

Global Health Dermatology

Improving skin health for vulnerable populations around the globe.

Our Dual Mission

- To improve diagnosis and treatment of skin conditions in resource-limited settings.
- To train providers at home and abroad in delivering high quality dermatologic care to those most in need.

Who We Are

Esther Freeman M.D. Ph.D. is a dermatologist and epidemiologist specializing in global health dermatology. Since 2003, she has worked to improve healthcare- particularly in those affected by HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and southeast Asia.

Since 2012, she has collaborated with the World Health Organization to establish guidelines for HIV-associated skin conditions in the developing world and has expanded that work to encompass COVID-19 and mpox. She has won the American Academy of Dermatology's (AAD) Member Making a Difference. She received a 2021 Presidential Citation from the AAD and was awarded one of Medscape's Top 25 "Rising Stars in Medicine" awards. She currently serves as the Vice Chair of the International Foundation for Dermatology (IFD).

Her work centers around Kaposi's Sarcoma, a potentially deadly cancer associated with HIV that first appears on the skin. Her work is supported by the National Institute of Health (NIH), the American Skin Association, the Harvard Center for AIDS Research, the Medical Dermatology Society, and the Dermatology Foundation. She is also founding Chair of GLODERM, the International Alliance for Global Health Dermatology, which connects dermatologists and trainees with interests in the advancement of skin health in resource-limited communities, locally and globally, through sustainable and integrated approaches to clinical care, education, research, policy, and advocacy.



Did You Know?

- Skin diseases affecting individuals in sub-Saharan Africa include many of the same conditions we treat in the U.S. including skin cancer, eczema, fungal infections, psoriasis, and lupus.
- Skin disease can affect a person's ability to provide for their family & can cause as much, if not more disability than asthma or diabetes.
- HIV is common in many of the areas we work. Over 90% of the HIV/AIDS patients will develop a skin condition at some point over the course of their illness.

Lack of Access & Training

Some of the issues faced in resource-limited settings include:

- Limited access to training for healthcare workers
- Lack of diagnostic tools and equipment
- Limited patient access and transportation to sites providing quality care

The primary aim is to uplift and support local solutions to improving dermatologic care.

How You Can Help:

To learn more:

Visit massgeneral.org/dermatology/globalhealth
Or reach out to GlobalHealthDerm@partners.org

If you would like to make a gift to support our efforts, please reach out to:

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<https://because.massgeneral.org/campaign/global-health-dermatology/c108407>

