

A varied and interesting programme has been prepared for the 2017 Conference to include the following speakers:-

Eftychia (Effie) Bellou, Psoriasis Association PhD Studentship recipient. Effie is a third year doctoral student in the Arthritis Research UK Centre for Genetics and Genomics at the University of Manchester. Her background, which spans the fields of computer engineering, bioinformatics and epidemiology, includes an undergraduate and a master of engineering degree in Computer Engineering from University of Thessaly, Greece and a master's degree in Bioinformatics from Newcastle University. Miss Bellou is funded by Psoriasis Association and supervised by Dr. Richard Warren, Professor Anne Barton and Dr. John Bowes. Her PhD research is focused on the investigation of psoriatic arthritis (PsA) specific risk factors (both genetic and environmental/lifestyle) that influence the risk of developing PsA among patients with psoriasis. Her aim is to explore the predictive potential of a statistical model that incorporates known genetic and environmental risk factors. She is also interested in assessing whether the prevalent comorbidities in psoriasis and PsA contribute to the reduced quality of life experienced by patients.

Dr Richard Warren, University of Manchester, is a Reader and Honorary Consultant Dermatologist. His work in Dermatology has focused on: pharmacogenetics (forming the basis of his PhD thesis), the genetic susceptibility to psoriasis and more recently biological therapies and their use in the treatment of psoriasis. For his work into the pharmacogenetics of methotrexate he has received national and international awards from the British Association of Dermatologists (BAD) and American Academy of Dermatology. He is widely published in the field of Dermatology and is currently the EU Editor in Chief for the journal Dermatology and Therapy. He has been an invited plenary speaker at major national and international dermatology meetings and is a member of The International Psoriasis Council. He currently chairs the BAD guideline group for methotrexate and is a member of the BAD biologics committee and research subcommittee. He is co-lead of Psoriasis Stratification to Optimise Relevant Therapies (PSORT). He is the Chief Investigator on the largest psoriasis study currently running in the UK, known as SIGNATURE, investigating a new biological therapy for the treatment of severe psoriasis. He is the principle investigator at Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust for BADBIR, a large scale pharmacovigilance study and co-established a clinic for patients with severe psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis in 2010 with Dr Hector Chinoy which has received wide acclaim and is used as a national exemplar.

Dr Sandy McBride, Consultant Dermatologist and storyteller Sarah Sutcliffe – 'The Skin I'm In' Born out of collaboration between Dr Sandy McBride, Consultant Dermatologist, and storyteller Sarah Sutcliffe, 'Psoriasis – The Skin I'm In' is an original film made in association with the **See Psoriasis: Look Deeper** campaign, which looks at the wider life impact of psoriasis including emotional well-being and mental health. The film tells real life stories of people living with psoriasis. The psychological aspects of living with psoriasis are often poorly understood and underestimated. People living with psoriasis and their doctors are frequently unaware that there are effective treatments available for psoriasis, hence people suffer unnecessarily often for decades. Dr Sandy McBride and Sarah Sutcliffe wanted to address these problems, using the stories of people living with psoriasis. The film gives a meaningful insight into what it is like to live with psoriasis which is enlightening for those unfamiliar with it and refreshing for those who are - articulating emotions and frustrations that people with psoriasis experience everyday but which are rarely depicted on film or discussed.

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