



# The All Party Parliamentary Group on Skin

Quarterly Update

Apr-Jun 2014

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[www.appgs.co.uk](http://www.appgs.co.uk)

## UPDATE: SUNBED REGULATION IN ENGLAND

In May 2014, the All Party Parliamentary Group on Skin (APPGS) published its report on sunbed regulation in England following a short inquiry into the effectiveness of existing regulations in January. The Group found that England's regulations fell well short of those introduced in the devolved nations and failed to adequately protect users.

Witnesses included representatives from the below organisations:

- The Sunbed Association (TSA)
- Cancer Research UK (CRUK)
- Liverpool City Council
- The Local Government Association
- The British Association of Dermatologists (BAD)
- The Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE)
- A past user of sunbeds and cancer patient

The Group's final report can be found [here](#). Several MPs have made enquires as to the Department of Health's response, but as of yet we have yet to receive a formal reply. We have been informed that the Department is carefully considering the Group's recommendations and will be able to tell us more in the near future once all the options have been assessed and Public Health England has been consulted.

The Group's desired result is for the Department of Health to commence immediate work on secondary legislation designed to bring England's existing regulatory regime up to a standard that is at least in line with that of the devolved nations.

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## PSORIASIS EVENT (JUNE 2014)



In June 2014, the APPGS held an event on psoriasis care, looking at the variations in uptake of the NICE guidance on psoriasis. Witnesses included representatives from NICE, NHS England, the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) and the Psoriasis Association.

Although discussion mainly revolved around problems in uptake of NICE guidance, the prospect of commissioning incentives were raised. In the Autumn of this year, NICE's Advisory Committee on CCG Outcome Indicators, will be discussing the feasibility and appropriateness of a commissioning incentive for psoriasis care. The basis for this discussion is NICE's Quality Standard on Psoriasis. The APPGS is now considering ways in which members of the skin community might best contribute towards the discussions due to be held at NICE later this year.

## EDUCATION SUB-GROUP

Under the leadership of Dr George Moncrieff, the APPGS' sub-group on GP education has held its first meeting and developed an action plan. The Group has made enquiries of Local Education and Training Boards (LETBs) to try and assess the extent to which dermatology is covered during the three years of GP speciality training.

Information in this area is not collected centrally and differs from region to region, nevertheless, help has been recruited from the national training body, Health Education England, who has worked with the Group to deliver a coordinated response from the LETBs. The Sub-Group is now in the process of analysing the information and deciding the next course of action.

## PLANNED FUTURE EVENTS

→ **Autumn 2014** (TBC)

'Education, education, education' – the urgent need to expand dermatological knowledge within primary care

→ **Winter 2014/Early 2015** (TBC)

The elderly and skin disease – addressing an unmet need