

# Asian perspective on scope of practice of dermatology

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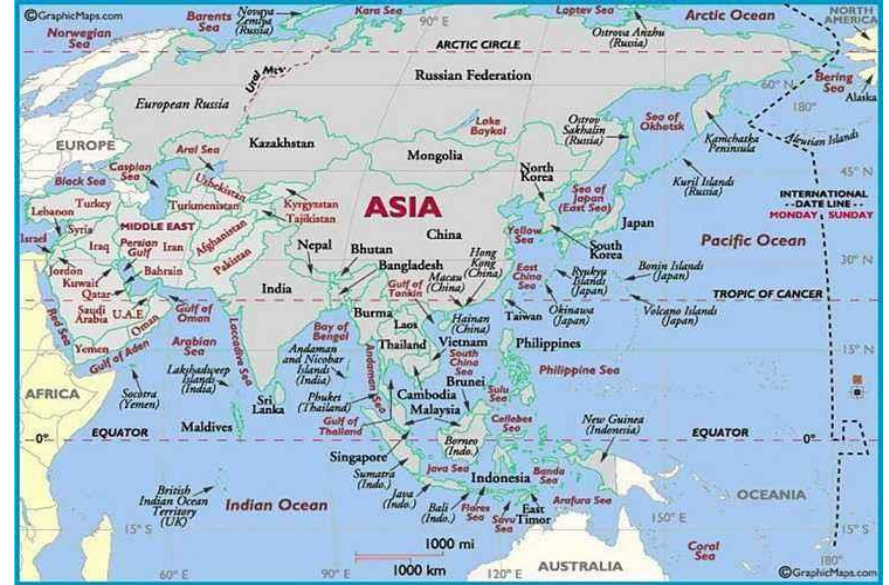
- **I declare no conflict of interest**

# Asia by region

- 48 nations with a population of 4.164 billion people
- By geographic location
  - eastern Asia,
  - western Asia
  - south Asia
  - southeastern Asia
  - north Asia
  - central Asia

India+China: 1/3 of world population

Aging Asia: Japan and China



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# Discipline organizations in Asia

- **Asian Academy of Dermatology and Venereology**
- **Asian Dermatological Association**
- **Asian Society for Pigment Cell Research**
  
- **South Asia**
  - **SARAD: South Asian Regional Association of Dermatologists, Venereologists and Leprologists**
  - **SAARC : South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation**

# **Discipline organizations in Asia**

- **Southeast Asia: League of ASEAN Dermatological Societies(LADS)**
- **Eastern Asia: Eastern Asia Dermatology Congress**  
**( no formal organization but hold regular Congress)**
- **+ numerous national and local societies and associations**

# Practice in Asian Dermatology

## incomplete data on number of dermatology practitioners

- **Public data on the number of dermatology practitioners in Asia is mostly unavailable**
  - **Mainland China: approximately 22,000 in a survey by Chinese Society of Dermatology**
  - **Japan: 10,000 registered members in JDA**
  - **India: over 10, 000 IADVL members**
  - **Iran: 1000 registered dermatologists**
  - **Pakistan: ~420 registered dermatologists**
  - **Israel: 370 plus active dermatologists**
  - **.....**
- **Dermatologists tend to be concentrated in cities and large towns in most of the developing Asian countries**

# Institutions dermatologists tend to practice in China(2014)

<b>Total medical facilities</b>	960,010
1. Hospitals	22,565
Public hospitals	13,468
Private hospitals	9,097
Class III (>500 beds ) hospitals	1,474
Class II (101-500 beds) hospitals	6,539
Class I (<100 beds) hospitals	5,824
2. Community medical facilities	922,985
#Community health center	33,736
# state-own	20,050
Health clinics in towns	37,193
# state-own	36,703
Clinics/infirmaries	177,683
Village clinics	664,073
3. Other facilities	14460

# **Dermatology settings in different hospitals in China**

- **Big hospitals usually have a dermatology department, with in-patient ward, teaching, research and clinical practice**
- **Medium-size hospitals usually have dermatology out-patient clinic, but no specific ward for inpatients**
- **Small-size hospitals usually have no dermatology department, where surgeons or physicians help to treat patients with skin diseases**
- **Exceptions: There are around 30 medium size public Dermatology Hospitals( or dermatology as major discipline) in big cities in China. In recent years, there emerged dozens of private dermatology hospitals. They sometimes have facilities for inpatients**



# Common conditions for dermatological consultations

- **allergic and inflammatory conditions:** dermatitis, urticaria, psoriasis
- **disease of skin appendages:** acne
- **infections and infestations:** fungal diseases, SID, bites
- **pigmentary disorders :** melasma, vitiligo
- **Skin tumor** is less prevalent than western nations

# Specific diseases by region or nation

## ➤ West Asia

- Turkey: **acne**, fungal infections, contact dermatitis, urticaria and psoriasis
- Iran: **Acne** vulgaris and cutaneous **leishmaniasis**

## ➤ China: **dermatitis, acne**, urticaria, verruca, psoriasis, fungal infections, vitiligo

## ➤ South Asia

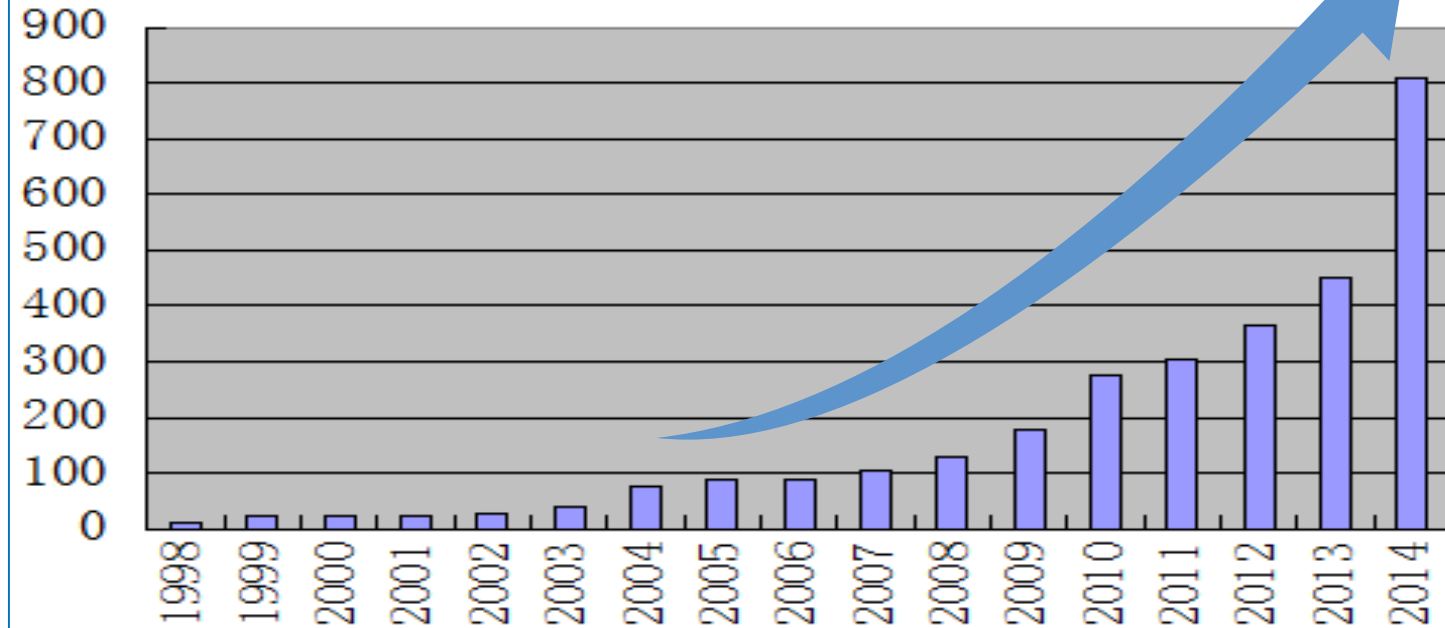
- India : **scabies**, pediculosis, tinea, leprosy, vitiligo
- Pakistan: **Infestations**, pyodermas, superficial mycoses, mycobacterial infections and **STD** (barring AIDS), and due to the Afghan war and influx of refugees, new foci of leishmaniasis

# Academic contribution from Asia

- **From 2013 to 2018, by searching on Pubmed, Top 5 Asian nations in Publications**
  - **Mainland China: 5654 +Taiwan, China: 1194**
  - **Japan: 6195**
  - **India: 4193**
  - **Korea: 3053**
  - **Turkey: 1852**
- **Accounting near 40% of publications from Asia**

# Accelerating trends in publications by Dermatologists from mainland China

the number of SCI papers



2013-2018 totals to 5654 papers

# The challenges of dermatology in Asia

- **1. Fragmentation of dermatology**
- Allergic diseases: Otolaryngologists, allergists
- Autoimmune diseases: rheumatologists, immunologists
- SID: Infectious disease specialists, urologists
- .....
- **Cosmetic dermatology: a booming field in dermatology**
  - the good: a true advancement of dermatology
  - the bad: leaving pure clinical dermatology neglected, profit driven
  - the “beauty”: trends in fashion and vanity

# Challenges from the Environment

- **2. Air pollutions: levels of PM2.5, PM10 and harmful composites is high in many Asian countries or cities**
- **limited data about its effect on skin**
  - **Smog contribute to premature aging**
  - **Oxidative stress and microbiota disruption**
  - **Increased incidence of allergic diseases**



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# Challenges in remote and poor(war) area

- **3.** Service in remote and poor(war) area is sparse  
the majority of people have difficulty in visiting dermatologists
- **4.** Lack of scientific knowledge on skin health in the public
- **5.** Efficient training of dermatology-relevant staffs is much required, including Tele-dermatology

# Challenges in clinical research in dermatology

- **6.** Insufficiency of high standard international cooperation on translational research
- **7.** Insufficiency of harmonization of clinical study, sample bank and databank
- **8.** Insufficiency in the production of high quality evidence- based guidelines, consensus and standards



# Thank you for your attention

