

World Skin Health Day 2026



World Skin Health Day
skin health for all

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ILDS

Did you Know?



Access to Care and Skin Health Burden



Vast Needs

Over 3 billion people worldwide lack proper access to dermatological care. This shortage means many go without the necessary treatment for their skin diseases. (Maddukuri, Patel, and Lipoff 2021)



Regional Impact

South Asia, particularly **India, recorded the highest number of new skin and subcutaneous disease cases and deaths**, making up 25% of the global figures. (Yakupu et al. 2023)

Dominant Infections

Fungal skin diseases accounted for 34% of these cases, while bacterial infections made up 23%. (Yakupu et al. 2023)



Disability Burden

Skin diseases contributed to over 42 million disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) in 2019, with bacterial skin diseases accounting for the largest share. (Yakupu et al. 2023)



Access Challenges

In some regions, **individuals may travel up to eight hours to reach the nearest skin care clinic**, illustrating significant access barriers. (de Vries et al. 2019)



Specialist Shortage

Some countries have less than 1 dermatologist per million population, exacerbating the burden of untreated skin diseases. (Lee, Myung H, et al 2021)



Disease Prevalence

Skin diseases are the third most prevalent cause of illness and one of the top 10 causes of disability. They are also among the 10 most common causes of outpatient visits. (WHO 2023)

Economic Impact

The cost of managing a skin disease can be prohibitively high, especially without adequate insurance coverage, leading to financial stress and health concerns.



Staggering Numbers

In 2019, nearly 4.86 billion new cases of skin and subcutaneous diseases were reported worldwide, with fungal and bacterial infections being the most common. (Yakupu et al. 2023)



Growing Fatalities

There were approximately 98,522 deaths from these diseases in 2019, double the number from 1990, predominantly due to bacterial skin diseases. (Yakupu et al. 2023)



Stigma and Burden

Living with a skin disease not only affects physical health but also **imposes significant social stigma and mental health challenges**, impacting overall well-being and quality of life.



Rapid Increases

From 1990 to 2019, the number of cases, deaths, and DALYs from bacterial skin diseases rose by 106%, 80% and 104%. (Yakupu et al. 2023)

Extended Waiting

In certain areas, waiting times for a dermatologist appointment can reach up to two years. (CBC News 2023)



Disability Impact

Excluding mortality, **skin diseases were the fourth leading cause of disability worldwide.** (Karimkhani et al. 2017)



Daily Burden

Managing a chronic skin disease often requires daily treatment and frequent medical appointments, placing a heavy burden on individuals' personal and professional lives.

