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1 Learning from Disease Registries During a Pandemic: 2 Moving Towards an International Federation of 3 Patient Registries.

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183 **Highlights:**

184 • Patient registries are key means of collecting real-world evidence, particularly during
185 pandemics.

186 • Successful patient registries require a high level of physician and patient engagement, with
187 broad participation in order to be successful.

- 188 • More stringent data security, privacy and governance requirements are increasing barriers
189 to patient registry development.
- 190 • Lessons learned from contrasting existing patient registries with those developed during the
191 COVID-19 global pandemic are vital to the development and maintenance of patient
192 registries that will better serve the dermatology community during and outside of future
193 pandemics.
- 194 • This article calls on the dermatology community to commit to collaborative development,
195 participation and maintenance of interoperable patient registries through the development
196 of an international federation of patient registries. It also recognizes the rise of patient
197 facing registries, and why patient involvement at all levels of registry design, deployment
198 and data analysis is crucial.

199 **Abstract (200 words; 200 max)**

200 High-quality dermatology patient registries often require considerable time to develop and
201 produce meaningful data. Development time is influenced by registry complexity and
202 regulatory hurdles that vary significantly nationally and institutionally. The rapid emergence
203 of the COVID-19 global pandemic has challenged health services in an unprecedented
204 manner. Mobilization of the dermatology community in response has included rapid
205 development and deployment of multiple, partially harmonized, international patient
206 registries, reinventing established patient registry timelines. Partnership with patient
207 organizations has demonstrated the critical nature of inclusive patient involvement. This
208 global effort has demonstrated the value, capacity and necessity for the dermatology
209 community to adopt a more cohesive approach to patient registry development and data
210 sharing that can lead to myriad benefits. These include improved utilization of limited
211 resources, increased data interoperability, improved ability to rapidly collect meaningful
212 data, and shortened response times to generate real-world evidence. We call on the global
213 dermatology community to support the development of an international federation of
214 patient registries to consolidate and operationalize the lessons learned during this
215 pandemic. This will provide an enduring means of applying this knowledge to the
216 maintenance and development of sustainable, coherent and impactful patient registries of
217 benefit now and in the future.

218

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223 Register (A-STAR). CF, AI and PS co-lead the SECURE (Surveillance Epidemiology of Coronavirus
224 under Research Exclusion)-AD register, which studies the impact of COVID-19 infection episodes on
225 atopic dermatitis. DW and RS co-lead the SECURE (Surveillance Epidemiology of Coronavirus under
226 Research Exclusion)-Alopecia registry which studies the impact of COVID-19 infection on patients
227 with all forms of hair loss. RS, DW, NM, KY and LB are leading the development of GRASS Global
228 Registry of Alopecia areata disease Severity and treatment Safety (GRASS). CF, PS and CA are
229 members of the international TREATment of Atopic eczema Taskforce (TREAT) Executive
230 Committee. CEMG is Chief Investigator of the British Association of Dermatologists Biologics and
231 Immunomodulators Register (BADBIR) and an Executive Member of the PsoProtect and
232 Psoprotectme Registries. CHS is Research Chair of BADBIR, and joint CI of PsoProtect and
233 PsoProtectMe Registries. SKM is joint CI of PsoProtect and PsoProtectMe Registries. Dr. Lara-
234 Corrales are part of the Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance COVID-19 Response Task Force, a
235 collaboration between the Society for Pediatric Dermatology (SPD) and the Pediatric Dermatology
236 Research Alliance (PeDRA). BWMA is a patient representative for the SECURE (Surveillance
237 Epidemiology of Coronavirus under Research Exclusion)-AD patient register, and the Dutch TREAT
238 NL and BioDAY registers. PS is member of the PsoProtect International Scientific Advisory Board. Dr.
239 Naik is a board member of the Hidradenitis Suppurativa Foundation.

240

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251

252 **Key words:** Interoperability; Real-world evidence; Resource re-utilization; Health technology
253 assessment; patient and public involvement; COVID-19.

254

255 **Abbreviations used:**

256 Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), British Association of Dermatologists

257 Biologics and Immunomodulators Register (BADBIR), Core Outcome Measures in

258 Effectiveness Trials (COMET), Core Outcome Sets (COSs), Data Protection Impact

259 Assessment (DPIA), Electronic health records (EHRs), European Reference Network (ERN),

260 European Medicines Agency (EMA), ENCePP (European Network of Centres for

261 Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacovigilance), European Platform for Rare Disease

262 Registries (EPIRARE), Health Level 7 Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (HL7 FHIR),

263 Health Service (HS), Health Technology Assessment (HTA), Medicines and Healthcare

264 products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), National Research Ethics Committees (NRECs),

265 Randomized Controlled Clinical Trials (RCTs), PATient Registries iNiTiative joint action

266 (PARENT), Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance (PeDRA), Surveillance Epidemiology of

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268 TRTreatment of ATopic eczema (TREAT), United Kingdom (UK), United States of America (US).

269 **Introduction**

270 In the hierarchy of evidence-based medicine, randomized controlled clinical trials (RCTs) are
271 accepted as the standard for confirming the safety and efficacy of treatments to guide
272 clinical practice. While rare events may be encountered serendipitously, the stringent
273 inclusion criteria of clinical trials exclude patients with significant comorbidities and are not
274 powered to detect rare adverse events encountered in the “real world”. Though
275 spontaneous reporting, such as the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
276 (MHRA) Yellow Card Scheme in the United Kingdom (UK), can detect adverse reactions to
277 medications post-marketing, patient registries reflect “real world” evidence more closely.¹⁻³
278 With large participant numbers and long-term follow up, registries are more suited to
279 detect rare drug adverse events. The “real world” data they collect also describe a wider
280 range of disease severities, off-label use, including combination therapies specifically
281 excluded in RCTs, and the natural history of diseases as comparators. They are also ideally
282 placed to identify cohorts of potential clinical trial candidates and enable
283 pharmaco-economic evaluations.

284

285 Broad, inclusive projects, such as patient registries, that capture diverse data can be
286 resource intensive. Incrementally increasing data security and privacy regulatory
287 requirements add further strain in an age of ever-evolving, global connectivity. Patient
288 registries often develop as silos, created to address region-specific nuances and
289 experiences. This pattern of development typically results in poorly harmonized datasets
290 across different countries.⁴⁻⁷ With high-quality patient registries and time to identify and
291 incorporate diverse datasets, sometimes, this lack of data interoperability can be rectified.
292 Once a pandemic strike, at a time when coherence and speed is at a premium, these

293 weaknesses are exposed. Valuable information can be lost that might otherwise have
294 benefited patients and the global medical community.

295

296 We briefly review the current state of dermatology patient registries and consider the
297 manner in which we can evolve to become pandemic-ready, while also maximizing the
298 reach and value of real-world data, at a time when efficient use of limited resources is
299 particularly important.

300

301 **Patient Registries – international collaboration and dataset harmonization**

302 Though patient registries have existed for many years, their definition has evolved over time
303 and is perhaps most robustly described as:

304

305 *“an organized system that uses observational study methods to collect uniform data (clinical and*
306 *other) to evaluate specified outcomes for a population defined by a particular disease, condition, or*
307 *exposure, and that serves one or more predetermined scientific, clinical, or policy purposes. A registry*
308 *database is a file (or files) derived from the registry.”⁴*

309

310 The benefit of patient registries is well recognized. The real-world evidence they generate
311 can identify best clinical practice to improve outcomes and health care value. For example,
312 data from the Swedish Hip Arthroplasty Register, when compared with the hip revision
313 burden of the United States (US) between 2000-2009, were estimated to have resulted in
314 avoidance of approximately 7,500 hip revisions in Sweden over the same decade.⁸ Sweden
315 achieved this by using the registry data to identify the best clinical practices and the most
316 suitable implants, resulting in one of the lowest revision rates worldwide. The capacity of
317 patient registries to register large numbers of patients has also been identified as a critical

318 component of rare disease care and identifying rare side effects of medications. Efalizumab,
319 a humanized, recombinant, monoclonal IgG1 antibody, showed considerable efficacy in the
320 treatment of psoriasis in what was, at the time, the “longest continuous study using a
321 biologic therapy for psoriasis.”⁹ Despite following 339 patients for up to 33 months,
322 progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy was not identified. This rare but serious side
323 effect, for which efalizumab was ultimately withdrawn after reporting by the Yellow Card
324 Scheme in the UK, was only identified following spontaneous reporting of one suspected
325 and three confirmed cases, after over 46,000 patients had been exposed to the
326 medication.¹⁰ Evaluation of the long-term safety of biologic therapies in psoriasis, without
327 reliance on spontaneous reporting and RCTs alone, was the primary reason for the
328 establishment of a number of national registries.^{11,12} Since its origination in 2005, the
329 collaborative network, PSONET (<http://psonet.eu>), has linked such independent registries
330 for patients with psoriasis receiving systemic medications, to monitor the long term safety
331 and effectiveness of therapy.¹²

332

333 The value of patient registries has been recognized at the governmental level. In the U.S. the
334 Department of Health and Human Services, through the Agency for Healthcare Research
335 and Quality (AHRQ) produces comprehensive registry development and maintenance
336 guidelines.⁴ In the European Union, registries have been identified as “key instruments for
337 developing rare disease (RD) clinical research, improving patient care and health service
338 (HS) planning” resulting in the funding of the European Platform for Rare Disease Registries
339 (EPIRARE) project “to improve standardization and data comparability among patient
340 registries and to support new registries and data collections.”⁵ PARENT (PATient Registries
341 iNiTiative joint action) also received significant funding to identify best practice registry

342 development, producing, amongst other deliverables, Methodological Guidelines and
343 Recommendations for Efficient and Rational Governance of Patient Registries.⁷ The
344 European Medicines Agency (EMA) has also recognized the value of utilizing patient
345 registries and their networks of stakeholders in facilitating Health Technology Assessment
346 (HTA). This resulted in the development of a cross-committee task force to facilitate
347 harmonization of data collected in disease registries and encourage utilization of existing
348 patient registries “to measure the safety and efficacy of medicinal products in routine
349 clinical practice.”^{13,14}

350

351 The values of patient registries in the dermatology community has become increasingly
352 more apparent, generating an ever-expanding volume of real-world evidence. Patient
353 registries such as the British Association of Dermatologists Biologics and Immunomodulators
354 Register (BADBIR; UK and Republic of Ireland; <http://badbir.org/>) and BIOBADADERM
355 (Spain; <https://biobadaderm>), in psoriasis have emerged on a national level. Beyond
356 national borders, collaborations across Europe, such as the PSONET initiative
357 (<http://psonet.eu>) for psoriasis registries, and the TREAT (TREATment of ATopic eczema)
358 registry taskforce (<https://treat-registry-taskforce.org/>), who have established atopic
359 dermatitis registries in multiple European countries, aim to facilitate closer harmonization of
360 patient data.^{15,16} Further patient registries are emerging in the rare disease area; for
361 example, ectodermal dysplasias plus mosaic and DNA repair disorders. Patient registries for
362 epidermolysis bullosa and hidradenitis suppurativa have existed for a number of years,¹⁷⁻¹⁹
363 and rare disease registries are expected to grow significantly in population coverage within
364 the E.U. due to the emerging European Reference Networks (ERNs). These represent virtual
365 networks that connect highly specialized experts in over 900 healthcare units from more

366 than 300 hospitals across 26 Member States in the European Union (EU) to provide care for
367 rare diseases. Sites within the UK, which has recently left the E.U., continue to participate in
368 ERNs. Dermatology is represented by ERN-Skin, which is currently developing a generic
369 registry, capable of capturing numerous skin conditions at a high level, while sharing
370 common data points. In addition to disease focused-registries, treatment-related
371 international registries are in development, such as the LEAD (Laser trEAtments for
372 Dermatology) registry.²⁰

373

374 **COVID-19 patient registries**

375 In 2020, a novel RNA virus, SARS-CoV-2, causing a disease known as COVID-19, resulted in a
376 global pandemic that, to date, has claimed the lives of an estimated 850,000 people and
377 infected more than 25 million.²¹ At a time of unprecedented demands on physicians and
378 healthcare providers, a number of new dermatology patient registries have been developed
379 to assess the outcomes of dermatology patients with COVID-19. Ten of these registries have
380 recently been designated.²²

381

382 Of those described, a number of which are global in reach, one is patient-facing
383 (PsoProtectMe, <https://psoprotectme.org/>) and one has both patient and physician entry
384 options (Global Hidradenitis Suppurativa COVID-19 registry, <https://hscovid.ucsf.edu>),^{23,24}
385 whilst the others are physician-entered only. A third patient-facing survey, SECURE-AD
386 Patient Survey, (<https://www.secure-derm.com/secure-pad/>) has also emerged. Analysis of
387 datasets shows a remarkable coherence across COVID-19 related data collected. This
388 contrasts with prior experience of poor patient registry interoperability, improvement of
389 which was a key principle underlying the PARENT and EPIRARE projects.^{4-6,25,26} The

390 coherence of the COVID-19 patient registries is likely to have been contributed to by each
391 registry utilizing the core concept developed by the COVID-19 Inflammatory Bowel Disease
392 Registry (SECURE-IBD; Surveillance Epidemiology of Coronavirus Under Research Exclusion,
393 <https://covidibd.org>).^{27,28} A further contributor is likely to be the experience in patient
394 registry development and maintenance by the registry teams.

395

396 Anonymized or de-identified data collection in several COVID-19 patient registries has
397 enabled exemption from ethics committee review in most jurisdictions. Despite these
398 exemptions, some academic centers still require data use agreements, and full ethical
399 approval has been required in others (for example in Australia, Ireland, and Canada). The
400 latter requirement hints at the volume of work that is required to develop a patient registry
401 that adheres to current standards in an era of increasing demands with for data protection
402 and security. Each ethical application requires considerable resources and expertise. A data
403 protection impact assessment (DPIA), study protocol, ethics application, and evidence,
404 confirming insurance coverage and financial sustainability of the registry project, are often
405 required. Information technology expertise with experience in registry development to
406 create an appropriate platform is critical. Considerable effort is then necessary to recruit
407 and manage steering and advisory boards to develop a dataset, user-test the registry
408 platform, and establish data analysis strategies. Continuous liaison with multiple physician
409 and patient organizations to mobilize endorsements and drive patient recruitment is then
410 essential.

411

412 **Traditional compared with emerging pandemic registries**

413 Patient registries, particularly those with international recruitment, have traditionally taken
414 years to develop, even with considerable budgets. For example, in atopic dermatitis and
415 alopecia areata, global eDelphi projects have both taken more than a year to facilitate the
416 development of a common dataset.²⁹⁻³² Newly emerging COVID-19 patient registries,
417 despite the considerable requirements outlined above, have been developed far more
418 rapidly, through the considerable collective goodwill, energy, and diligence of the
419 dermatology community.

420

421 There is, unfortunately, an increasing likelihood that the current COVID-19 pandemic will
422 persist and possibly enter further waves. It is also likely that future, unrelated, pandemics
423 will occur. It is essential to reflect on patient registries prior to and during the current
424 pandemic, to consider the lessons learnt, and to determine how they may benefit the
425 dermatology community now, and in the future.

426

427 **Evolving patient registries**

428 Undoubtedly, chief amongst these lessons, is the need to rapidly deploy new or adapt
429 existing, patient registries in the event of future pandemics. Existing approval mechanisms
430 are not designed to meet the pressing urgency demanded by a pandemic. Ethics committee
431 meetings, data sharing agreements, and data protection impact assessments are critical
432 elements of patient registry approval. These take considerable time and expertise, even
433 when expedited by COVID-specific national research ethics committees (NRECs) and
434 streamlined pathways that have emerged during the pandemic.

435

436 While the response to the current pandemic has been impressive in some countries, it will
437 need to be even faster in the future; otherwise, the benefit of answering clinical questions,
438 such as the safety of the initiation, discontinuation, or continuation of
439 immunosuppression/immunomodulation for such immune-mediated diseases as psoriasis
440 and atopic dermatitis, will be lessened. Greater penetration of registries beyond highly
441 resourced countries and expert centers is needed. Both require the availability of pre-
442 existing registry infrastructures, which the current emerging COVID-19 patient registries
443 may provide.

444

445 To maximize data utilization, its harmonization will be essential. Even the most seemingly
446 simple variables can be interpreted and recorded differently between countries. Defining
447 standard, understandable, and cohesive reporting variables early on is of paramount
448 importance. This will require broad agreement on standard datasets with clear definition of
449 data terms. It should incorporate the work of relevant groups such as the COMET (Core
450 Outcome Measures in Effectiveness Trials; <http://www.comet-initiative.org/>)³³ initiative,
451 who have generated core outcome sets (COSs) for use in COVID-19 research. Where new
452 datasets need to be generated, a rapid process of term definition and broad agreement to
453 implement them needs to be established.

454 For those who intend to build new patient registries, visibility of standard datasets must be
455 prioritized. The reusable building blocks of patient registry development, such as
456 standardized ethics templates, patient information leaflets, committee membership, and
457 authorship agreements, as well as expertise regarding data protection, security,
458 governance, software development, and implementation, will need to be readily available.
459 Ethics applications will be required to be considered in advance, particularly to facilitate

460 non-anonymized patient registries needed to avert problems with data double entry from
461 removal of patient identifiable data. There should be mechanisms to facilitate easier
462 collaboration of patient registry groups across time zones, languages, cultures and
463 physician-patient boundaries. Considerable work will need to be undertaken to ensure that
464 patient registries can integrate with existing information systems.

465 Electronic health records (EHRs), for example, contain valuable patient-level data,
466 export of which could reduce some of the data entry burden of patient registries.
467 Unfortunately, EHRs have traditionally connected inefficiently and expensively with patient
468 registries or contain data that require significant processing in order to make it capable of
469 being incorporated within a registry.³⁴

470 Inter-registry interoperability will also be important, to enable use of existing
471 pharmacovigilance registry data that can act as a denominator or even identify patients who
472 might require recall upon identification of risk modifiers. Such connectivity is likely to rely
473 heavily on ensuring that registries embrace open standard data models, such as openEHR
474 that encourage recording of data in a similar manner from system to system, and by utilizing
475 messaging standards, such as HL7® FHIR®, that enable structured data exchange between
476 them.³⁵⁻³⁷

477
478 Beyond dermatology, harmonization and shared data infrastructure across specialties will
479 be an important driver of research efficiency and effectiveness. For example, in the early
480 stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, the SECURE-IBD registry shared its data dictionary, IRB
481 templates, communication tools, and other components of its blueprint with multiple
482 autoimmune focused groups, including several international dermatology and rheumatology
483 efforts.²⁷ Given patients across immune-mediated conditions share similar medication

484 exposures, harmonized data collection will facilitate studies of the effect of various immune
485 suppressant medications on COVID-19 related outcomes across conditions. Ultimately,
486 pooling data across conditions will provide important answers to emerging safety conditions
487 much faster than single disease or specialty registries working independently.

488

489 Patient involvement is a critical component of success. A feature of COVID-19 patient
490 registries has been patient involvement at a steering committee level and the establishment
491 of robust communication with patient organizations. This has reconfirmed the immense
492 value of a patient-centric approach, evidenced through considerable benefits in all aspects of
493 patient registry development and deployment, including improved communication, dataset
494 generation, advocacy, visibility, and endorsement.

495

496 A notable feature of the self-reporting COVID-19 patient surveys for psoriasis
497 (PsoProtectMe), atopic dermatitis (SECURE-AD Patient Survey) and hidradenitis suppurativa
498 (Global Hidradenitis Suppurative COVID-19 registry) is the considerably greater speed of
499 recruitment reported, compared to the corresponding physician-reported patient registries
500 (<https://psoprotect.org>,³⁸ <https://www.secure-derm.com/secure-ad-physician>,³⁹ and
501 <https://hscovid.ucsf.edu>²⁴). While PsoProtectMe and SECURE-AD Patient Survey enable
502 registration of patients who have not experienced COVID-19, and questions typically arise
503 regarding privacy, security and data validity, it is clear that patient-centric registries are key
504 to better patient engagement and registration.

505

506 **Future Direction**

507 COVID-19 has generated seismic ripples that continue to disrupt the fabric of our societies
508 and the manner in which we practice medicine. With great challenges, however, come
509 opportunities to evolve. We suggest an international federation of dermatology registries as
510 a means to harness the foundations of registry collaboration amongst new and “pre-COVID”
511 registry communities. Such a collaboration would utilize and build on the experience gained
512 during this challenging time. This will aim to address many of the challenges identified
513 above and provide an entity capable of catalyzing rapid, international deployment, if and
514 when future pandemics emerge.

515

516 Such a federation would aim to develop the reusable blueprints of registry creation and
517 standardized datasets and definitions to better align existing and future patient registries.
518 As an independent organization, the federation would aim to impartially facilitate cohesion,
519 rather than act as a regulator. While promoting interoperability, the federation would not
520 seek to host patient data that might compromise data sovereignty, yet still facilitate data
521 merging, where consent to data sharing exists.

522

523 Such a federation could enable greater visibility of registries and their characteristics,
524 through the development and maintenance of a registry of registries, a concept described
525 by PARENT and the AHRQ.^{6,40} Orphanet is a resource that gathers and improves knowledge
526 on rare disease. Initially established by the French National Institute for Health and Medical
527 Research (INSERM) in 1997, it has evolved to become a global Consortium of 41 countries.
528 While it lists a number of dermatology-relevant patient registries, these are within a large
529 directory that focuses on all rare diseases.^{41,42} An inventory of disease registries already
530 exists, supported by the ENCePP (European Network of Centres for Pharmacoepidemiology

531 and Pharmacovigilance) Resource database of data sources, although it is incomplete with
532 respect to dermatology patient registries.^{13,43–46} The AHRQ developed a similar concept to
533 act as a patient registry equivalent of ClinicalTrials.gov that is “a database of privately and
534 publicly funded patient registry studies conducted around the world;”, however, its funding
535 ended in 2019.^{40,47,48}

536 This is a timely reminder that such valuable resources may benefit from being located within
537 the care of the networks which will most benefit from them, such as a federation of
538 dermatology registries, to facilitate awareness, utilization and sustainability. A simplified
539 example of such a registry of registries (Table 1) is presented, although the authors envisage
540 a more detailed, live registry to be maintained by the proposed federation. Initially
541 published in 2016, following a literature review of dermatology patient registries, this table
542 has been expanded to incorporate a number of omitted registries and those that have
543 emerged during the COVID-19 era.⁴⁹

544

545 This proposed federation would provide a hub, capable of fostering the continued
546 connectivity of patient registries with relevant stakeholders, including patient and physician
547 organizations that have been so impressive during the COVID-19 era. This may further
548 increase the capacity for patient organizations to advocate for physicians to engage more
549 broadly with relevant patient registries. It would facilitate fast-tracking of applications to
550 regulatory authorities and ethics boards through provision of reusable templates and group
551 experience to provide guidance to steering committees committed to swift registry
552 development. Ultimately, streamlining and collaborating on registry development in this
553 manner could translate into the speedier provision of real-world information. Subsequently,
554 this might reduce the time taken to address clinical hypotheses, for example, the

555 effectiveness of hydroxychloroquine in patients exposed to COVID-19 and the impact of
556 systemic medications on prognosis.

557

558 To develop a federation of dermatology registries, the authors envisage some work, but
559 perhaps less than would have been envisaged pre-COVID-19, given the significant effort
560 undertaken already by registry groups. The blueprint of such an organization has been
561 outlined by the structures created for each of the patient registries. In the first instance, a
562 steering committee with global representation from existing stakeholders, nominated
563 experts with specific expertise in pharmacoeconomics, epidemiology, health informatics and
564 data protection, and patient representation would be required. A larger scientific advisory
565 board, that can be expanded to ensure democratic representation when new patient
566 registries emerge, would also be invited. The time expenditure of committee members is
567 likely to be significantly rewarded by the outputs the federation would be able to generate
568 in terms of simplifying registry development and maintenance.

569

570 Although funding for sustainability would be required, much of the large infrastructure costs
571 have already been borne by the development of the registries the federation seeks to
572 support. Such a federation would also provide a valuable conduit to facilitate generation of
573 patient registries capable of providing data to EMA and FDA mandated post-marketing
574 surveillance studies. Supporting such a project would be of notable value to the
575 pharmaceutical industry.

576

577 Importantly, the federation would require broad endorsement. Given the wide-ranging
578 support by international patient and physician groups that have already endorsed a number

579 of the newly developed COVID-19 patient registries, should not be a significant hurdle.
580 Undoubtedly, an international federation of patient registries will require considerable
581 debate and more formalized structures; however, it is critical that the opportunity is not
582 lost.

583

584 **Conclusions:**

585 COVID-19 has placed exceptional demands on societies and economies globally, but it has
586 provoked a coherent response from the international dermatology community. One
587 encouraging occurrence has been the rapid harmonization and development of
588 international patient registries to collect relevant COVID-19 data from cohorts of
589 dermatology patients. We urge the international community to build on this work and
590 suggest the establishment of an international federation of dermatology registries to
591 generate new standards and practices. Such a cohesive approach may also establish more
592 rapid and sustainable avenues for funding these registries and provide more affordable
593 solutions at times where economic capabilities are under strain.

594 While such an undertaking would be of particular significance during pandemics, the value
595 to facilitating harmonization and improving the quality of existing and future non-pandemic
596 registries would also be significant. Despite such an undertaking being viewed as resource
597 hungry and necessitating considerable innovation and input, much of the groundwork has
598 already been done. The rapidly increasing human toll of COVID-19, and the continued,
599 pressing need for outcomes data, is a powerful incentive to collaborate and adopt such
600 pioneering solutions.

601

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758

Table 1: Dermatology patient registries, adapted from DiMarco et al to include COVID-19 era patient registries.⁴⁹

COVID-19 Registries			
Name	Disease	Scope	Website
AEDV COVID-Piel	COVID-19/Dermatology	National (Spain)	https://aedv.es/covid-piel
COVID-19 Dermatology Registry	COVID-19/Dermatology	International (Global)	https://www.aad.org/coronavirus
FSD (Société Française de Dermatologie) COVIDSKIN	COVID-19/Skin Lesions	National (France)	https://evenements-sfd.fr/coronavirus
Global Hidradenitis Suppurativa COVID-19 Registry	COVID-19/Hidradenitis Suppurativa	International (Global)	https://hscovid.ucsf.edu/
PeDRA (Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance)	COVID-19/Acral Ischemia/ Perniosis in children	International (Global)	https://pedraresearch.org/covid
PsoProtect	COVID-19/Psoriasis	International (Global)	https://psoprotect.org
PsoProtectMe	COVID-19/Psoriasis	International (Global)	https://psoprotectme.org
SECURE-AD	COVID-19/Atopic dermatitis	International (Global)	https://www.secure-derm.com
SECURE-AD Patient Survey	COVID-19/Atopic dermatitis	International (Global)	https://www.secure-derm.com/secure-pad/

SECURE-Alopecia	COVID-19/All forms of hair loss	International (Global)	https://www.secure-derm.com
General Dermatology Registries			
Name	Disease	Scope	Website
A*STAR (The UK & Ireland Atopic eczema Systemic Therapy Register)	Atopic dermatitis	International (UK & Ireland)	https://astar-register.org
AtopyReg	Atopic dermatitis	National (Italy)	https://www.atopyreg.it/
Biobadatop	Atopic dermatitis	National (Spain)	No link available
BioDay	Atopic dermatitis	National (Netherlands)	https://www.bioday.nl/
GREAT (Groupe de Recherche sur L'Eczéma ATopique)	Atopic dermatitis	National (France)	https://www.sfdermato.org/site/groupe-de-recherche-sur-l-eczema-atopique-great.html
Japan AD Registry (ADDRESS-J)	Atopic dermatitis	National (Japan)	https://upload.umin.ac.jp/cgi-open-bin/ctr_e/ctr_view.cgi?recptno=R000025749
Pediatric Elective Eczema Project	Atopic dermatitis	National (US)	https://enroll.thepeerprogram.org/
SCRATCH	Atopic dermatitis	National (Denmark)	No link available

SwedAD (Svenskt kvalitetsregister för Atopisk Dermatit)	Atopic dermatitis	National (Sweden)	http://swedad.nu/
TREATgermany (TREATment of ATopic eczema, Germany)	Atopic dermatitis	National (Germany)	http://www.treatgermany.org/
TREAT NL (TREATment of ATopic eczema, the Netherlands)	Atopic dermatitis	National (Netherlands)	https://treatregister.nl
CARPE (Chronic Hand Eczema Registry on Long-term Patient Management)	Chronic hand eczema	National (Germany)	No link available
RegiSCAR	Cutaneous drug reactions	National (US)	http://www.regiscar.org
Cutaneous Lupus Registry	Cutaneous Lupus	National (US)	https://www.utsouthwestern.edu/cutaneous-lupus
Central Cutaneous Lymphoma Registry	Cutaneous lymphoma	National (Germany)	https://www.orpha.net/kutane-Lymphome-in-Deutschland
UK and Ireland Juvenile Dermatomyositis Cohort Biomarker Study and Repository	Dermatomyositis	International (UK and Ireland)	https://www.orpha.net/consor/cgi-bin/ResearchTrials_RegistriesMaterials.php?lng=EN&data_id=45340&RegistryMaterialName=English-juvenile-dermatomyositis-registry-and-repository

Ectodermal Dysplasias International Registry	Ectodermal dysplasias	International	https://nfed.patientcrossroads.org
EBCare Patient Insights Network	Epidermolysis bullosa	International	https://ebcare.patientcrossroads.org
EB Registry Austria	Epidermolysis bullosa	National (Austria)	https://www.orpha.net/EB-RegisterAustria
C1 Inhibitor Registry in the Treatment of Hereditary Angioedema Attacks	Hereditary angioedema	International	https://clinicaltrials.gov/NCT01397864
English hereditary angioedema patient registry – part of the HAE European registry	Hereditary angioedema	National (UK)	https://www.orpha.net/consor/cgi-bin/ResearchTrials_RegistriesMaterials.php?lng=EN&data_id=35474&RegistryMaterialName=English-hereditary-angioedema-patient-registry---part-of-the-HAE-European-registry
Firazyr Patient Registry Protocol (Icatibant Outcome Survey)	Hereditary angioedema	International	https://clinicaltrials.gov/NCT01034969

HAE-registry: European hereditary angioedema patient registry	Hereditary angioedema	International	https://www.orpha.net/consor/cgi-bin/ResearchTrials_RegistriesMaterials.php?lng=EN&data_id=28343&RegistryMaterialName=HAE-registry--European-hereditary-angioedema-patient-registry
Hereditary Angioedema Association Scientific Registry	Hereditary angioedema	National (US)	https://www.haea.org/pages/p/LearnMoreSR
Spanish Patient Registry of Hereditary Angioedema	Hereditary angioedema	National (Spain)	https://www.orpha.net/consor/cgi-bin/ResearchTrials_RegistriesMaterials.php?lng=EN&data_id=30532&RegistryMaterialName=Registro-espa-ol-de-pacientes-con-angioedema-hereditario
International Rare Histiocytic Disorders Registry	Histiocytic disorders	International	https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02285582
National Registry for Ichthyosis and Related Diseases	Ichthyosis	National (US)	http://www.firstskinfoundation.org/
Network for Ichthyosis and Related Keratinization Disorders	Ichthyosis	National (Germany)	https://www.medizin.uni-muenster.de/

KINDLERNET: Central patient registry Kindler syndrome	Kindler syndrome	International	https://www.orpha.net/consor/cgi-bin/OC_Exp.php?Ing=EN&Expert=242250
French Certified Patient Registry for Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis	Langerhans cell histiocytosis	National (France)	https://epidemiologie-france.aviesan.fr/en/epidemiology/records/french-langerhans-cell-histiocytosis-registry
German Registry for Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis in Childhood	Langerhans cell histiocytosis	National (Germany)	https://www.orpha.net/Deutschen-Registers-fur-Langerhanszell-Histiozytosen
Great Ormond Street Hospital Congenital Melanocytic Naevus	Melanocytic nevi	National (United Kingdom)	No link available
Registry for Congenital Melanocytic Nevi and Neurocutaneous Melanocytosis	Melanocytic nevi; neurocutaneous melanocytosis	National (Germany)	No link available

Morphea in Adults and Children	Morphea	National (US)	https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01808937
International Pachyonychia Congenita Research Registry	Pachyonychia congenita	International	https://www.pachyonychia.org/patient-registry/
Pemphigus-Pemphigoid Registry	Pemphigus; pemphigoid	International	http://www.pemphigus.org/pemphigus-pemphigoid-registry/
Italian Registry of Patients and Families Affected by Pseudoxanthoma Elasticum	Pseudoxanthoma elasticum	National (Italy)	https://www.orpha.net/Pseudoxanthoma-elasticum
PXE International BioBank and Clinical Data Registry	Pseudoxanthoma elasticum	International	https://www.pxe.org/registry
AMC Psoriasis Registry	Psoriasis	National (Netherlands)	No link available
Australasian Psoriasis Registry	Psoriasis	International (Australia and New Zealand)	www.psoriasis.asn.au

BADBIR (British Association of Dermatologists Biologics and Immunomodulators Register)	Psoriasis	International (UK & Republic of Ireland)	http://www.badbir.org
Biobadaderm	Psoriasis	National (Spain)	https://biobadaser.ser.es/biobadaderm/
BioCAPTURE	Psoriasis	National (Netherlands)	https://biocapture.nl
BIOREP	Psoriasis	National (Czech Republic)	No link available
Child-CAPTURE	Psoriasis	National (Netherlands)	No link available
Chronic Plaque Psoriasis Registry	Psoriasis	International	https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT00799877
Clalit Health Services Registry	Psoriasis	National (Israel)	No link available
Corrona Psoriasis Registry	Psoriasis	National (US)	https://www.corrona.org/registry/psoriasis
Dermbio	Psoriasis	National (Denmark)	https://www.dermbio.dk
MPR (Malaysian Psoriasis Registry)	Psoriasis	National (Malaysia)	https://www.dermatology.org.my/DermReg/index.htm

PsoBest	Psoriasis	National (Germany)	https://www.psobest.de/
PSOBIOTEQ (French Psoriasis Registry)	Psoriasis	National (France)	https://epidemiologie-france.aviesan.fr/en/epidemiology/records/cohorte-multicentrique-de-patients-recevant-un-traitement-systemique-conventionnel-ou-biotherapie-pour-un-psoriasis-cutane-moderne-a-severe
PsoCare	Psoriasis	National (Italy)	No link available
Psodit	Psoriasis	National (Italy)	No link available
PSOLAR (Psoriasis Longitudinal Assessment and Registry)	Psoriasis	International	https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00508547
PsoNet	Psoriasis	International	http://www.psonet.eu/cms/
PsoRA	Psoriasis	National (Austria)	https://psora.medunigraz.at

PsoReg	Psoriasis	National (Sweden)	https://www.psoreg.se
SDNTT (Swiss Dermatology Network of Targeted Therapies)	Psoriasis	National (Switzerland)	https://my.derma.ch/en/spec/SDNTT.html
Slovenian National Registry of Psoriasis	Psoriasis	National (Slovenia)	No link available
Hospital for Special Surgery Scleroderma Registry	Scleroderma	National (US)	https://www.hss.edu/clinical-trials_scleroderma-registry-repository.asp
Scleroderma Registry	Scleroderma	National	https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00074568