



December 2016

Dear Colleague,

WORLD SKIN HEALTH DAY 2017

The International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS) and the International Society of Dermatology (ISD) are delighted to announce the launch of World Skin Health Day 2017. This is an exciting opportunity to boost to the public the image of dermatology. It sends a clear message that we are united in the desire to improve the well-being and skin health of our patients and the communities in which they live.

The World Skin Health Day 2017 launch will take place at the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida, in March 2017.

- ILDS Reception 5pm, Saturday 4 March 2017
- ISD Reception 5.30pm, Monday 6 March 2017

Many dermatological societies already hold action days in which members carry out differing tasks from skin cancer screenings and sun awareness to community clinics in remote areas. The nature of these activities is determined by the needs of the populations served by the society.

World Skin Health Day could be promoted in the context of existing and ongoing activities with co-branding and using the World Skin Health Day logo. Alternatively you could create a new event or activity. The choice of activity for World Skin Health Day is left to your society so that you can tailor activities to the needs of your communities.

We invite you to take part in World Skin Health Day 2017. For more details please contact office@ilds.org with an expression of interest. Please include:

- the name of your society
- contact name, telephone and email address
- if you already have an activity planned please include dates, location and a short description

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Harvey Lui'.

Harvey Lui
ILDS President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Evangeline Handog'.

Evangeline Handog
ISD President



WORLD SKIN HEALTH DAY 2016 CASE STUDY

Smiling faces always greet us whenever we go to underserved communities needing dermatological care. The young and the old welcome us with open arms.

The members of the International Society of Dermatology and the Philippine Dermatological Society go hand in hand every November, to near and far flung areas of the Philippines, treating patients with skin diseases and providing them with the medications needed. Small lectures on important and practical topics like "Head lice", or "Scabies" are done in the local language. These activities are possible with the help of private individuals, local leaders, or non-governmental institutions.

Once an area is identified and a date is set, announcements are made through the health officers or even church services. Consultations and lectures are done in any available locations and all conditions (i.e. open basketball courts), amidst the heat and humidity. As long as a service is needed, the dermatologists are ready to give their time and expertise. Giving back needs patience and kind understanding. What is important is the LOVE and JOY, reaped thereafter. After all, World Skin Health Day was conceptualized with the commitment: TO SERVE, TO EDUCATE, TO SHARE.

Respectfully submitted by:

Vangee Handog, MD, FPDS
President, International Society of Dermatology

