



World Allergy Organization Emphasizes the Need for Education on Atopic Dermatitis

Comfort and wellbeing are possible with treatment and skin care guidance from allergists and dermatologists

Milwaukee, WI. April 22, 2018. World Allergy Organization (WAO), serving its membership of professional allergy/immunology societies around the world, is dedicating World Allergy Week, from April 22-28, 2018, to the importance of improving quality of life for people who suffer from atopic dermatitis.

Atopic dermatitis, also termed “eczema,” is a chronic inflammatory skin disease that disrupts the skin barrier and its ability to hold moisture. Atopic dermatitis most commonly begins in infancy and early childhood but can last into adult years. It also can begin developing in adulthood. WAO is focusing on atopic dermatitis during World Allergy Week because of its global prevalence, impact on patient quality of life, and socioeconomic burden.

“The symptoms of atopic dermatitis can interfere with daily activities, sleep, and general well being, and they can be made worse by a variety of triggers,” according to Elham Hossny, MD, PhD, of Children’s Hospital of Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt, and Scientific Chair of the WAO Communications Committee. “The good news is that allergists and dermatologists can identify triggers such as allergens through testing, and they can help find the appropriate medical treatments for inflammation and approaches to skin care that can bring relief.”

“During World Allergy Week 2018, we are addressing challenges associated with atopic dermatitis for patients and their caregivers,” said Ignacio J. Ansotegui, MD, PhD, of Hospital Quironsalud Bizkaia in Bilbao, Spain, and President of the World Allergy Organization. “By increasing awareness of atopic dermatitis, we hope to influence the prevention or modification of the progression of allergic disease that we often see in infants and young children with atopic dermatitis. There are recently approved biological treatments that can improve the quality of life in children and adults with severe atopic dermatitis.”

Experts discuss treatments in an overview of atopic dermatitis in a new webinar from WAO. The complementary webinar will debut on 25 April at 13:00:00 Greenwich Mean Time. International experts will join attendees to view the presentations and afterwards participate in a live question-and-answer session. The program is designed for a general audience and also includes information for physicians. Details and a link to register are available at [WAO webinars](#). Click here for the [World Clock](#) time zone converter.

For more information about World Allergy Week 2018 and atopic dermatitis, visit: www.worldallergyweek.org. To find a professional allergy/immunology member society of the World Allergy Organization in your country or region, visit: <http://www.worldallergy.org/about-wao/member-societies>.

References

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About the World Allergy Organization

The World Allergy Organization (WAO) is an international alliance of 99 regional and national allergy, asthma and immunology societies. Through collaboration with its Member Societies WAO provides a wide range of educational and outreach programs, symposia and lectureships to allergists/immunologists around the world and conducts initiatives related to clinical practice, service provision, and physical training in order to better understand and address the challenges facing allergists/immunologists worldwide. (www.worldallergy.org)

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