

- ❖ Name & Designation : Dr. Arshdeep, Senior Resident.
- ❖ Address : Deptt. of Dermatology, PGIMER, Chandigarh-160012.
- ❖ Name of the International Conference/ Seminar/Symposium/ Workshop : 23<sup>rd</sup> European Academy of Dermatology & Venereology (EADV), Congress-2014.
- ❖ Title of the abstract accepted : 1. Lichenoid photocontact dermatitis vs Lichen planuspigmentosus: A diagnostic dilemma in Asian skin. 2. Comparative efficacy of narrow band ultraviolet B phototherapy in combination with topical calcipotriol-betamethasone ointment in psoriasis. 3. Platelet rich plasma: A novel therapeutic perspective for female pattern alopecia.
- ❖ Date & Venue : 8-12<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- ❖ Money sanctioned : ₹ 91,597/-
- ❖ Money reimbursed : ₹ 93,618/- (Due to hike the fare of air travel an additional ₹ 2021/- were sanctioned)
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Participation Report

**ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE**

EADV (European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology) is a pan-European association where dermatovenereologists aim at increasing the level of education to the highest level. The scientific programme that covered all the main topics in dermatology and venereology was a learning bonanza for especially the budding physicians. The programme was subdivided into 'Keynote lectures' by eminent speakers, 'Focus Sessions' on new topics, 'Symposia' covering all upcoming developments in a particular field, various workshops, interactive sessions and free communications of selected abstracts. A multidisciplinary audience from various countries with different skin colour, race and clinical practices provided valuable inputs at the end of sessions. New sessions like 'Spotlights' highlighting recent areas of research, "Test yourself" and 'Controversies' were the highlights of the conference. Also it was a total eco-friendly congress without printed materials; participants were able to follow the entire congress without using a single printed material, which I feel was the benchmark to be followed in our country also.

## **ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONFERENCE INCLUDING NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> EADV Congress highlighted the new developments in the field of core dermatology, dermato-surgery and the aesthetic surgery. Many international speakers enlightened on the pathogenesis of chronic dermatoses, which were previously not so clear. New developments in the biological class of therapy were presented. These class of drugs offer a new hope for many long standing cutaneous diseases which are refractory to the current treatment options. Among these, the drug -ixekizumab, an anti-IL17A monoclonal antibody, for the treatment of psoriasis was most promising. On the same line, the pathogenesis of vitiligo was elaborated and advancement in the existing treatment modality was showcased. A distinct possibility of vaccine in the future was also put forward. New molecule, IL-12/IL-23 inhibitor ustekinumab was shown to be effective in moderate to severe hidradenitis suppurativa. Major advancements made in the mechanisms of different types of itch, the most common manifestation of systemic disease, was made by none other than the Godfather of itch, Dr Gil Yosipovitch. This informative session on the mechanism then translated to better treatments options. Among the dermatosurgery, advancement in the treatment of keloids like various connective tissue growth factor blocking agents, and injection of hydrogel scaffold were discussed. The satellite symposiums, focus sessions and the posters were also very informative. I am grateful to ICMR for giving me an opportunity to attend this outstanding experience of the 23<sup>rd</sup> EADV congress.

### **MY CONTRIBUTION TO THE CONFERENCE**

I presented a paper titled "Lichen planus pigmentosus vs Lichenoid photocontact dermatitis" in free communication session FC07. These two entities often pose a diagnostic dilemma in Asian skin. I presented my study of 7 patients which threw light on clearly differentiating them clinically, histologically and by photopatch testing. My findings were applauded by the chairpersons as well as the audience as it made them aware of soft pointers highlighted in my presentation which has significant implications in the management of facial melanosis. Likewise my 2 e-posters also attracted attention as Platelet rich plasma is an upcoming therapy in alopecia with very few reports in literature published till now. I have received queries from other inquisitive participants even after the conference by email.