



## Texas Dermatological Society Winter 2024 Newsletter



### President's Message

Dear Friends,

As we stand on the brink of a new year, I extend my heartfelt greetings to each of you. Your unwavering dedication remains the driving force behind our collective impact as members of TDS. Reflecting on our shared values and anticipating many opportunities ahead, I wish to underscore some core principles that define our commitment to exceptional patient care:

1. Patient Safety: Our dedication to ensuring the safety and well-being of our patients has always been paramount. Your vigilance in upholding the highest standards of dermatological care sets the stage for the positive impact we make on the lives entrusted to us.

2. Evidence-Based Medicine: Although it may seem cliché within the medical community, I will openly proclaim that our commitment to evidence-based medicine must remain unwavering. By staying at the forefront of research and embracing the latest advancements - with wisdom, humility and discernment when needed - we ensure that our patients receive care grounded in the most reliable and current scientific knowledge while keeping their best interests at heart. This is a deep moral imperative as technology advances; I like to fall back on the old but wise saying: “Just because we can do something doesn’t mean we should.” Sometimes we should simply pause and reflect.

3. Physician-Led Care: Leadership in dermatological care starts with us, the dermatologists. Your expertise and guidance play a pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of how well patient care is delivered. By leading with this extraordinary skill, along with empathy and compassion, we elevate the standard of care provided to our communities. TDS will continue to advocate for truth and transparency in healthcare. We can carry the torch to show that proper supervision is not only important but also achievable. Let us be leaders by example on this front, holding one another accountable by setting a high bar, embracing physician-led care and acknowledging the unique contributions of every member of our dermatology team.

4. Safeguarding Our Field: In an ever-evolving healthcare landscape, we must remain vigilant in safeguarding our noble field, especially from the dangerous expansion of scope of practice by non-physicians, ongoing threats to reimbursement and other encroachments into our specialty. Let us unite across specialties, working alongside other medical societies, to ensure the integrity and health of our practices.

5. Physicians at Heart: Before we became Dermatologists, we were and will remain physicians at heart. Let this shared identity serve as a foundation for fostering a collaborative environment where the best interests of our patients remain our singular shared priority.

6. Advocating with Integrity and Courage: Recognizing the supreme importance of open, transparent communication, let us also encourage each other to speak with integrity and when necessary, a spoonful of courage. In doing so, we will know we are authentically advocating effectively for the highest standards of patient care.

As we embark on the challenges and opportunities of the coming year, let us stand united in our commitment to these principles. Together, we can continue to advance the field of dermatology, provide state-of-the-art care, and shape the future of healthcare with unwavering integrity.

Thank you for your unmatched dedication, and here's to a year filled with strengthening friendships, collegiality, ongoing achievement and continued growth across our amazing TDS community. I am so proud to call you my colleagues and friends.

Warmest regards,

Laura Haygood MD FAAD  
President, Texas Dermatological Society  
Tyler, TX

## Spring 2024 Conference - April 19-20, 2024 - Save the Date!



Save the date for the upcoming 2024 TDS Spring Conference! The meeting will be held April 19-20, 2024 at the Marriott Marquis in Houston, TX! The amazing CME program will

be provided by Omid Jalali, MD and Ida Orengo, MD from Baylor Houston. The Marriott Marquis has provided the TDS with the discounted room rate of \$239/night. Rooms can be booked now by calling (713) 654-1777 or clicking [HERE](#). Please book your rooms early - the TDS hotel block oftentimes sells out.

Meeting registration will open soon!

[Draft Agenda Linked Here!](#)



## Congratulations to our Fall 2023 Resident Competition Winners!

### PODIUM COMPETITION

1st Place

[Lauren Sadowsky, MD](#)

Ichthyosiform Erythroderma and Diffuse Palmoplantar Keratoderma with CYP4F22, DSP, PAX9, and PKP1 Gene Mutation Variants

*UTHSCSA*

2nd Place

[Marissa Ceresnie, DO](#)

The impact of diet on patients with hidradenitis suppurativa: a prospective pilot study

*HES-Lake Granbury Medical Center*

3rd Place

[Kyle Lauck, MD](#)

Sexual Dysfunction with 5-alpha-reductase Inhibitor Therapy for Androgenetic Alopecia: A global propensity score matched retrospective cohort study

*Baylor Dallas*

## POSTER COMPETITION

1st Place

[McKenna Odom, MD](#)

Rapid-onset Merkel cell carcinoma in an elderly patient  
*UTHSCSA*

2nd Place

[Antonio Jimenez, MD](#)

Cardiovascular Effects of Low Dose Oral Minoxidil in  
Androgenetic Alopecia: A Retrospective Cohort Study  
*UTMB*

3rd Place

[Sarah Kesaria, MD](#)

A Case of Multibacillary Leprosy  
*UTMB*

1st place medical student podium:

[Seo Won \(Anna\) Cho](#)

Skin-on-a-chip technology: Application in dermatology and  
future approach  
*Texas A&M School of Medicine, Dallas, TX*



## Legislative Update

TDS lobbyist, Eric Woomer and his team at Policy Solutions had an incredibly successful 2023 legislative session. Click the link below to read their latest update.

[Read More](#)

## 2024 TDS Membership Dues

***It's time to renew your Texas Dermatological Society membership dues! You should have already received an email to pay your TDS dues for the 2024 year. Please reach out to the TDS business office if you have not received this email and link.***

***You can now opt-in to automatic payments! Auto-renew takes the burden off of you and your staff to remember which association dues have been paid, or haven't been paid! Sign up today for auto-renew through the membership renewal link in the TDS 2024 dues email!***

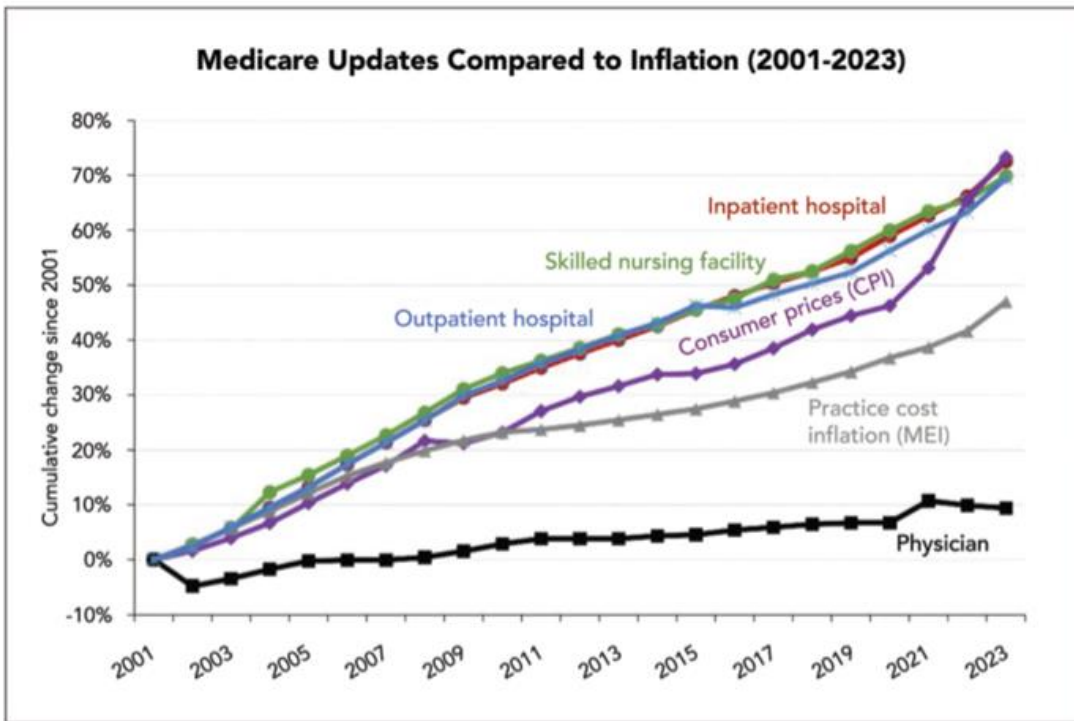
***\*\*REMINDER: The TDS business office address has changed for those members mailing in checks. TDS, 6705 W. Highway 290 #607-223, Austin, TX 78735\*\****

## Advisory Board Update

### Angela Moore, MD

1. Opposing insurance fees being imposed on us automatically by the carriers when we process insurance claims for EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer)
2. Voted to support Health Care Fairness Act For All for tax credits to help pay for health care expenses (authored by Goodman)
3. Protect the names and email addresses of AAD members in IPledge to not sell to 3<sup>rd</sup> party companies
4. Create Discourse (hosted by the AAD) instead of DocMatter as the platform for the AAD Clinical Community (which currently then “owns the license” to reproduce, distribute, and publish AAD member content)
5. AAD adopted the resolution on potential negative consequences of ACOs (Accountable Care Organization)
6. Ryan Hick: Deputy Chair of the Patient Access Payer Relations (PAPR) Committee: meets with the carriers of Aetna/ BCBS and doing a lot for modifier 25 and issues with the private carriers
  - a. Can email [privatepayer@aad.org](mailto:privatepayer@aad.org) about these denials you receive in your office
  - b. Aad.org, practice management, insurance and drugs, private payer (appeal tools), downcoding modifier 25
  - c. Advocacy email

7. Medicare rates for dermatologists and all physicians (Medicare part B) have not kept up with inflation or with Medicare part A (hospital/ skilled nursing facility, outpatient hospital)
  - a. Educate your patients, friends, and legislators that this affects ALL of their doctors and may cause more doctors to retire early or leave the medical profession with soaring inflation



8. Join SkinPac to help the lobbying efforts: SkinPac- we are the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Pac:
  - a. Note above that physician reimbursement has not increased since 2001

## Robert G. Freeman, MD Award 2024 Call for Nominations

The 2024 Robert G. Freeman, MD nominations link is now open! Please submit your nominations for this prestigious TDS Award [HERE](#).

For more information on the Robert G. Freeman, MD award, please click [HERE](#).



The winner of the 2024 Freeman Award will be recognized at the spring 2024 business lunch that will take place April 20, 2024 at the Marriott Marquis in Houston, TX.

## Hey Residents!

The Spring 2024 resident podium and poster competition applications will open at the end of January.

New in Spring 2024 - Resident prizes will be increased for the PODIUM competition! Prizes will remain the same for the POSTER competition.

### PODIUM CASH PRIZES!

1ST PLACE - \$1000

2ND PLACE - \$600

3RD PLACE - \$400

### POSTER CASH PRIZES!

1ST PLACE - \$500

2ND PLACE - \$300

3RD PLACE - \$200

The TDS will hold a resident Q&A luncheon from 11:00AM - 12:30PM at the Marriott Marquis on Friday, April 19, 2024. Don't miss this educational and beneficial lunch!

The TDS offers a generous housing stipend to all of our resident members.

- Residents must be enrolled in an approved Texas dermatology residency program to apply.
- All resident housing forms must be picked up at the Resident Luncheon that will take place on Friday, April 19, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.
- All applicants MUST be TDS resident members.
- The housing stipends will be refunded for the TDS meeting hotel at the discounted TDS room rate, OR at a hotel of equal or lesser value than the TDS rate at the host hotel.
- Residents who reside in the host city are not eligible for the stipend.
- Be sure to book your hotel room early to get the full stipend!



Reminder - all TDS residents can attend the TDS conferences for free! Registration will open soon!

[Click HERE to be taken to the TDS Resident Page](#)



## Thank you to our TDS Fall 2023 generous sponsors and exhibitors!

The TDS would not be able to hold the caliber of meetings that it currently does without the support of our exhibitors and sponsors. Please be sure to thank all of our exhibiting companies every time you see them! Click the link below for the list of TDS exhibiting companies from our fall 2023 conference.

[Read More](#)



## Members in the news!

The following members submitted publications, articles and personal announcements to share with their TDS friends and colleagues. The next call for articles will take place in the spring for publication in the 2024 Summer Newsletter.

[Read More](#)



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