, GPA Regional Coordinator for Singapore Dr Hazel Oon, Administrator Alice Silk, Research Associate Dr Paul Dimmock, Research Director Professor Darren Ashcroft and Research Fellow Dr Ahmad Aalemi.



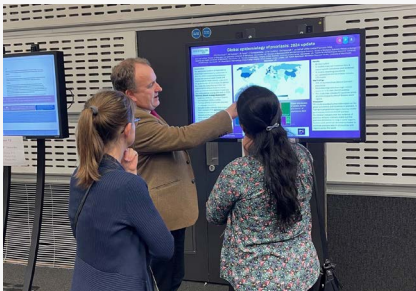
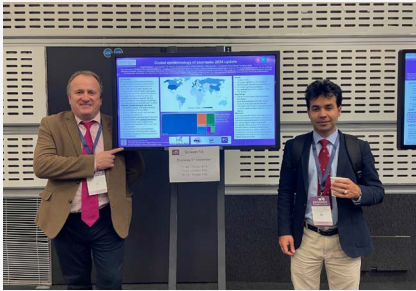
The GPA exhibition stand at the Psoriasis: from Gene to Clinic Congress.

The Congress was an informative and well organised event with many presentations, posters and discussions surrounding the latest issues relating to the science of psoriasis and its clinical management.

GPA Research Fellow Dr Ahmad Aalemi and Research Associate Dr Paul Dimmock presented their poster on the global epidemiology of psoriasis: 2024 update.

Dr Dimmock and Dr Aalemi have been conducting a systematic review to update the global psoriasis atlas and release a third edition later this year. This update includes 55 new prevalence studies from 26 countries (9 new countries) across 14 global regions. There are many new countries in this update including Bangladesh, Colombia, Greenland, Malaysia, Palau (Oceania), and Thailand. Initial findings show increases in psoriasis prevalence across western/high income countries with fewer incidence studies and much less published data from developing countries.

The GPA website data on the worldwide epidemiology of psoriasis; data on the number of psoriasis cases in every country of the world and healthcare data, will be updated to reflect this updated research later this year.



Professor Mahira El Sayed, GPA Regional Coordinator for Egypt.



Professor Wayne Gulliver, GPA Regional Coordinator for Canada.

Professor Wayne Gulliver, GPA Regional Coordinator for Canada, presented a poster on the collaborative research between his team in Canada and the GPA; the incidence and prevalence of psoriasis in the Newfoundland and Labrador population (2001-2020) and Professor Mahira El Sayed, GPA Regional Coordinator for Egypt, presented an engaging keynote lecture on the challenges of managing psoriasis in low- and middle-income countries.

On the Friday evening the GPA team attended the Congress Dinner at the Natural History Museum. This was a memorable evening at an amazing venue with dinner taking place under the famous blue whale skeleton.



Professor Griffiths and Professor Barker are stepping down from their role as co-chairs of the Congress this year. Professor Griffiths gave a reflective and heartwarming speech about the success of the Psoriasis: from Gene to Clinic Congress over the past 28 years. During his speech Professor Griffiths highlighted the importance of continuing the congress, enabling experts from around the world to gather face-to-face.

“The understanding of the biology of psoriasis, particularly immunology, has led to a revolution in targeted therapies and patient outcomes. But many issues remain to be tackled to ensure that care is optimised for all, and we can move from disease treatment to prevention and maybe even cure. Professor Chris Griffiths”

IPC Fellowship 2024



The GPA team were delighted to host Dr Bryan Guevara, dermatologist and dermatopathologist from the Southern Philippines, during his IPC Fellowship in 2024.

Dr. Guevara is a board-certified dermatologist and dermatopathologist from the Southern Philippines Medical Center (government hospital) and Southeast Dermatology (private practice). He is actively involved in psoriasis research and clinical trials, including studies on generalised pustular psoriasis.

In collaboration with the GPA, Dr Guevara is leading a project examining the burden of psoriasis experienced by people in the Philippines. Dr Guevara and the GPA team look forward to sharing these important findings later this year.



From left to right: Programme Manager Thomas Rogers, Research Associate Dr Paul Dimmock, IPC Fellow Dr Bryan Guevara, ILDS Global Skin Health Project Coordinator Jennifer Kilmer, Research Fellow Dr Ahmad Aalemi, Research Associate Dr Alexandre Cobre, ILDS CEO Arpita Bhowe, Research Fellow Dr Alison Wright, Research Director Professor Darren Ashcroft and Administrator Alice Silk.



From left to right: GPA Regional Coordinator for the Philippines Professor Verment Verallo-Rowell, IPC CEO Christy Langan and IPC Fellow Dr Bryan Guevara.



From Left to right: ILDS Global Skin Health Project Coordinator Jennifer Kilmer, IPC Fellow Dr Bryan Guevara and ILDS CEO Arpita Bhowe.

Dr Guevara visited the GPA team in Manchester in November 2024. During his visit the GPA team also had the pleasure of hosting ILDS CEO Arpita Bhowe and ILDS Global Skin Health Project Coordinator Jennifer Kilmer for a day.

The GPA team, the ILDS team and Dr Guevara had a productive day engaging in meetings and sharing updates on latest research, ongoing collaborations, and exciting future projects.



From Left to right: University of Manchester PhD student Duc Binh Phan, IPC Fellow Dr Bryan Guevara, University of Manchester PhD student Heber Rew Bright.

During his time at the University of Manchester with the GPA team, Dr Guevara learnt about the British Association of Dermatologists Biologic and Immunomodulators Register (BADBIR) with BADBIR team member Danielle Bowerbank and discussed

ongoing research with PhD students Duc Binh Phan and Heber Rew Bright. Dr Guevara also visited Salford Royal Hospital where he met with Dr Elise Kleyn and Dr Zenas Yiu who showed him around the Psoriasis Clinic.

“

I had a rewarding experience with my IPC fellowship in Manchester under Prof. Chris Griffiths, Prof. Darren Ashcroft, and the whole GPA team.

During this period, I had the opportunity to discuss our research on the impact of living with psoriasis in the Philippines with the whole GPA team, ILDS CEO Arpita Bhowe and ILDS Global Skin Health Project Coordinator Jennifer Kilmer. This research is particularly important as the World Health Organization Global Report on psoriasis recommends more quality data from low- and middle-income countries.

I'm also very grateful to have been introduced to Dr. Elise Kleyn and Dr. Zenas Yiu who showed me their Psoriasis Clinic at Salford Royal Hospital.

Looking forward to more collaborations with the IPC, GPA, and ILDS!

Dr Bryan Guevara

”



IPC Fellowship 2025

Dr Doriane Sabushimike from Burundi has been assigned to the GPA as an IPC Research Fellow for 2025. Dr. Sabushimike is a Dermatologist at Hopital Militaire de Kamenge in Burundi. The GPA team met Dr. Sabushimike during their visit to Moshi, Tanzania, in 2019. At the time Dr Sabushimike worked

at the Regional Dermatology Training Centre in Moshi where the GPA based themselves whilst conducting a pilot survey on psoriasis epidemiology.

The team look forward to working with Dr Sabushimike again in 2025.

News Bulletin

Psoriasis Association Annual Meeting 2024

On Saturday 22nd June 2024 Professor Darren Ashcroft presented on 'Psoriasis in the UK today' at the Psoriasis Association Annual Conference in Manchester. Professor Ashcroft presented new research examining the epidemiology of psoriasis in the UK.

This year the GPA team, in collaboration with the Psoriasis Association UK, aim to update



estimates of the epidemiology of psoriasis in the UK with specific focus on how this may vary between people from different ethnic groups. Professor Ashcroft will be presenting these research findings at the next Psoriasis Association Annual Meeting on the 28th June 2025 in London

www.psoriasis-association.org.uk/conference-2025

European Academy of Dermatology and Venerology Congress 2024

Professor Chris Griffiths, Professor Darren Ashcroft, Dr Alison Wright and Thomas Rogers attended the EADV in Amsterdam in September 2024. Dr Alison Wright presented two posters on recent GPA studies: Skin Disease in the Eastern Cape (SKINSCAPE): a Global Psoriasis Atlas point prevalence study and Prevalence of Anxiety and Depression among Patients with Psoriasis in Kabul, Afghanistan.

During the congress the team had many productive and exciting discussions with colleagues from around the world.

The GPA held their Board of Governors, Steering Committee and Funders Briefing meetings on Saturday 28th September. Professor Griffiths provided an update on the GPA's recent developments, Professor Ashcroft presented a comprehensive research update including an overview of the results from our most recent field study SKINSCAPE, Dr Wright presented an update of her work in Generalised Pustular Psoriasis (GPP) in Malaysia and the UK, and Thomas covered the GPA's progress in communications and funding.



Members of the GPA and collaborating organisations; ILDS, IPC and IFPA.



Dr Wright presenting at the IFPA conference.



IFPA conference 2024

From the 27th-29th June 2024 Dr Alison Wright attended the IFPA Conference in Stockholm, Sweden. The IFPA conference is attended by anyone involved in psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis research, treatment, and advocacy. It provides an invaluable platform for learning, networking, and advancing the global effort to improve the lives of those affected by psoriatic disease.

Dr Wright presented on the work of the GPA, improving the understanding of the worldwide epidemiology of psoriasis to help identify how access to care can be enhanced. This included providing an update on the systematic review of the worldwide epidemiology of psoriasis, completed and ongoing new population-based cohort studies, skin disease field studies, the epidemiology of generalised pustular psoriasis (GPP), and the GPA online survey examining the lived experience of psoriasis.

World Psoriasis Day 2024

In celebration of World Psoriasis Day, the GPA team joined together to raise awareness of psoriasis. The theme this year was Psoriatic Disease and Family, recognising the impact that psoriatic disease has on both individuals and their loved ones.

The team had a stand at the University of Manchester promoting awareness of psoriasis within the University community and raising money for Psoriasis Association UK, the leading national charity that funds research and provides crucial information to those impacted by psoriasis.



From left to right: Dr Paul Dimmock, Thomas Rogers, Dr Alexandre Fatima de Cobre and Alice Silk.

LEO Foundation

We are grateful to The LEO Foundation for their funding support during Phase I, II and III of the GPA project. Without the support of The LEO Foundation, the work of the GPA would not be possible.

GPA Director, Professor Chris Griffiths said: "I am really delighted that the LEO Foundation continues to fund the GPA in Phase III. The LEO Foundation's funding of the GPA has been instrumental to the success of the Atlas. Phase III funding will allow us to collect the data on the global burden of psoriasis and in turn lead to better access to care for people with the disease wherever they live in the world."



Atlas teams and ILDS at the Grand Challenges Committee Strategy Planning session.

Grand Challenges Committee Strategy Planning meeting

In February, the Global Atlas Leads and teams joined together for an exciting and productive ILDS Grand Challenges Committee Strategy Planning session at the ILDS Head Office in London. Team members from the GPA, Global Atopic Dermatitis Atlas (GADA), Global Hidradenitis Suppurativa Atlas (GHiSA) and Global Vitiligo Atlas (GLOVA) participated, along with Dr José Antonio Ruiz Postigo from the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Neglected Tropical Diseases Programme Skin NTD Team, Prof Henry Lim, ILDS President, and the ILDS team.

The Grand Challenges in Global Skin Health is a concerted effort by the ILDS to address the significant burden of skin diseases worldwide. It focuses on research, education, clinical application, and support at local, national and international levels. This initiative aims to improve the lives of individuals affected by skin disorders through targeted actions, multidisciplinary collaboration and the formation of international alliances to address specific issues.

This was an excellent meeting strengthening the multidisciplinary collaborations tackling key issues in global skin health. The GPA team look forward to collaborating on projects in 2025 and beyond.

American Academy of Dermatology Annual Meeting 2025

Professor Chris Griffiths, Professor Darren Ashcroft and Thomas Rogers attended the AAD Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida in March 2025. The meeting was a valuable opportunity to connect, collaborate, and strengthen our global community.

At the GPA Board of Governors and Steering Committee meetings on Saturday 08th March, the team welcomed representatives from 19 different countries - highlighting our expanding global reach. The group had active and wide-ranging discussions about our ongoing research, recent publications, field studies, funding, communications and our ambitious plans for the upcoming year.



Digital Developments and Communications

The Global Psoriasis Atlas project has established itself as a recognised and respected brand across a variety of digital platforms.

GPA data, statistics and publications are being used in various lectures around the world. This shows that the GPA data is now the trusted, robust go-to data on psoriasis.

The GPA has used its online platforms to share information and build rapport and trust with followers. The GPA launched its X account in October 2018, followed by Instagram, Facebook and YouTube in 2019 and LinkedIn in 2021. During that time, our strategy has been to have a consistent online presence by utilising a bank of GPA branded content that we share with followers across all platforms.

The GPA team regularly assesses analytics across all digital outputs with the aim of increasing followers, engagement, impressions and brand awareness. We have seen steady increases in all of these metrics on the GPA website, social media and subscription to the GPA newsletter.

GPA Social Media

The Global Psoriasis Atlas project has established itself as a recognised and respected brand across a variety of digital platforms.

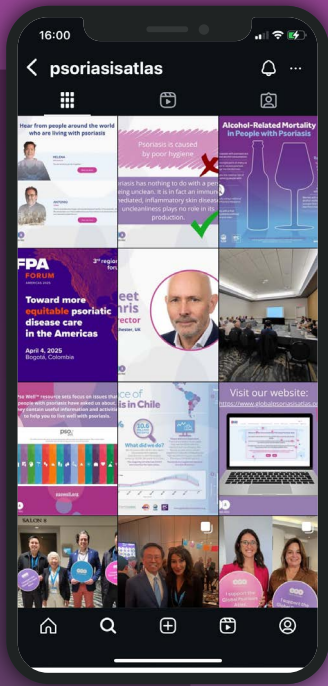
 **1,420 followers**

 **1,807 followers**

 **2,777 followers**

 **1,099 followers**

Please follow **@PsoriasisAtlas**



GPA Newsletter

The GPA team produce a quarterly newsletter sharing the latest news, publications, collaborations and research updates from the past 3 months. These updates include work undertaken by the GPA core team as well as updates from our Regional and National Coordinators worldwide.

The GPA newsletter is published on the GPA website and, if subscribed, you will receive the newsletter directly to your email inbox on the day of publication. Keeping our followers, sponsors, collaborators and friends up to date on all things GPA!



Subscribe to our newsletter

for regular updates on research and project progress from Professor Chris Griffiths and the GPA team.

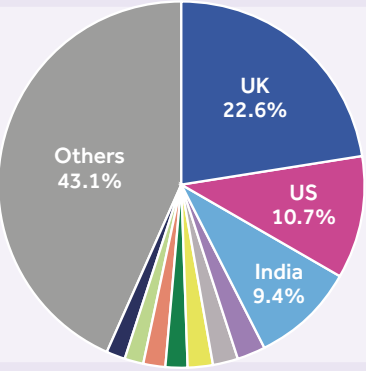


GPA Website Analytics 2024-2025

Top 10 countries visiting the GPA websites 2024-2025

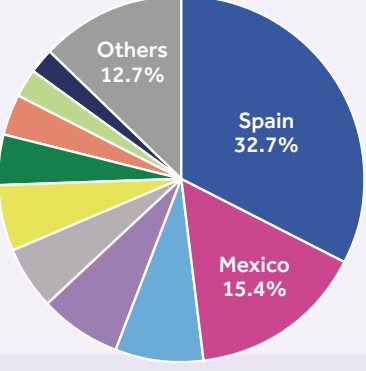
English
6,077
25% increase

Country	Visits	%
United Kingdom	1,374	22.6%
United States	650	10.7%
India	571	9.4%
Indonesia	148	2.4%
China	136	2.2%
Canada	126	2.1%
Malaysia	124	2%
Philippines	122	2%
Ireland	108	1.8%
Brazil	99	1.6%



Spanish
1,541
30% increase

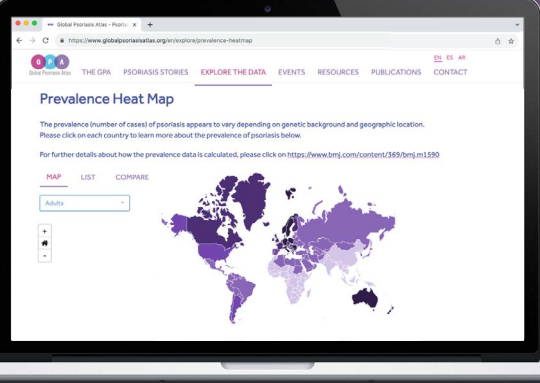
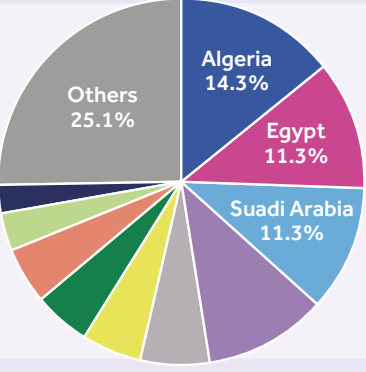
Country	Visits	%
Spain	504	32.7%
Mexico	238	15.4%
Peru	120	7.8%
Colombia	109	7.1%
Argentina	88	5.7%
Chile	88	5.7%
Ecuador	70	4.5%
Venezuela	56	3.6%
United States	39	2.5%
Guatemala	33	2.1%



Arabic
407*
Launched on World Psoriasis Day 2023

*First full year of data.

Country	Visits	%
Algeria	58	14.3%
Egypt	46	11.3%
Saudi Arabia	46	11.3%
Morocco	44	10.8%
Tunisia	25	6.1%
Iraq	21	5.2%
Jordan	21	5.2%
Syria	20	4.9%
Libya	13	3.2%
Yemen	11	2.7%



Number of downloads of the Atlas PDFs 2024-2025
10,462

Looking Forward

Collaboration

During Phase III (April 2023–March 2026), the GPA team will be strengthened further by enhanced collaboration with our partner organisations, implementation of regular research and communications meetings, and our planned collaborative work with the WHO.



Team

The GPA has been fortunate to have a team of dedicated and enthusiastic individuals worldwide to help drive each phase of growth. Each team member has contributed time and expertise to the project with enthusiasm and skill. The research team shares a range of skills and knowledge in dermatology, epidemiology, pharmacy, and project administration. Interdisciplinary teamwork in our work on epidemiological mapping and on

our field study visits, is supported by positive leadership and management, effective communication strategies, an appropriate skill mix and the individual characteristics of the team. Since its inception, the project has consistently achieved high-calibre research outputs. For example, our publication in JAMA Dermatology, by Chen et al, 2023 and our publication in the British Medical Journal, by Parisi et al, 2020, both achieved Altmetric Attention Scores ranking in the top 5% of all research outputs tracked.

As part of our plans for 2023–2026 we will:

Implement extensive updates to our large international epidemiology dataset

Conduct field study visits in selected countries

Conduct new epidemiological studies to examine the clustering of comorbid diseases in psoriasis

Conduct studies of clinical diagnostic criteria with our global collaborators

Test data collection tools in field studies with our global collaborators

Develop data collection tools to better understand and characterise the economic impact of psoriasis

Ensure continued publication in high impact journals across our key research areas

Publish the third edition of the Global Psoriasis Atlas

Implementation

According to the World Health Organization, non-communicable diseases account for 75% of deaths worldwide and are associated with health inequality. For psoriasis, these inequalities manifest in a lack of knowledge and understanding of the prevalence of psoriasis, delays in diagnosis and treatment and underestimation of the associated

comorbid diseases, which also contribute to the health burden. Therefore, establishing prevalence rates and raising awareness of the burden of psoriasis among policy makers are crucial elements in improving access to care. Without these data it is impossible to target resources effectively. Effective education and advocacy are the crucial next steps to convince payers, regulators and governments that

effective management of psoriasis is important both on an individual and a societal basis. The GPA will continue to supply data on the national prevalence of psoriasis. These data will allow IFPA, ILDS and IPC to educate on psoriasis diagnosis and management and advocate for better healthcare resources from a stronger and more defensible standpoint.

GPA workshop at the Regional Dermatology Training Centre, Tanzania, July 2019



Field Study Visits – Phase III

Working with our collaborating organisations and GPA Coordinators, we will conduct field study visits in several countries during Phase III.

This work will utilise existing on the ground infrastructure. We

will expand on prior epidemiological mapping in the country/region and interrogate relevant health records. Our collaborating organisations will provide links and support in countries where field study visits occur. IFPA will participate in field visits in countries

where there is no member association, with the purpose of establishing a patient organisation. We are currently exploring the potential for this fieldwork to take place in Southeast Asia and India.



Africa



Southeast Asia



India

Engagement

We welcome new connections and partnerships!



Here are some of the ways you can get involved;

- Provide financial support
- Collaborate with us
- Support the collection of data on the global burden of psoriasis
- Support our research
- Engage with us on social media

Furthering the high quality research of the GPA requires the support of industry, organisations with relevant data sets, and collaboration across regions and countries.

The GPA Partnership Brochure provides details around the types and levels of financial support packages and highlights unique opportunities for involvement in the project.



For further information contact, GPA Administrator, Alice Silk: alice.silk@manchester.ac.uk

Would you like to learn more about the work of the GPA?



Visit our website
www.globalpsoriasisatlas.org

Follow us on X, Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn
@PsoriasisAtlas



Visit our YouTube channel
YouTube

Subscribe to our newsletter:
www.globalpsoriasisatlas.org/en/subscribe

The work of the Global Psoriasis Atlas would not be possible without the financial support we receive from our industry partners.

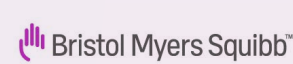
Partnership is a crucial step towards achieving the ambition of the GPA; to ensure that people around the world have access to the best available care and treatment for their psoriasis. We recognise that innovative and strategic partnerships with organisations are key to delivering our milestones and achieving the aims of the Atlas.



LEO FOUNDATION

The **LEO Foundation** is the lead supporter of the Global Psoriasis Atlas and we are grateful for the core, key funding that it has provided throughout Phase I, II and III.

The GPA work in Phase III (2023–2026) has been made possible thanks to grants and sponsorship from Almirall, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Bristol Myers Squibb and Janssen.



Other sources of funding for Phase III: Institute of International Education's Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-SRF), The Psoriasis Association, International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF)



Publications, Presentations and Abstracts

Publications

Andrade DDBC, Nzundu R, Rodrigues RRD, Romiti R, Santana YRT, Kurizky PS, de Lima APR, Carvalho A, Ashcroft DM, Gomes CM, Griffiths CEM, 'The epidemiology of atopic dermatitis and psoriasis in the indigenous people of Brazil.' J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol. 2024 Apr 5;38(10):e898-e901 DOI: [10.1111/jdv.19984](https://doi.org/10.1111/jdv.19984)

Frysz M, Patel S, Yee Li MO, Griffiths CEM, Warren RB, Ashcroft DM, 'Prevalence, incidence, mortality and healthcare resource use for generalized pustular psoriasis, palmoplantar pustulosis and plaque psoriasis in England: a population-based cohort study.' Br J Dermatol. 2024 Sep 18;191(4):529-538 DOI: [10.1093/bjd/ljae217](https://doi.org/10.1093/bjd/ljae217)

Aalemi AK, Wright AK, Habib K, Raofi N, Ashcroft DM, Griffiths CEM, 'Prevalence of anxiety and depression symptoms among patients with psoriasis in Kabul, Afghanistan.' Int J Dermatol. 2024 Aug;63(8):e187-e191 DOI: [10.1111/ijd.17343](https://doi.org/10.1111/ijd.17343)

Barboza da Silva J, Wright AK, Carvalho AVE, Griffiths CEM, Ashcroft DM, 'Experience of living with psoriasis in Brazil: a Global Psoriasis Atlas online survey.' Int J Dermatol 2024; 64(2):325-32 DOI: [10.1111/ijd.17387](https://doi.org/10.1111/ijd.17387)

Haulrig MB, Andersson AM, Maul J-T, Xu J, Lwin SM, Flohr C, Hove LS, Agner T, Koch A, Griffiths CEM, Zachariae C, Thyssen JP, 'Skin diseases among adults in Tasiilaq, East Greenland.' International Journal of Circumpolar Health, 83(1) DOI: [10.1080/22423982.2024.2412378](https://doi.org/10.1080/22423982.2024.2412378)

Abo-Tabik M, Parisi R, Hann M, Tucker R, Willis S, Ashcroft DM, Griffiths CEM, 'Development and evaluation of an online training tool to aid in the diagnosis of chronic plaque psoriasis.' J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol. 2025; 4(1):174-180. DOI: [10.1002/jvc2.525](https://doi.org/10.1002/jvc2.525)

Abstracts and Poster Presentations

Prevalence of Anxiety and Depression among Patients with Psoriasis in Kabul, Afghanistan. Aalemi AK, Wright AK, Habib K, Raofi N, Ashcroft DM, Griffiths CEM, European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology Congress, Amsterdam 2024

Skin Disease in the Eastern Cape (SKINSCAPE): a Global Psoriasis Atlas point prevalence study. Wright AK, Swan R, Xu J, Lwin S, Azrielant S, Skenjana A, Chateau A, Mankahla A, Ede C, Sons J, Drusinsky S, Mhlanga S, Kannenberg SM, Gxolo Z, Luthuli M, Topping L, Taicher E, Flohr C, Glova N, Griffiths CEM, Ashcroft DM, European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology Congress, Amsterdam 2024

Global epidemiology of psoriasis: GPA 2024 update. Dimmock PW, Aalemi AK, Parisi R, Kontopantelis E, Griffiths CEM, Ashcroft DM, on behalf of the Global Psoriasis Atlas, Psoriasis: from Gene to Clinic Congress, London 2024

Incidence and Prevalence of Psoriasis in the Newfoundland/Labrador Population: from 2001 to 2020. Gulliver W, Bdair O, Lester K, Gulliver S, Wright A, Griffiths CEM, Ashcroft DM, Rahman P, Psoriasis: from Gene to Clinic Congress, London 2024

Presentations

Lessons from the Global Psoriasis Atlas, Professor Chris Griffiths, UCB – South West London Dermatology Network Event - Updates in Psoriasis, London, UK, April 2024

Lessons from the Global Psoriasis Atlas, Professor Chris Griffiths, Janssen Clinical Updates & Treatment Considerations in Psoriasis Management Event, London, UK, May 2024

Psoriasis in the UK today, Prof Darren Ashcroft, Psoriasis Association Annual Conference, Manchester, UK, June 2024

The Global Psoriasis Atlas: Improving the understanding of the worldwide epidemiology of psoriasis to help identify how access to care can be enhanced – a research update, Dr Alison Wright, IFPA conference (7th World Psoriasis & Psoriatic Arthritis Conference 2024), Stockholm, Sweden, June 2024

Life lessons in psoriasis, Professor Chris Griffiths, Swiss Society Dermatology Venereology (SSDV) Congress, Basel, Switzerland, September 2024

Lessons from the Global Psoriasis Atlas, Professor Chris Griffiths, St. John's Academic Research Seminars (STARS), London, UK, October 2024

International Psoriasis Council Fellowship - Understanding the Impact of Living with Psoriasis in the Philippines: a cross-sectional study, Dr Bryan Guevara, 2024 International Psoriasis Council Think Tank, London, UK, December 2024



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