

Special Issue

Skin-Related Neglected Tropical Diseases (Skin-NTDs) —A New Challenge

Message from the Guest Editors

The skin of the patient is the first and most visible structure of the body that any health care worker encounters in the course of an examination. To the patient and relatives, it is also highly visible and any disease that affects the skin is both noticeable and will have an impact on personal and social wellbeing. It is therefore an important entry point for diagnosis, surveillance, disease mapping and integrated management. Many of the major neglected tropical diseases produce changes in the skin, often the first indicator of illness that patients will notice. Changes to the skin often reinforce the feelings of isolation and stigma experienced by patients with Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), but they also provide opportunities for simplifying diagnosis and developing an integrated and strategic approach to control and care. This Special Issue will explore the range of clinical manifestations and epidemiology of both skin NTDs and common skin disease in endemic regions, the use of common diagnostic and management pathways, the different technologies that play a role in diagnosis and training, and the role of patient and family involvement at the community level, as well as the assessment of the results of different studies or programmes in this field.

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