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Letter

Professional dermatology societies in the USA: an overview

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Abstract

This is a concise overview in a table format for the current membership-based dermatology societies in the USA. The primary objective of these societies is to provide continuous medical education. These societies serve all health care providers in dermatology care, including physician assistants and nurses. There is a clear need for establishing more societies which focus on different aspect of dermatology. There is always a potential for improving the educational activities of these societies.

Keywords: dermatology; dermatology education; dermatology professional societies

There are several professional dermatological societies in the USA. These organizations are making great contributions to the advancement of dermatology [1,2,3,4,5]. Some of the functions include publishing periodicals and guidelines of care, arranging conferences, and supporting research. The importance of these organizations is not limited to the practitioner but also extended to patients and the community as whole [5]. In Table.1, we have listed selected professional dermatological societies in the USA.

Many of these organizations fall under 501(c) organization, also known colloquially as a 501(c), which are tax-exempt nonprofit organizations in the United States.

Chicago Dermatological Society is the oldest dermatology society and was established in 1901. Currently, the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) is considered the largest, most influential, and most representative dermatology group in the United States. With a membership of more than 17,000, it represents virtually all practicing dermatologists in the United States, as well as a growing number of international dermatologists.

Many of the listed societies serve a given city or state. But there are societies that focus on particular fields for interested professionals in the USA and abroad. Creating a society on a focused field might be advantageous to its particular members.

Each society has to find the best tools to encourage all the members to be active. Women and young doctors, in particular, should find a place in the executive committees of these societies.

Updating the internet website with educational resources and utilizing social media and smart phone applications have proven to be effective in delivering information to society members [6].

Table 1. Selected professional dermatology societies in USA (listed alphabetically)

The society	Year of establishment	Current President	Remarks
American Academy of Dermatology (AAD)	1938	Mark Lebwohl	https://www.aad.org/
American Contact Dermatitis Society (ACDS)	1989	Bruce Brod	http://www.contactderm.org/
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery (ASDS)	1970	George J. Hruza	https://www.asds.net/
American Society of Dermatopathology (ASDP)	1962	Mark A. Hurt	http://www.asdp.org/
Arkansas Dermatological Society	2010	Adam Stibich	http://arkansasderm.org/
California Society of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery(CalDerm)	1972	Gary Lask	http://www.calderm.org/
Chicago Dermatological Society	1901	Lawrence S. Chan	https://www.chicagoderm.org/
Colorado Dermatologic Society	1959	Matthew Mahlberg	http://www.coloradodermatology.org/
Dermatology Foundation	1964	Michael D. Tharp	http://www.dermatologyfoundation.org/
Dermatology Nurses' Association	1978	Maura Flynn	http://www.dnanurse.org/
Dermatologic Society of Greater New York	1924	Peter S. Halperin	http://dermsociety.org/
Georgia Society of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery (GSDDS)	1958	Toni McCullough	http://www.gaderm.org/
Illinois Dermatological Society	1974	Amy Derick	http://www.illinoisdermsociety.org/
Indiana Academy of Dermatology	1975	Annette M. Dinneen	http://indianaderms.orbius.com/
Maryland Dermatologic Society (MDS)	1957	Elizabeth Richard	http://www.marylanddersociety.com/
Michigan Dermatological Society	1921	Dana L. Sachs	http://www.midernsoc.org/
Minnesota Dermatological Society (MDS)	1915	Neal Foman	http://mnsocietydermorg.homestead.com/
Missouri Dermatological Society	1971	Luke Welch	http://www.moderm.org/
New England Dermatological Society	1915	Eileen Deignan	http://www.nederm.org/
Dermatological Society of New Jersey	1935	David A. Wrone	http://www.njderm.org/

New York State Society of Dermatology and Dermatological Surgery(NYSSDDS)	1974	Robert Walther	http://www.nysderm.org/
North Carolina Dermatology Association (NCDA)	2002	Russell J. Kilpatrick	http://www.ncderm.org/
Ohio Dermatological Association, Inc.	1984	Linda S. Rupert	http://ohderm.org/
Oklahoma State Dermatology & Dermatologic Surgery Society	2003	Renee Grau	http://www.okdermsociety.org/
Pacific Dermatologic Association	1948	Catherine Ramsay	http://www.pacificderm.org/
Pennsylvania Academy of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery (PAD)	1966	Christine Cabell	http://www.padermatology.org/
Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants (SDPA)	1994	Vicki Roberts	http://www.dermpa.org/
Society for Investigative Dermatology	1937	Mark Udey	http://www.sidnet.org/
Society for Pediatric Dermatology	1975	Beth Drolet	http://pedsderm.net/
South Carolina Dermatological Association (SCDA)	1970	Angela Hutcheson	http://scda-assn.org/
Texas Dermatological Society	1928	Cloyce L. Stetson	http://texasdermatology.org/
Washington State Dermatology Association (WSDA)	1991	Kyle Garton	http://washingtonderm.org/
Wisconsin Dermatological Society	1951	Matthew Fleming	http://widermsociety.org/
Women's Dermatologic Society	1973	Kathleen J. Hectorne	http://www.womensderm.org/

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