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❖ Address	: Room No. 526, OPD Block, Vth Floor, Dept. of Dermatology & STD, VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi-29.
❖ Name of the International Conference/ Seminar/Symposium/Workshop	: 94 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for British Association of Dermatology-2014.
❖ Title of the abstract accepted	: 1. A randomized comparative study between autologous non-cultured epidermal cell suspension, suction blister epidermal grafting and split thickness skin grafting: A quest to find first line surgical modality for the treatment of stable vitiligo. 2. Deep vein thrombosis following thalidomide therapy in a patient of erythema nodosum leprosum of multibacillary multi drug therapy (MDT-MB) and prednisolone.
❖ Date & Venue	: 30 <sup>th</sup> June-3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2014. Glasgow, U.K.
❖ Money sanctioned	: Rs 86,116/-
❖ Money reimbursed	: Rs 82,944/-

### Participation Report

The 94<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of British Association of Dermatologists was organized at SECC, Glasgow, UK from 01/07/2014 to 03/07/2014. This conference had an international feel with attendees from India, Sri Lanka, Canada, USA, China and UK. Pre conference workshop was organized on 30/06/2014 for trainees, Speciality and Associate Specialist Doctors. There were multiple elaborating sessions like Cutaneous Allergy, Dermatologic Surgery, Dermatopathology, Paediatric Dermatology, Photodermatology and Commonwealth session. The sessions were divided into oral and poster presentation. In addition, there was a Dermatology Question Time session hosted by BBC for the representatives from the local patient support groups.

Building on its reputation as a high quality internationally renowned event, the BAD conference was a blend of new scientific presentations with updates from the experts in various fields. Professor White oration on patch testing in the investigation of non immediate drug eruptions was a landmark lecture. We see a lot of adverse drug reactions in dermatologic emergency settings. But to find a culprit drug is often very difficult. A positive skin test is very important to confirm the culprit drug. We can routinely start this practice of patch testing for the commonly notorious drugs. Lessons in Mohs micrographic surgery were very important in the management of skin cancers which are rarely practiced here in India. A joint talk by Roger Currie and Carrie Newlands given to discuss the definition of high risk cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, the evidence for surgical excision margins and the role of adjuvant radiotherapy to the primary site.

There were presented some rare cases like eccrine syringosquamous metaplasia mimicking squamous cell carcinoma, post irradiation morphea, case series on merkel cell carcinoma.

A further advancement in dermaecopy was presented as "online dermoscopy: an innovative method for teaching a transferable skill." Chronic spontaneous urticaria not responding to antihistaminics is a major dermatosis affecting the quality of life of patients. Omalizumab was introduced as a new and innovative option to address this problem. Advanced basal cell carcinoma inappropriate for surgery and radiotherapy is a rare but important health problem. Vismodegib could be a promising option in such situation. We were introduced to a new clinical entity known as "Hendle syndrome" comprising polymorphic light eruption, Sun triggered acute fatigue syndrome and solar catarrh associated with recurrent severe sore throat.

The magic and mayhem of human skin resident T cells presented in Arthur Rook oration by Dr Rachael Clark was an eye opener. Resident T cells in skin are twice in number as in entire circulation. Aberrantly activated T cells cause inflammatory dermatoses whereas exclusion of T cells is the common way that skin cancers evade immune detection. By carrying out a suitable study on memory T cells in India, we can reveal the secrets and grey zones behind the pathogenesis of most common and most dreaded skin diseases.

So, overall this was a great and fruitful experience to attend the most authentic, updated and comprehensive academic sessions in 94<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of BAD and this knowledge can be applied here in India to start new research projects and for the well being of our patients.

### **PARTICIPANT'S CONTRIBUTION**

I participated in the 94<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of British Association of Dermatologists very actively as I had one oral and one poster to present in the commonwealth session. I presented my work on vitiligo and leprosy. In my oral presentation on vitiligo, I emphasized on the establishment of the hierarchy of the surgical management of vitiligo as there is no uniform consensus regarding this. I proposed that non cultured epidermal cell suspension, a cellular transplantation method of vitiligo surgery should be considered as the first line surgical modality as this is the most efficacious method to manage stable vitiligo not responding to medical therapy.

My poster demonstrated deep vein thrombosis (DVT) following thalidomide therapy for erythema nodosum leprosum (severe type 2 leprosy reaction, which is very rare. I also emphasized on management and prophylaxis of DVT.

Apart from this, I attended most of the important scientific sessions and exhibitions.