



EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF DERMATOLOGY AND VENEREOLOGY

ACADEMIE EUROPEENNE DE DERMATOLOGIE ET DE VENEREOLOGIE

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## ***Press Release***

**29<sup>th</sup> October - World Psoriasis Day 2008**

**Message from the President of the EADV, Professor Andreas D. Katsambas**

(Brussels, 22/10/2008) Psoriasis is a common chronic inflammatory skin disease affecting approximately 2-3% of the European population. Although most individuals with psoriasis have mild skin involvement, requiring only topical creams and ointments for its management, a significant proportion of patients have a more extensive disease leading to marked physical discomfort, severe psychosocial distress and a negative impact on quality of life.

Dermatologists are the experts in the field of Psoriasis and can provide specific help for the patients acting as their advocates who offer them a wide range of treatments.

Over the past decade, extensive research at the clinical and basic science level has enhanced our understanding of the pathogenesis of Psoriasis and its genetic background. Previously considered a disease of the skin (and in some cases of the joints), we have now come to appreciate psoriasis as a systemic inflammatory condition with important repercussions in other organs and systems. The most essential development, however, has been the introduction of targeted biologic therapy in the clinical management of patients with moderate to severe psoriasis. By blocking critical steps of the inflammatory process, anti-TNF and anti-T cell agents have revolutionized our therapeutic approaches and have provided an effective treatment for long-term control of the disease with an acceptable safety profile. Our expanding knowledge of the underlying mechanisms of psoriasis will undoubtedly create new opportunities to treat and potentially cure the disease. Together with the endeavours of the International Federation of Psoriasis Associations (IFPA), which the European Academy of Dermatology & Venereology (EADV) fully supports, the future for our patients has never before looked as bright and promising as it does today!

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### **Profile & Mission of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology**

Founded in 1987, EADV is a non-profit association whose mission is to advance excellence in clinical care, research, education and training in the field of dermatology and Venereology and to act as the advocate and educator of patients particularly those with cutaneous or venereal diseases.

The Media&PR office in the EADV House deals with your enquiries and co-ordinates all Media&PR activities. For direct contact and to be part of our database for regular news mailings, please write to Mrs Stefanie Blum at [stefanie@eadv.org](mailto:stefanie@eadv.org).

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