

Title: The Global Research on Impact of Dermatological Diseases (GRIDD)

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Introduction

The GRIDD project is a multi-year project and the first systematic, patient-driven, international study of the impacts of living with dermatological disease. Existing measures markedly underestimate the burden of dermatological diseases leading to under-investment in research and services for these patients.

GRIDD will produce a global patient-reported measure of the impact of living with skin disease co-designed with patients and meet strict psychometric criteria.

Material and Methods

GRIDD consists of five phases (2017-2022):

- 1) A systematic review (SR) of existing dermatology-specific patient-reported measures.
- 2) Interviews and focus groups conducted with members of patient organisations (PO).
- 3) Delphi surveys of patients and specialists will determine whether the concepts identified in phase 2 are recognised and endorsed by a wider group.
- 4) Cognitive interviews with patients to confirm the content validity of the measure, and statistical analyses to determine the measure's psychometric structure.
- 5) The new measure will be launched worldwide (2021) and the data disseminated.

Results

The SR revealed no specific measure of patient impact in dermatology exists. Examination of 36 existing patient-reported measures identified poor psychometric properties; none could be recommended for use. Phases 2 and 3 results will be ready by end of 2020.

Discussion

GRIDD's novel patient-centric methodology and measure will address shortcomings in the DLQI and global rankings (PBI, DALY, GBD) and greatly enhance patient perspectives in dermatology by providing quantifiable patient-impact data. It supports local, regional and international attempts to better position dermatology and encourage decision-makers and stakeholders to include these diseases in their policies.