Title
Professional dermatology societies in the USA: an overview

Permalink
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/73m4n0w2

Journal
Dermatology Online Journal, 21(11)

Authors
Al Aboud, Ahmad
Al Aboud, Khalid

Publication Date
2015

License
CC BY-NC-ND 4.0
Professional dermatology societies in the USA: an overview
Ahmad Al Aboud MD¹, Khalid Al Aboud MD²

Dermatology Online Journal 21 (11): 18

¹Department of Dermatology, King Abdullah Medical City, Makkah, Saudi-Arabia
²Department of Dermatology, King Faisal Hospital, Makkah, Saudi-Arabia

Correspondence:
Dr. Khalid Al Aboud, MD,
P.O Box 5440
Makah 21955
Saudi Arabia
E-mail: amoa65@hotmail.com

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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The society</th>
<th>Year of establishment</th>
<th>Current President</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Academy of Dermatology (AAD)</td>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Mark Lebwohl</td>
<td><a href="https://www.aad.org/">https://www.aad.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Contact Dermatitis Society (ACDS)</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Bruce Brod</td>
<td><a href="http://www.contactderm.org/">http://www.contactderm.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Society for Dermatologic Surgery (ASDS)</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>George J. Hruza</td>
<td><a href="https://www.asds.net/">https://www.asds.net/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas Dermatological Society</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Adam Stibich</td>
<td><a href="http://arkansasderm.org/">http://arkansasderm.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Society of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery (CalDerm)</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Gary Lask</td>
<td><a href="http://www.calderm.org/">http://www.calderm.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Dermatological Society</td>
<td>1901</td>
<td>Lawrence S. Chan</td>
<td><a href="https://www.chicagoderm.org/">https://www.chicagoderm.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Dermatologic Society</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Matthew Mahlberg</td>
<td><a href="http://www.coloradodermatology.org/">http://www.coloradodermatology.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dermatology Foundation</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Michael D. Tharp</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dermatologyfoundation.org/">http://www.dermatologyfoundation.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dermatology Nurses’ Association</td>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Maura Flynn</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dnanurse.org/">http://www.dnanurse.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Society of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery (GSDDS)</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Toni McCullough</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gaderm.org/">http://www.gaderm.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana Academy of Dermatology</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Annette M. Dinneen</td>
<td><a href="http://indianaderms.orbium.com/">http://indianaderms.orbium.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Dermatologic Society (MDS)</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Elizabeth Richard</td>
<td><a href="http://www.marylanddermsociety.com/">http://www.marylanddermsociety.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota Dermatological Society (MDS)</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>Neal Foman</td>
<td><a href="http://mnsocietydermorg.homestead.com/">http://mnsocietydermorg.homestead.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dermatological Society of New Jersey</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td>David A. Wrone</td>
<td><a href="http://www.njderm.org/">http://www.njderm.org/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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 for Investigative Dermatology 1937 Mark Udey http://www.sidnet.org/

Society for Pediatric Dermatology 1975 Beth Drolet http://pedsderm.net/


Texas Dermatological Society 1928 Cloyce L. Stetson http://texasdermatology.org/


Wisconsin Dermatological Society 1951 Matthew Fleming http://widermsociety.org/


References