



The University of Manchester Research

# Demographic and photobiological features of 70 chronic actinic dermatitis patients of lighter and darker skin type

DOI: 10.1001/jamadermatol.2016.5861

#### **Document Version**

Accepted author manuscript

#### Link to publication record in Manchester Research Explorer

#### Citation for published version (APA):

Tan, K., Haylett, A., Ling, T., & Rhodes, L. (2017). Demographic and photobiological features of 70 chronic actinic dermatitis patients of lighter and darker skin type. *JAMA dermatology*, *153*(5), 427-435. https://doi.org/10.1001/jamadermatol.2016.5861

Published in: JAMA dermatology

#### Citing this paper

Please note that where the full-text provided on Manchester Research Explorer is the Author Accepted Manuscript or Proof version this may differ from the final Published version. If citing, it is advised that you check and use the publisher's definitive version.

#### **General rights**

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the Research Explorer are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

#### Takedown policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please refer to the University of Manchester's Takedown Procedures [http://man.ac.uk/04Y6Bo] or contact uml.scholarlycommunications@manchester.ac.uk providing relevant details, so we can investigate your claim.



## 1 Demographic and photobiological features of 70 chronic actinic dermatitis patients of 2 lighter and darker skin type

- 3
  - Tan KW<sup>1,2</sup> MRCP, Haylett AK<sup>1</sup> MSc, Ling TC<sup>1</sup> FRCP, Rhodes LE<sup>1</sup> FRCP
- 4 5
- <sup>6</sup> <sup>1</sup>Photobiology Unit, Dermatology Centre, University of Manchester, Manchester Academic
- 7 Health Science Centre, Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust, UK.
- 8 <sup>2</sup>Department of Dermatology, Changi General Hospital, Singapore.
- 9
- 10 Word Count: 2988
- 11 Figure Count: 2
- 12 Table Count: 3
- 13

# 14 Corresponding author:

- 15 Prof LE Rhodes
- 16 Photobiology Unit, Dermatology Centre, University of Manchester, Salford Royal NHS
- 17 Foundation Trust, Salford, Manchester M6 8HD, UK
- 18 Tel: 00 44 161 206 1150
- 19 E-mail: <u>Lesley.e.rhodes@manchester.ac.uk</u>
- 20

- 21 Key points: 100 words
- 22 Question: Are there differences in demographic and photobiological features between people
- 23 of darker and lighter skin types with chronic actinic dermatitis (CAD)?
- 24 Findings: Retrospective review found darker skin type patients with CAD present at a
- 25 younger age and with reversed sex ratio compared to lighter skin type patients, although
- 26 phototest reactions are equally severe. Photopatch reactions are also commonly seen in
- 27 patients with CAD.
- 28 Meaning: In contrast to what is classically known about CAD, darker skin type patients are
- 29 more frequently female and may present at much earlier age. Photopatch reactions are
- 30 common and can be safely performed in CAD.

32 Abstract 350 words

**33 Importance:** Chronic actinic dermatitis (CAD) is classically described in older, white

34 Caucasian men although there are increasing reports in younger patients of darker skin types,

35 particularly South Asians. Photocontact allergy occurs in CAD but is less studied than the

36 occurrence of contact allergy in this exquisitely photosensitive condition.

37 **Objective:** To evaluate for differences in demographic and photobiological features between

38 people of darker and lighter skin types with CAD.

**Design:** Retrospective review of patients undergoing investigation for photosensitivity who

40 were diagnosed to have CAD, between November 2000 and August 2015.

41 Setting: Specialist photobiology unit of a tertiary academic referral center.

42 **Participants:** Consecutive adult ( $\geq 18$  years) patients referred for investigation of

43 photosensitivity.

44 Main Outcome(s) and Measure(s): Patient age, sex, ethnicity, clinical features and

45 phototest outcomes.

46 **Results:** A total of 70 patients were diagnosed with CAD: 36 White (not Hispanic or Latino),

47 31 Asians including 24 South Asian, 4 East Asian, 3 Middle Eastern and 3 Blacks; 37 male,

48 aged 9–83 years at diagnosis, with mean age of onset 42.6 years and mean duration of

49 disease 8.8 years. Forty-one were of lighter skin type (I-IV) and 29 of darker skin type (V-

50 VI). Darker skin type patients with CAD were younger at diagnosis (mean 40.7 vs 58.1 years,

p=0.0001) and had earlier onset of photosensitivity (35.5 vs 47.5 years, p=0.01) compared to

52 lighter skin type patients. Notably, the male: female ratio in the lighter skin group was 2:1

53 while this was 1:2 in the darker skin group. Phototest reactions were equally severe in skin

54 types V-VI and I-IV, with MED to monochromated UVB, UVA and visible radiation, and

55 broadband provocation testing, showing similar results. Photoallergic contact reactions to UV

- 56 filters, own suncreen products and NSAID were seen in both groups (total 14 positive
- 57 reactions), comprising 22.9% of patients tested.

58 **Conclusions and Relevance:** CAD presents with earlier age of onset and an inverted male:

- 59 female ratio in darker compared with lighter skin types. Clinicians should thus be cognizant
- 60 of CAD presenting in younger, darker skin type females. Photopatch testing should be
- 61 considered in CAD patients, with coexistent photocontact allergy occurring in a substantial
- 62 proportion.
- 63

#### 65 **Introduction**

Chronic actinic dermatitis (CAD) is a photosensitivity disorder classically described in older, 66 white Caucasian men<sup>1</sup>. While the exact cause of CAD remains elusive, it has been proposed 67 68 this is through increased susceptibility to develop delayed-type allergic responses to endogenous photoallergens and exogenous allergens<sup>2</sup>. It is a clinically distinct condition 69 70 defined by a persistent dermatitis and/or pseudolymphomatous eruption affecting 71 predominantly photo-exposed sites and monochromator phototesting which typically shows 72 severely reduced minimal erythemal doses (MED) especially in the UVB and shorter UVA wavelengths<sup>3, 4</sup>. It is associated with multiple contact allergies including to sesquiterpene 73 74 lactones, fragrance, colophony, rubber and sunscreens, but relationship to photocontact allergy is less well known as photopatch testing is less commonly performed. It is 75 increasingly recognised in younger patients<sup>5, 6</sup>, especially with darker skin types<sup>7</sup>, although 76 77 the prevalence in these is unknown. We reviewed patients diagnosed with CAD over a 15-78 year period in a specialised photoinvestigation unit and explored for differences in 79 demographic and photobiological features between lighter and darker skin types. 80 Materials and Methods 81 We performed a retrospective review of CAD patients diagnosed in the Photobiology Unit, Dermatology Centre, Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust, Greater Manchester, UK, 82 83 between November 2000-August 2015. Ethical approval was waived for this review. All 84 cases were diagnosed by a specialist photodermatologist through clinical and photobiological 85 assessment, the latter comprising monochromator phototesting to narrowband UVB, UVA 86 and visible radiation; provocation testing to broadband UVA and solar simulated radiation 87 (SSR); and photopatch testing to sunscreen filters, sun-protection products, and non-steroidal 88 anti-inflammatory agents (NSAID). Blood and urine sampling was performed as below. 89 Clinical assessment

90	Patients referred for photosensitivity assessment attended a standardised four-day
91	photoinvestigation programme. A detailed history was obtained: age of onset, distribution
92	and natural history of the skin condition, seasonal variation, whether it is improved or
93	worsened by use of sunscreens, detailed drug history (at onset of photosensitivity and
94	current), excessive ingestion of foods/drinks with phototoxic constituents namely quinine
95	and psoralens (e.g. tonic water, parsley, parsnip), personal and family history of atopy or
96	photosensitivity, Fitzpatrick sun-reactive skin type <sup>8</sup> , ethnicity, occupation and recreational
97	activities. Morphology and distribution of skin lesions were recorded.
98	Monochromator phototesting
99	Patients were exposed to narrowband UV and visible radiation from 300-600nm (+/- half
100	maximum bandwidth), using a geometric series of doses at each waveband: 0.0018 to 0.08
101	J/cm <sup>2</sup> (300 +/-5nm), 0.13 to 4 J/cm <sup>2</sup> (320 +/-10nm), 0.44 to 14 J/cm <sup>2</sup> (330 +/-10nm), 0.9 to 40
102	J/cm <sup>2</sup> (350 +/-20nm), 1.8 to 57 J/cm <sup>2</sup> (370 +/-20nm), 3.5 to 113 J/cm <sup>2</sup> (400 +/-20nm), 50
103	J/cm <sup>2</sup> (500 +/-20nm, 600 +/-20nm); (1KW xenon arc lamp, Newport Spectra-Physics Ltd,
104	Didcot, UK, coupled to a 1/4m grating monochromator, Newport Spectra-Physics Ltd).
105	Reference ranges were originally established at another centre in Northern England, UK <sup>9</sup> .
106	Irradiance was measured using a calibrated thermopile (Medical Physics, Dryburn Hospital,
107	Durham, UK) and digital voltmeter (Medical Physics, Royal Liverpool University Hospital,
108	Liverpool, UK).
109	Provocation testing
110	Provocation testing was performed on 5x5cm areas of ventral forearm on up to three
111	consecutive days to 15J/cm <sup>2</sup> broadband UVA, using a custom-built circumferential arm
112	exposure unit incorporating Cleo Performance fluorescent bulbs (310-400nm, Phillips
113	Healthcare UK Ltd., Guildford, UK) and, separately, to 10J/cm <sup>2</sup> of SSR (290-400nm, 1KW

114 xenon arc plus atmospheric attenuation filter, Newport Spectra-Physics Ltd).

#### 115 <u>Photopatch testing</u>

116 Photopatch with control patch testing was performed to a series of 25 agents<sup>10</sup>: 19 UV filters.

- 117 4 NSAID (Chemotechnique Diagnostics, Vellinge, Sweden) and 2 prescribable sunscreen-
- products, from 2009-2015. Prior to 2009, the photopatch series comprised 10 agents<sup>11</sup>: 9
- 119 organic UV filters and one sunscreen-product. Patients' own sunscreen-products were also
- applied. Duplicate patches were applied (day 1) to skin of the mid-back for 24 hours
- 121 following which one set was irradiated (day 2) with between 0.5-5J/cm<sup>2</sup> broadband UVA
- 122 (310-400nm; UVAL 801, Herbert Waldmann GmbH & Co. KG, Villingen-Schwenningen,
- 123 Germany). The UVA was dosed according to depth of erythemal response on day 2 at the
- 124 UVA provocation site, i.e.  $5J/cm^2$  was used if mild erythema was seen,  $2.5J/cm^2$  if moderate
- erythema and  $0.5-1 \text{J/cm}^2$  if severe erythema was seen. Readings were made at 24 and 48
- hours post-UV (days 3, 4) to examine for a crescendo response, using the International
- 127 Contact Dermatitis Research Group (ICDRG) grading<sup>11,12</sup>.
- 128 Other relevant investigations
- 129 Routine assessment comprised plasma and urine porphyrin scan; serum autoantibody screen,
- 130 IgE and 25-hydoxyvitamin D (250HD). Skin biopsy was rarely indicated.
- 131 <u>DLQI</u>

132 The Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI)<sup>13</sup> questionnaire was used to assess impact of

- skin disease on quality of life. As clinical photosensitivity can fluctuate depending on season
- and ambient UV/visible radiation, questionnaires focusing on events in the last week may
- underestimate impact, thus questionnaires assessed impact both in the last week and over the
- 136 last year<sup>14</sup>. There is a maximum potential score of 30, higher scores equating to greater
- 137 impairment of life quality  $^{13}$ .
- 138 <u>Statistical methods</u>

- 139 The data were analysed using ANOVA (StatsDirect Ltd. v2.7.9, Altrincham, UK). Statistical
- 140 significance was accepted at the P < 0.05 level. Data are mean  $\pm$  SD.

141 <u>Results</u>

#### 142 Demographic and clinical characteristics

- 143 A total of 2025 patients were photoinvestigated between 2000–2015. Characteristics of the
- 144 70 patients diagnosed with CAD are shown in Table 1. There were 33 female and 37 male,
- aged 9–83 years at diagnosis, with mean age of onset 42.6 years and mean duration of disease
- 146 8.8 years. Five patients (7.1%) were  $\leq 21$ , 19 (27.1%) were 22-40, 18 (25.7%) were 41-60, 28
- 147 (40%) were >60 years old. Forty-one were of lighter skin types (I-IV) and 29 were darker
- skin type (V-VI), comprising: 36 White (not Hispanic or Latino) (25 male, mean age 61.1
- 149 years, mean onset 50.8 years), 31 Asians including 24 South Asian (9 male, mean age 41.9
- 150 years, mean onset 36.4 years), 4 East Asian (3 Chinese/Chinese-White, 1 Laotian; 3 male,
- 151 mean age 45.8 years, mean onset 36.3 years), 3 Middle Eastern (2 Saudi Arabian, 1 Kuwaiti;
- all female, mean age 37 years, mean onset 32 years), and 3 Blacks (1 Libyan, 1 Somalian, 1
- 153 Afro-Caribbean; all female, mean age 29.7 years, mean onset 25.3 years).
- A background of atopic eczema was found in 37.1% (26/70), and a further 14% (10/70)
- 155 without eczema had other features of atopy, including asthma and allergic rhinitis.
- 156 Additionally, of the 44 non-atopic patients, 4 had a history of contact allergic dermatitis, 3 of
- 157 hand eczema and 2 had unspecified eczema. Darker skin type patients with CAD were
- younger at diagnosis (40.7 vs 58.1 years, p=0.0001) and had earlier age of onset of
- photosensitivity (35.5 vs 47.5 years, p=0.01) compared to lighter skin type patients. A
- 160 detailed drug history was taken; 8 patients were taking potentially photosensitizing drugs, but
- 161 only in 3 did the medication pre-date photosensitivity, with latent period  $\geq$ 5 years.
- 162 Patients showed characteristic clinical and photobiological features of CAD (figure 1). This
- typically presented as a photodistributed eczematous and sometimes lichenified condition,

- including face, 'V' of chest, nape of neck, dorsal forearms and hands, and with sharp
- demarcation between affected and sun-protected areas. In darker skin patients, responses on

166 monochromator phototesting could be more evident from the raised and palpable nature of

- 167 responses than from the erythema (figure 1f).
- 168 <u>Narrowband (monochromator) phototesting</u>
- 169 For each wavelength tested a mean MED for the patients was calculated using the lowest
- 170 dose point at which a response was seen for that wavelength; this value may not represent the
- absolute threshold in cases where patients responded to the lowest dose tested. Severely
- reduced MED at 24 hours were seen in all patients, with the action spectrum predominantly
- 173 in the UVB and shorter UVA range, but often spreading to longer wavelength UVA and
- including the 400nm border of visible light, but infrequently beyond this (Table 1, Figure 2).
- 175 Four patients had normal UVB thresholds but were classified as CAD due to their severely
- 176 low UVA thresholds and consistent clinical findings. Mean MEDs for the different
- wavebands were similar for darker and lighter skin types, except at 400nm where this was
- 178 lower in the lighter group.
- 179 <u>Broadband provocation testing</u>
- 180 All patients had positive provocation to broadband UVA and SSR (figure 1c, 1d), most
- developing an erythemal response after the first test, often followed by development of
- 182 eczematous features (particularly scaling) if the test was repeated.
- 183 <u>Photopatch and patch testing</u>
- 184 Detailed photopatch testing was performed concurrently with phototesting. Despite the
- challenge posed by UVA irradiation in such severely photosensitive patients, in total 61
- underwent photopatch testing with control patch testing; a further 5 had the control patch
- testing component alone. The irradiation dose used ranged from 0.5 to  $5 \text{ J/cm}^2$  (1 had 0.5
- 188  $J/cm^2$ , 34 received 1  $J/cm^2$ , 12 had 2.5  $J/cm^2$  and 14 had 5  $J/cm^2$ ). Overall, 14/61 (22.9%)

189	patients had positive photopatch reactions; 11 of lighter skin type (29.7% of I-IV, 11/37) and
190	3 of darker skin type (12.5% of V-VI, 3/24). Most had 1 reaction on photopatch testing (8/14;
191	figure 1g) while 3 patients had 2 reactions and 3 had 3 reactions. Details of the photopatch
192	positives are shown in Table 2. Of note, of the 14 patients with a positive photopatch test, 9
193	were given only 1 J/cm <sup>2</sup> UVA, 2 had 2.5 J/cm <sup>2</sup> and 3 had 5 J/cm <sup>2</sup> .
194	We additionally found 15/66 (22.7%) of our patients showed contact reactions to our
195	photopatch test panel, comprising 12/40 (30%) of skin type I-IV and 3/26 (11.5%) of V-VI.
196	Standard patch testing for contact allergy was also performed in 25 patients by their
197	dermatologist (21 patients of skin type I-IV, 4 of V-VI); most frequently seen positive contact
198	reactions were to fragrance, nickel, Balsam of Peru and thiazolinone (Supplementary Table
199	1).
200	Other relevant investigations
201	Plasma and urine porphyrin scan were negative in all patients. Anti-nuclear antibody (ANA)
202	was positive in 17/70 patients (11 skin type I-IV, 6 skin type V-VI). The majority (14
203	patients) had a low titre of 1:100 and 3 had a titre >1:1000; these did not appear clinically
204	relevant, and DNA and ENA antibodies were negative. Serum IgE was elevated in 71%
205	(35/49) patients, with a similar proportion in light (69%, 20/29) and dark (75%, 15/20) skin
206	types (Table 1). Vitamin D status is shown (Table 1). Skin biopsy was rarely performed as
207	CAD was diagnosed on clinical/phototest findings; one patient had biopsy of his naturally
208	occurring condition, revealing histological features of chronic dermatitis.
209	DLQI
210	A subset of patients completed the DLQI questionnaire (33 (week) and 31 (year); Table 3) as
211	this was routinely introduced in 2011. Comparison of the week and year scores revealed no
207 208 209	CAD was diagnosed on clinical/phototest findings; one patient had biopsy of his naturally occurring condition, revealing histological features of chronic dermatitis. DLOI
210	this was routinely introduced in 2011. Comparison of the week and year scores revealed no
	and the reaction of the week and your scores revealed no

significant difference (p=0.86). Impact on life quality was "very large" (DLQI 11-20) to

"extremely large" (DLQI 21-30), with 45% of patients having a DLQI week score >10 and
77% DLQI year score >10, and this was similar in darker and lighter skin patients.

215

#### 216 **Discussion**

217 The patient demographics in our review highlight differences in gender distribution and age 218 of onset of photosensitivity in lighter (I-IV) and darker (V-VI) skin type patients presenting 219 with CAD. The former are predominantly older males, consistent with the earlier CAD 220 literature, while the latter are more often younger females. We found a ratio of 2 female: 1 221 male in the darker skin types, i.e. a reversal of the 1:2 ratio seen in lighter skin types. This is 222 consistent with the Michigan, USA study of African Americans with photodermatoses by Kerr and Lim<sup>14</sup>, which found the ratio in 15 Afro-Caribbean CAD patients was 2 female:1 223 224 male. Hence, this pattern may be more widespread in darker skin type patients, and across continents. Wadhwani et al<sup>15</sup>, in New Delhi, India reported the ratio of 1 female: 3.2 male in 225 226 50 patients, although the diagnosis of CAD was made without monochromator phototesting. 227 Of note was the very young presentation to our unit of some patients with CAD, with 5 228 patients aged  $\leq 21$  years. The youngest was a 9 year-old girl of mixed White-Chinese heritage, 229 skin type IV, who developed photosensitive features 1 year earlier while the other younger 230 patients were of South Asian (3) and Afro-Caribbean (1) descent, who developed similar 231 features 4-7 years prior. 232 The photobiological characteristics in our CAD patients were typical of the literature, 233 classically showing markedly reduced MED to UVB and with UVA involvement (Table 1, 234 Supplementary Table 2). Predominantly UVA involvement was reported in 25/507 (5%) patients in a large study of this rare disorder reported from Dundee, Scotland<sup>2</sup>. This was 235 236 consistent with our finding of severe UVA sensitivity alone in 4/70 (5.7%) patients (2 lighter 237 skin, 2 darker skin); notably none had a history of photosensitizing drug use. In our review,

lighter and darker skin types were as severely affected on monochromator phototesting,

having markedly reduced erythemal thresholds especially in the 300nm waveband, withphototesting frequently producing palpable lesions.

241 Photopatch testing with control patch testing is a routine part of photosensitivity investigation 242 in our unit, due to finding frequent positives in the photosensitive patient group, and uses the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV) standardised battery of 243 sunscreen filters and NSAIDs<sup>10,11</sup>. Positive photocontact reactions were seen in 22.9% of all 244 245 patients tested, while contact reactions to patch controls alone were seen in another 22.7% 246 patients. Benzophenone-3 was the most common sunscreen filter causing photocontact and contact reactions in people of both lighter and darker skin types (Table 2). Barber et  $al^{17}$ 247 248 found positive photopatch reactions in 5/47 CAD patients, with musk ambrette (4/5 patients) 249 the main photoallergen, although only 6 potential photocontact allergens were included in 250 this older, 1980-1981 study. Menage reported 12% positive photopatch reactions in 89 CAD patients tested (to musk ambrette, oxybenzone and PABA, between 1987-1992)<sup>1</sup>. Our data, 251 252 produced from photopatch testing of virtually all presenting CAD patients, and using a wide, 253 standardised contemporary battery, provide a salient addition to the literature. 254 Most of our CAD patients showing a positive photopatch reaction were irradiated with only 1J/cm<sup>2</sup> UVA, indicating this low dose is sufficient to elicit a positive response; this is of 255 256 practical significance in these severely photosensitive patients where lesion provocation 257 could complicate the procedure. We cannot rule out that the low UVA dose might have been 258 insufficient to activate some photoallergens; thus there could be an even higher rate of 259 associated photocontact allergy. While reluctance by some departments in subjecting severely 260 photosensitive patients to UVA irradiation for photopatch testing is understandable, we show 261 a substantial positive response of 22.9% of CAD patients, indicating this is an informative 262 investigation to pursue, with complications mitigated by using a small UVA dose.

263	Conversely, coexistent contact allergy is well-reported in CAD <sup>1</sup> . Results of contact testing to
264	a standard patch test battery were available in ~one-third of our patients (25/70), provided by
265	the referring dermatologists. The more common contact allergic reactions were to fragrance,
266	Balsam of Peru, thiazolinone, sesquiterpene lactones, colophony, nickel and cobalt; the latter
267	2 possibly reflecting the background atopy of many of the patients <sup>18, 19,20</sup> . Sesquiterpene
268	lactones contact sensitivity, known to be associated with CAD but thought to be declining in
269	prevalence in CAD patients <sup>21</sup> , is still a relatively frequent allergen in our review. Positive
270	patch test reactions to para-phenylenediamine, possessing cross-reactivity with sesquiterpene
271	lactones <sup>22</sup> , are also seen in CAD <sup>7</sup> , although a role in pathogenesis remains unproven.
272	Parthenium dermatitis, a common cause of plant (Parthenium hysterophorus) dermatitis in
273	India, is classically an airborne contact dermatitis <sup>23</sup> but is reported to develop into a
274	photodermatitis resembling CAD <sup>24</sup> . Such plants are native to tropical America, India and
275	Australia, while the patients in our review have lived mostly in the UK.
276	Within the 2,025 patients undergoing photoinvestigation over this 15 year period, a further
277	378 (18.7%) were diagnosed with photoaggravated eczema (PAE). These had reduced
278	erythemal thresholds predominantly in the UVA rather than UVB range, and of a less
279	exquisitely severe degree. However, this does bring into question the relationship between the
280	more severe PAE, and the small percentage of CAD patients with severely low UVA rather
281	than UVB thresholds, i.e. whether they represent a continuum rather than completely distinct
282	disorders. Serum IgE was elevated in approximately 70% of CAD patients assessed, with
283	similar proportion seen in lighter and darker skin types (Table 1), consistent with the reported
284	association of CAD with $atopy^{5,6}$ .
285	Vitamin D status, measured as circulating 25OHD in 30 patients (2011 onwards) showed
286	>half (53%) of patients assessed were in the vitamin D deficiency range (<25nmol/L), where

287 the bone disorders rickets (in children) and osteomalacia (adults and children) most often

288 occur. Interestingly, both lighter and darker skin type patients were similarly affected, while

- 289 non-photosensitive darker skin people typically have lower status than lighter skin types,
- 290 including in Greater Manchester, UK (53.5N)<sup>25</sup>. This illustrates the vigilant sun
- avoidance/photoprotection these severely photosensitive patients adopt<sup>26</sup>. Low vitamin D
- status is well-documented in photosensitivity; in a mixed diagnosis group, insufficient
- 293 25OHD levels ( $\leq$ 50 nmol/L) were found in 47% patients in summer, increasing to 73% in
- winter, while deficient levels were seen in 9% and 32% respectively<sup>26</sup>. It is recommended
- vitamin D status is assessed in patients with photosensitivity, and supplementation instituted
- 296 where there are insufficient/deficient levels $^{27,28}$ .
- Week and year DLQI scores were obtained in 33 and 31 patients respectively (Table 3). The largest category of patients (15/33) had scores >10, indicating a 'very large' to 'extremely large' effect on quality of life<sup>29</sup>, similar in both lighter and darker skin type patients. This is consistent with a multicentre study of 790 UK photodermatoses patients, where 39% of 127
- 301 CAD patients had DLQI >10.
- 302 The main limitation of our review was its retrospective nature, although all patients were
- 303 assessed according to standardised clinical and phototest proforma. Interpretation of MED in
- darker skin type patients is sometimes visually challenging, while the palpable "doughy"
- texture assists detection of responses. This may be assisted in future by devices objectively
- 306 determining variations in skin perfusion<sup>30</sup>. Photopatch tests batteries will continue to evolve
- 307 to reflect current photoallergen prevalences.
- 308 In conclusion, our review found that a substantial proportion of CAD now presents in
- 309 younger, darker skin females; similar photosensitivity and impact on life quality is seen as for
- the typically presenting older Caucasian males. This largest series of photopatch testing
- 311 reported in this exquisitely photosensitive disorder shows the investigation can be
- successfully performed, with a high yield of photopatch positivity.

### 314 Acknowledgement Section

- 315 Author Contributions: Dr(s) Tan, Rhodes, had full access to all of the data in the study and
- take responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis.
- 317 Study concept and design: Haylett, Rhodes
- 318 Acquisition, analysis, and interpretation of data: Tan, Haylett, Ling, Rhodes
- 319 Drafting of the manuscript: Tan
- 320 Critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content: Rhodes
- 321 Statistical analysis: Haylett
- 322 Obtained funding: None
- 323 Administrative, technical, or material support: Tan, Haylett
- 324 Study supervision: Rhodes
- 325

## 326 Funding/Support:

- 327 Funding/Sponsor was involved? No
- 328 Design and conduct of the study No
- 329 Collection, management, analysis and interpretation of data No
- 330 Preparation, review, or approval of the manuscript No
- 331 Decision to submit the manuscript for publication No
- 332
- **333** Financial Disclosure: None reported.
- 334
- **Acknowledgement**: We are grateful for the expertise of Dr Donald Allan in overseeing
- correct utilisation of light sources, and to Mrs Vivien Robinson for her administrativeassistance.
- 337 as: 338

# 339 References

340	1.	Menagé H, Ross JS, Norris PG, Hawk JL, White IR. Contact and photocontact
341		sensitization in chronic actinic dermatitis: sesquiterpene lactone mix is an important
342		allergen. Br J Dermatol. 1995;132(4):543-7.
343	2.	Dawe RS, Ferguson J. Diagnosis and treatment of chronic actinic dermatitis.
344		Dermatol Ther. 2003;16(1):45-51.
345	3.	Hawk JL. Chronic actinic dermatitis. Photodermatol Photoimmunol Photomed. 2004;
346		20(6):312-4.
347	4.	Roelandts R. Chronic actinic dermatitis. J Am Acad Dermatol. 1993;28(2 Pt 1):240-9.
348	5.	Russell SC, Dawe RS, Collins P, Man I, Ferguson J. The photosensitivity dermatitis
349		and actinic reticuloid syndrome (chronic actinic dermatitis) occurring in seven young
350		atopic dermatitis patients. Br J Dermatol. 1998;138(3):496-501.
351	6.	Ogboli MI, Rhodes LE. Chronic actinic dermatitis in young atopic dermatitis
352		sufferers. Br J Dermatol. 2000;142(4):845.
353	7.	Que SK, Brauer JA, Soter NA, Cohen DE. Chronic actinic dermatitis: an analysis at a
354		single institution over 25 years. Dermatitis. 2011;22(3):147-54.
355	8.	Fitzpatrick TB. The validity and practicality of sun-reactive skin types I through VI.
356		Arch Dermatol. 1988;124(6):869-71.
357	9.	Diffey BL, Farr PM. The normal range in diagnostic phototesting. Br J Dermatol
358		1989; 120(4):517-24
359	10.	European Multicentre Photopatch Test Study Taskforce. A European multicentre
360		photopatch test study. Br J Dermatol 2012;166(5):1002-1009.
361	11.	Bryden AM, Moseley H, Ibbotson SH et al. Photopatch testing of 1155 patients:
362		results of the UK multicentre photopatch study group. Br J Dermatol
363		2006:155(4);737-747.

364	12. Fregert S. Manual of Contact Dermatitis. On behalf of the International Contact
365	Dermatitis Research Group and the North American Contact Dermatitis Group.
366	Copenhagen: Munksgaard Publishers; 1981. 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition.
367	13. Finlay AY, Khan GK. Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI)a simple practical
368	measure for routine clinical use. Clin Exp Dermatol. 1994;19(3):210-6.
369	14. Jong CT, Finlay AY, Pearse AD et al. The quality of life of 790 patients with
370	photodermatoses. Br J Dermatol. 2008;159(1):192-7.
371	15. Kerr HA, Lim HW. Photodermatoses in African Americans: a retrospective analysis
372	of 135 patients over a 7-year period. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2007;57(4):638-43.
373	16. Wadhwani AR, Sharma VK, Ramam M, Khaitan BK. A clinical study of the spectrum
374	of photodermatoses in dark-skinned populations. Clin Exp Dermatol. 2013;38(8):823-
375	9.
376	17. Barber KA, Cronin E. Patch and photopatch testing in chronic actinic dermatitis.
377	Contact Dermatitis. 1984;10(2):69-73.
378	18. Zug KA, McGinley-Smith D, Warshaw EM, et al. Contact allergy in children referred
379	for patch testing: North American Contact Dermatitis Group data, 2001-2004. Arch
380	Dermatol. 2008;144(10):1329-36.
381	19. Malajian D, Belsito DV. Cutaneous delayed-type hypersensitivity in patients with
382	atopic dermatitis. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2013;69(2):232-7.
383	20. Thyssen JP, McFadden JP, Kimber I. The multiple factors affecting the association
384	between atopic dermatitis and contact sensitization. Allergy. 2014;69(1):28-36.
385	21. Chew AL, Bashir SJ, Hawk JL, Palmer R, White IR, McFadden JP. Contact and
386	photocontact sensitization in chronic actinic dermatitis: a changing picture. Contact
387	Dermatitis. 2010;62(1):42-6.

388	22. Paulsen E, Christensen LP, Andersen KE. Possible cross-reactivity between para-
389	phenylenediamine and sesquiterpene lactones. Contact Dermatitis. 2008;58(2):120-2.
390	23. Agarwal KK, D'Souza M. Airborne contact dermatitis induced by parthenium: a study
391	of 50 cases in South India. Clin Exp Dermatol. 2009;34(5):e4-6.
392	24. Sharma VK, Sethuraman G. Parthenium dermatitis. Dermatitis. 2007;18(4):183-90.
393	25. Kift R, Berry JL, Vail A, Durkin MT, Rhodes LE, Webb AR. Lifestyle factors
394	including less cutaneous sun exposure contribute to starkly lower vitamin D levels in
395	U.K. South Asians compared with the white population. Br J Dermatol.
396	2013;169(6):1272-8.
397	26. Rhodes LE, Webb AR, Berry JL et al. Sunlight exposure behaviour and vitamin D
398	status in photosensitive patients: longitudinal comparative study with healthy
399	individuals at U.K. latitude. Br J Dermatol. 2014;171(6):1478-86.
400	27. Holick MF. Sunlight and vitamin D for bone health and prevention of autoimmune
401	diseases, cancers, and cardiovascular disease. Am J Clin Nutr. 2004;80(6
402	Suppl):1678S-88S.
403	28. Wacker M, Holick MF. Vitamin D - effects on skeletal and extraskeletal health and
404	the need for supplementation. Nutrients. 2013;5(1):111-48.
405	29. Hongbo Y, Thomas CL, Harrison MA, Salek MS, Finlay AY. Translating the science
406	of quality of life into practice: What do dermatology life quality index scores mean? $J$
407	Invest Dermatol. 2005;125(4):659-64.
408	30. Shih BB, Allan D, de Gruijl FR, Rhodes LE. Robust detection of minimal sunburn in
409	pigmented skin by 785 nm laser speckle contrast imaging of blood flux. J Invest
410	Dermatol. 2015;135(4):1197-9.

- 411 31. Lim HW, Morison WL, Kamide R, Buchness MR, Harris R, Soter NA. Chronic
- 412 actinic dermatitis. An analysis of 51 patients evaluated in the United States and Japan.
- 413 *Arch Dermatol.* 1994;130(10):1284-9.

#### 415 **Figure Legends**

- 416 Figure 1. <u>Clinico-photobiological features of CAD in white Caucasian (a,c,e,g) and South</u>
- 417 <u>Asian (b,d,f) patients.</u> (a,b) Photodistributed eczema; (c,d) Provocation test positive; (e,f)
- 418 Monochromator phototesting shows markedly reduced MED; in darker skin erythema is less
- 419 visible but raised lesions are evident; g) positive photocontact reaction.
- 420
- 421 Figure 2. <u>Action spectrum of CAD in darker and lighter skin types.</u> Figure shows %patients
- 422 with reduced MED at each waveband on monochromator phototesting (300±5nm, 320±10nm,
- 423 330±10nm, 350±20nm, 370±20nm, 400±20nm, 500±20nm, 600±20nm). Total patients n=70;
- 424 skin type I-IV n=41; skin type V-VI n=29.

426	Table 1. Demographic, clinical and narrowband phototesting findings in CAD patients with
427	lighter and darker skin type

Clinical & photobiological features		All patients (n=70)	Skin type I-IV (n=41)	Skin type V-VI (n=29)	p value, ANOVA (I-IV vs V-VI)
Age (years) at presentation <sup>a</sup>		$50.9\pm2.3$	58.1 ± 2.5	$40.7\pm3.5$	0.0001
Age (years) of photosensitivity	v onset <sup>a</sup>	$42.6 \pm 2.4$	$47.5\pm2.9$	35.5 ± 3.9	0.01
Duration of con (years) <sup>a</sup>	dition	8.8 ± 1.27	10.6 ± 2	6.3 ± 0.85	0.1
Sex ratio (M:F)		1.12 : 1	1.92 : 1	1:1.9	
Skin type I, II, I V, VI	II/III, III, IV,	8, 13, 2, 13, 5, 28, 1	8, 13, 2, 13, 5	28, 1	
Involvement: Summer/holidays only 2 seasons 3 seasons All seasons Not stated		3 5 18 29 15	2 (4.9%) 2 (4.9%) 7 (17.1%) 21 (51.2%) 9 (21.9%)	1 (3.5%) 4 (13.8%) 10 (34.4%) 8 (27.6%) 6 (20.7%)	
History of atopi	c eczema	26	13 (31.7%)	13 (44.8%)	
Serum IgE Ku/I	La	$1888 \pm 725$	2339±1115	$1234 \pm 745$ P = 0.46	
Serum IgE: > 8 No record	5 ku/l	35 (71%) 21 (30%)	20 (69%) 12 (29%)	15 (75%) 9 (31%)	
25OHD nmol/L	2	34.3 ± 5.23	35.0 ± 7.26	33.7 ± 7.7	p=0.91
Vitamin D stat Deficient ( <25 Insufficient (25 Sufficient (>50	us: nmol/L) -50nmol/L) nmol/L)	16/30(53%) 8/30 (27%) 6/30 (20%)	8/14 (57.1%) 3/14 (21.4%) 3/14 (21.4%)	8/16 (50%) 5/16 (31.2%) 3/16 (18.7%)	
No. (%) patients with low MED on narrow band testing	$\begin{array}{c} 300 \pm 5 nm \\ 320 \pm 10 nm \\ 330 \pm 10 nm \\ 350 \pm 20 nm \\ 370 \pm 20 nm \\ 400 \pm 20 nm \\ 500 \pm 20 nm \\ 600 \pm 20 nm \end{array}$	66 (94.3%) 70 (100%) 63 (91.3%) <sup>b</sup> 51 (72.8%) 43 (62.8%) 24 (34.3%) 1 (1.43%) 0	39 (95.1%) 41 (100%) 37 (92.5%) <sup>c</sup> 28 (68.3%) 26 (63.4%) 18 (43.9%) 0 0	27 (93.1%) 29 (100%) 26 (89.6%) 23 (79.3%) 17 (58.6%) 6 (20.7%) 1 (3.4%) 0	
Narrowband MED J/cm <sup>2d</sup>	$300 \pm 5nm$ $320 \pm 10nm$ $330 \pm 10nm$ $350 \pm 20nm$ $370 \pm 20nm$ $400 \pm 20nm$ $500 \pm 20nm$ $600 \pm 20nm$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.004 \pm 0.0004 \\ 0.26 \pm 0.007 \\ 1.63 \pm 0.23 \\ 6.46 \pm 0.88 \\ 13.61 \pm 1.66 \\ 49.4 \pm 4.18 \\ > 50 \text{J/cm}^2 \\ > 50 \text{J/cm}^2 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.004 {\pm} 0.0005 \\ 0.26 {\pm} 0.008 \\ 1.61 {\pm} 0.29 \\ 6.5 {\pm} 1.03 \\ 12.66 {\pm} 1.96 \\ 42.85 {\pm} 4.99 \\ {>} 50 \text{J/cm}^2 \\ {>} 50 \text{J/cm}^2 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.004 \pm 0.0007 \\ 0.27 \pm 0.01 \\ 1.66 \pm 0.39 \\ 6.3 \pm 1.56 \\ 15.01 \pm 2.98 \\ 58.69 \pm 6.9 \\ > 50 J/cm^2 \\ > 50 J/cm^2 \end{array}$	p = 0.63p = 0.52p = 0.90p = 0.90p = 0.49p = 0.06

<sup>a</sup> data shown is Mean ±SD <sup>b</sup> 69 and <sup>c</sup> 40 patients were tested at this waveband <sup>d</sup> 1,2, 5 and 7 patients had MED>highest dose at 300, 350, 370 and 400nm, respectively 

# 432 Table 2. Photopatch (PC) and control (C) patch test results in CAD patients

Test agent	Number (%) of reactions					
	All skin types		Skin type I-IV		Skin type V-VI	
				-		
	PC	С	PC	С	PC	С
Benzophenone-3	6 (9.8)	2 (3.03)	3 (8.1)	1 (2.5)	3 (12.5)	1 (3.8)
Benzophenone-4	2 (3.3)		2 (5.4)			
Butylmethoxy dibenzoyl	1 (1.6)		1 (2.7)			
methane						
Diethylamino		1 (1.5)		1(2.5)		
hydroxybenzoyl hexyl						
benzoate						
Ethylhexyl	3 (4.9)		2(5.4)		1(4.2)	
methoxycinnamate						
Ethylhexyl dimethylamino	1(1.6)	1 (1.5)	1(2.7)	1(2.5)		
benzoate						
Isoamyl-p-methoxycinnamate	1 (1.6)		1(2.7)			
Methylbenzylidene camphor	2 (3.3)	1(1.5)	2(5.4)	1(2.5)		
PABA	1 (1.6)		1(2.7)			
Methylene bis-benzotriazolyl		1(1.5)		1(2.5)		
tetramethylbutylphenol						
Etofenamate	1 (1.6)		1(2.7)			
Own product	13 (21.3)	20 (30.3)	12(32.4)	18(45)	1(4.2)	2(7.7)

	DLQI	Total patients (n=33 - week n=31- year)	Skin type I-IV (n=22 - week, n=21 - year)	Skin type V-VI (n=11 - week, n=10 - year)	p value, ANOVA (I-IV vs V-VI)
DLQI score <sup>a</sup>	Week (n=33)	10.7 ±7.19	9.73 ± 7.61	$12.63 \pm 6.15$	p=0.28
DLQI score <sup>a</sup>	Year (n=31)	13.7 ±6.56	$12.76 \pm 6.15$	15.7 ± 7.27	p=0.25
DLQI Impact (Week)	No impact (score 0-1)	3 (9.1%)	3 (13.6%)	0	
number (%) patients	Small impact (score 2-5)	6 (18.2%)	5 (22.7%)	1 (9.1%)	
	Moderate impact (score 6-10)	9 (27.3%)	5 (22.7%)	4 (36.4%)	
	Very large impact (score 11-20)	11 (33.3%)	6 (27.2%)	5 (45.4%)	
	Extremely large impact (score 21-30)	4 (12.1%)	3 (13.6%)	1 (9.1%)	
DLQI Impact (Year)	No impact (score 0-1)	0	0	0	
number (%) patients	Small impact (score 2-5)	5 (16.1%)	4 (19%)	1 (10%)	
	Moderate impact (score 6-10)	2 (6.5%)	1 (4.8%)	1 (10%)	
	Very large impact (score 11-20)	19 (61.3%)	14 (66.7%)	5 (50%)	
	Extremely large impact (score 21-30)	5 (16.1%)	2 (9.5%)	3 (30%)	

# Table 3. DLQI scores for the past week and past year

440

441 <sup>a</sup> Scores shown are mean  $\pm$ SD





g g -21 -22 -23 15-16-17-18-19-3-12 55 - 24 5-54 -12 -25 20-- 26 6 14 200 -26 -13 6-3 45-mon Co and 32

















Fig. 2

