

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, No. 2

## Message from the IFHRS Chair & Executive Secretary

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Dr. Wilma Bergfeld



Victoria Ceh

We extend our best wishes to you and your family, staff, and colleagues! May we have peace and prosperity in 2023 and continue with excellent treatments for patients along with new research and advances.

### WORLD CONGRESS FOR HAIR RESEARCH (WCHR) 2022 WCHR

The recent WCHR that took place in Melbourne, Australia, November 18-22, 2022, was a wonderful event. We extend our hearty congratulations to Rod



Showing excitement for the start of the WCHR2022, the in-person representatives of the IFHRS in Melbourne.

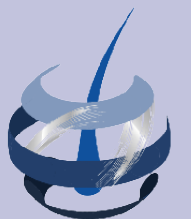
Sinclair and the Australasian Hair & Wool Research Society. Read the section in this newsletter for a summary.

The International Federation of Hair Research Societies met in person with a Zoom option at the Melbourne meeting on November 19, 2022. Twenty-four representatives of 8 societies gathered with 14 in person and 10 via Zoom. We covered a full agenda of items including a review of the financials; updates on the Proceedings Task Force, Website Task Force, and IFHRS Newsletter; and discussions on the WCHR rotation as well as 2022-24 Chair and Secretary positions.

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IFHRS meeting in progress with in-person and Zoom participants.



IFHRS

International Federation  
of Hair Research Societies

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## 2024 WCHR

The American Hair Research Society is organizing the next WCHR, which is scheduled to take place April 6-9, 2024, in Dallas, Texas, USA. Please mark your calendars and plan to participate and attend. The call for abstracts will open in May 2023.

This special location on these specific dates was selected to coincide with the total solar eclipse that will occur on April 8, 2024, across the Americas. To view first hand a total solar eclipse is a special and unique experience. Dallas, Texas, is one of the major cities in the path of totality, with the eclipse to occur around lunch time, and will have one of the longest totality durations of all cities with 3 minutes and 46 seconds of totality. We have selected an amazing viewing area at an excellent venue so we may all experience this moment together!

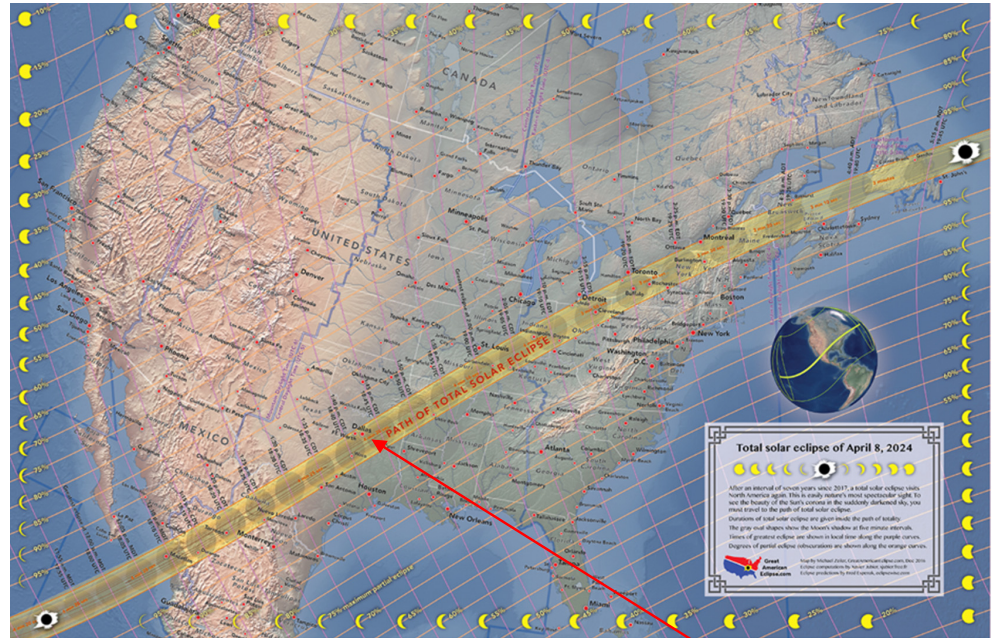


Image credit: Michael Zeiler, [www.GreatAmericanEclipse.com](http://www.GreatAmericanEclipse.com)

Dallas



From world-class dining to endless shopping and more than 20 vibrant entertainment areas, Dallas offers even the most diverse groups something for everyone. Six major professional sports teams and a sprawling arts district encourage nights full of adrenaline and entertainment. With warm days and pleasant evenings, WCHR2024 will be enjoyed by all.

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## 2026 AND BEYOND

The following dates and locations have been decided on by the IFHRS:

### 2026

14th WCHR

Korea

Hosting Society: KHRS

### 2028

15th WCHR

Europe

Hosting Society: EHRS, RHRS, or UHRS

### 2030

16th WCHR

Open Hub

Hosting Society: TBD

## WEBSITE

Despite the difficulties and challenges of the war, the UHRS has expressed a desire to continue with the development of the new IFHRS website. We are grateful for their hard work on this project. Stay tuned as we announce later in the year when it is ready to launch. In the meantime, we house the newsletters, publications, and WCHR rotation on the AHRS website at <https://americanhairresearchsociety.org/hair-research-societies/> and <https://americanhairresearchsociety.org/world-congress-hair-research-schedule/>.



Happy New Year

May the new year bring  
you peace, happiness, and  
prosperity.

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## 2022

### ***Alopecia Areata Summit | New York City | December 10-11, 2022***

The AHRS hosted an exciting and informative summit on AA research at the New York Academy of Medicine on December 10-11, 2022. The summit spanned the entire spectrum of innovations in alopecia areata from basic to translational to clinical research. An outstanding keynote lecture by Dr. John O'Shea, Scientific Director of NIAMS, was a terrific start to the meeting. The first day was focused mainly on immunological advances in AA, and the second day the program was devoted to the transformation of clinical care of AA with the first FDA approval of a JAK inhibitor for treatment of AA. Important topics also included psychosocial aspects of AA and managing expectations of patients undergoing these new treatments.

The meeting was extremely successful and feedback was extraordinarily positive. It was great to see everyone in person at this historic venue in New York City celebrating these landmarks in AA research. Please see the photo collage on page 6.

For those who may have missed the meeting, it was recorded and is still available for purchase. It will be on demand until June 20, 2023. To register, go to <https://americanhairresearchsociety.org/upcoming-meetings/> and click on "On-Demand – Alopecia Areata Summit."



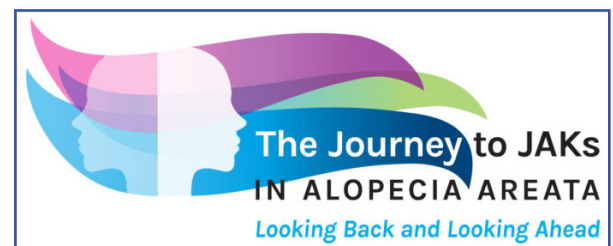
## 2023

### ***The Journey to JAKs at the AAD Meeting | March 16, 2023***

Please mark your calendar and spread the information to your colleagues for our 1-day meeting, "The Journey to JAKs in Alopecia Areata." The meeting will take place one day immediately prior to the start of the 2023 American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) Annual Meeting in New Orleans on Thursday, March 16, 2023, from 10:00AM–7:00PM.

This meeting is intended for dermatologists, pediatricians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, and other clinical providers who have the potential to affect the outcomes of patients with alopecia areata, plus, of course, hair researchers. We will review JAK inhibitors in inflammatory diseases, what we learned from biologics, and the landscape of treatment options for AA. We will discuss related disorders and common pathways and shared mechanisms. Finally, we will have dynamic panel discussion around the new treatment options with patients and managing visits and expectations.

You won't want to miss the valuable information shared, so plan on attending. To register or to see a list of upcoming meetings, please visit our website at <https://americanhairresearchsociety.org/journey-to-jaks/>.



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**AHRS Scientific Meeting and Luncheon at the AAD Annual Meeting | March 17, 2023**

Stay on after the “Journey to JAKs” meeting to attend the AHRS Scientific Meeting and Luncheon on Friday, March 17, 2023, 12:00PM–2:00PM. This year’s annual AHRS luncheon will take place at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel in the Jefferson Ballroom. The scientific program will revolve around “the impact of JAKNIBS in alopecia.” We will also conduct our annual general meeting and present awards for the 2023 Mentorship Program. You may register by contacting the AHRS headquarters at [info@americanhairresearchsociety.org](mailto:info@americanhairresearchsociety.org). AHRS members enjoy a \$0 registration fee and the non-member/guest fee is quite low at \$50.

**AHRS Scientific Live Webinars | April 29, 2023, and December 2, 2023**

We are planning two live scientific webinars this year each 2 hours in length. The April webinar will focus on oral minoxidil for three types of hair loss—telogen effluvium, androgenetic alopecia, and the inflammatory alopecias—and its safety. The December webinar will focus on dutasteride. Registration will be available two months prior to each webinar at <https://americanhairresearchsociety.org/upcoming-meetings/>.

**AHRS Meetings in Latin America | May 2023**

- The AHRS will host a session on May 20, 2023, at the Brazilian Congress on Hair & Nails, which is taking place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Dr. Isabella Doche is organizing the session.
- The AHRS is planning to participate again in the RADLA—Annual Meeting of Latin American Dermatologists—scheduled this year for May 27-30, 2023, in Curitiba, Parana, Brazil. Details will be forthcoming as to the date and time of the AHRS session.

**AHRS Meeting at World Congress of Dermatology | July 3, 2023**

Join us on Monday, July 3, 2023, at the World Congress of Dermatology (WCD) in Singapore for a lively afternoon session—1:30PM–5:30PM—with several expert hair colleagues presenting on a variety of interesting topics, some of which include hair loss in women, menopause and female hair loss, JAKs for AA and JAKs in the pediatric population, as well as pediatric hair disorders and more. The AHRS meeting is being organized by Drs. Jerry Shapiro and Tom Dawson. Those registered for the WCD are welcome to attend the AHRS Session. For more information, please visit <https://americanhairresearchsociety.org/upcoming-meetings/>.





Celebrating the landmarks in AA at the December 2022 AA Summit at the historic New York Academy of Medicine in New York City.





# Australasian Hair and Wool Research Society

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Leslie Jones, PhD, AHWRS Secretary

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM A SUCCESSFUL 12<sup>TH</sup> WORLD CONGRESS FOR HAIR RESEARCH (WCHR)

The 12th World Congress for Hair Research (WCHR) was finally held November 18-21, 2022, in Melbourne, Australia, after two previous postponements due to pandemic and associated lockdowns. Given the very difficult conditions for holding an international meeting,

we felt much relief as the organising committee to achieve a very successful outcome. About 400 delegates attended the full program and various social functions. We remain very grateful for the enduring support of all of our sponsors but in particular for Pfizer and Eli Lilly and the IFHRS who stuck with us from the beginning to the end.

The first day comprised a program of workshops on topics of clinical and scientific interest to the many delegates; George Cotsarelis gave a brilliant overview of hair biology for clinicians, Brett King brought everyone up to date on alopecia areata treatments, Jerry Shapiro spoke on cicatricial hair loss, Andrew Messenger discussed male pattern hair loss, and Smitri Wall spoke about the global initiative to establish an international patient registry for alopecia areata.

The pre-congress workshop was followed by the opening ceremony at which Rod Sinclair presented the history of wool and hair research in Australia and the formation of the Australasian Society. The various presidents of each society then gave short presentations about the various world societies. An opening lecture by Prof. Michael Archer (FAAS) from the University of New South Wales left the attendees in awe as he presented the palaeontology of Australia's past history of flora and fauna. The dinosaurs, marsupial lions, thylacines, and menagerie of mammals and monotremes that once roamed the Australian continent were truly astonishing. The welcome reception followed where delegates were introduced to live Australian animals including snakes, koalas, kangaroos, and native dogs known as dingos.

Over the next three days, various plenary lectures were given by nominated experts from the world societies and other specially invited people with outstanding achievements of interest to our delegates. We were particularly fortunate to have Prof. Andrew Wilks (FAAS) speaking about his discovery while working in the Metcalf lab at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of what he thought was "just another kinase." He described the development of targeted therapies to inhibit these kinases and the important role these JAK inhibitor medications have played in oncology, rheumatology, and now dermatology.

Prof. Stephen Kossard delivered the Professor George Rogers Oration on behalf of the AHWRS. George Rogers (FAAS) passed away in 2021, however, due to COVID lockdowns, his memorial service was only held a week before the congress. Steven Kossard described his original observations on frontal fibrosing alopecia, his detailed investigation of the histology, and his considered naming of the condition. Who would have guessed FFA would become the dominant cicatricial alopecia seen in hair loss clinics?

Claire Higgins delivered a plenary lecture on behalf of the EHRS where she enlightened us on touch receptors in the hair follicle. This segued nicely with Maria Hordinsky's lecture on nerves, neuropeptides, and hair loss given on behalf of the AHRs, and Yuliya Ovcharenko's lecture on psychotrichology on behalf of the Ukrainian Hair Research Society. Ralph Paus joined us by video to speak on hair follicle immune privilege, Hironobu Fujiwara delivered an excellent lecture on trac-



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ing the developmental origin of hair follicle stem cells on behalf of the Japanese Society for Hair Research Science while Professor Chang-Hun Huh delivered the plenary lecture on the myriad of treatments available for MPHL on behalf of the Korean Hair Research Society. George Cotsarelis almost missed delivering his plenary lecture when his airline abruptly brought forward his flight departure, but we managed to accommodate him so we could hear his presentation on developing new treatments for hair loss.

Due to world political events, the Russian and Chinese hair research societies were not represented at the congress.

Conference themes included the following: hair follicle immunology; MPHL and FPHL; trichology; morphogenesis, neogenesis, and tissue engineering; alopecia areata; gene discovery and gene therapy; cicatricial alopecia; transgender hair and health; the dermal papilla; new pathways and targets for drug development; lasers for hair removal and regrowth; trichoscopy; stem cells stem cell niches; hair fibre structure, function, and shine; hair transplantation; pigmentation; minoxidil; hirsutes and hypertrichosis; ethnic hair; paediatric hair loss; emerging treatments for hair loss; platelet-rich plasma; finasteride, dutasteride, and post-finasteride syndrome; and auxiliary cells. The breadth and quality of the presentations was outstanding, and we'd like to particularly thank all the speakers for their time and effort.

The Gala Dinner was an outstanding event where we were all delightfully entertained by Dr. Ahmed Kazmi, one of our previous Hair Fellows. There was also a moving speech from Dr. Yulilia Ovcherenko on behalf of our 20 attending Ukrainian delegates and Dr. Parisa Ariannejad on behalf of Iranian women who seek control over the way they wear their head scarf.

The speaker's dinner was held on a boat cruising on the Yarra river. The boat departed late, but still not late enough for George Cotsarelis, Jerry Shapiro, and Brett King who meandered to the departure dock only to watch the boat sail off without them.

All delegates should have fond memories of the congress, which was a truly unique event at a challenging time in world history when such events have so many obstacles to confront. We truly thank all those delegates who made the special effort to attend this 12th World Congress of Hair Research.

The quality of the presentations and posters, the intensity of the discussion, and the engagement by the delegates and sponsors reassure us that hair research is alive and well post-COVID. Face-to-face meetings of hair experts remain important: this is where juniors find mentors, senior researchers initiate collaborations, and sponsors engage with researchers and clinicians. It is also where lifelong friendships start and are reinforced.

The World Congress of Hair Research remains the pinnacle meeting uniting dermatologists who treat patients with hair disease and research scientists who investigate and translate hair biology and industry.

We look forward to meeting again in Dallas, April 6-9, 2024.

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*The 12th World Congress for Hair Research (WCHR) was a successful in-person meeting filled with excellent sessions and great camaraderie.*



# Chinese Hair Research Society

Jianzhong Zhang, MD, CHRS Chairman | [rmzjz@126.com](mailto:rmzjz@126.com)

## ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES IN 2022

### 6th Annual Meeting of Chinese Hair Research Society

The 6th Annual Meeting of Chinese Hair Research Society was successfully held August 26-28, 2022, in Changsha, China. Organized by the Chinese Hair Research Society and Xiangya Hospital, Central South University, the meeting allowed for either in-person or virtual attendance with approximately 500 participants taking part in person and around 1,300 participants joining the event virtually. Close to 100 domestic and international hair experts were invited who shared their experience on clinic and basic research about hair.

Prof. Jianzhong Zhang, president of the CHRS, and Prof. Xiang Chen, vice-president of Central South University, gave the opening remarks at the meeting. Prof. Jianzhong Zhang next summarized the recent progress and development of the hair research work in China. Invited speaker, Prof. Cheng Ming Chuong from the University of Southern California in the United States, who has many achievements and a great reputation for basic research of animal fur and human skin and hair, presented a keynote speech entitled, "Tao of Integuments and Recent Progresses: Crosstalk Between Biophysical and Biochemical Signals," and expertly interacted with the audience online. Another invited keynote speaker, Prof. Dirk Elston, editor in chief of JAAD, highlighted a series of the best alopecia articles published in JAAD, presenting research on hair-disease-related treatment and providing evidence-based basis for clinic. In addition, dermatologists and hair researchers from domestic hospitals and universities gave brilliant talks on their experience and the latest frontiers in the diagnosis, therapy, and basic research of hair diseases. The annual meeting was a great success and provided Chinese dermatologists the opportunity to gather together and share great ideas and experience.

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Chinese dermatologists had the opportunity to share great ideas and experience at the 2022 6th Annual Meeting of the CHRS.



### Notable Research from CHRS Members

1. Xiangqian Li et al. from Peking University People's Hospital established a non-invasive, easy-to-use, refined wash test (RWT), which is a valuable tool to evaluate daily shedding hairs and which may be useful in the diagnosis, dynamic monitoring of disease progression, and treatment efficacy of androgenetic alopecia (AGA) and telogen effluvium.<sup>1</sup>
2. Zhili Deng et al. from Xiangya Hospital, Central South University, revealed that AR-mediated paracrine signaling induces regression of blood vessels in the dermal papilla in the early stage of AGA, which supports the notion that early anti-AR treatment is better than late treatment.<sup>2</sup>
3. Yingzi Liu et al. from Xiangya Hospital, Central South University, identified that Leptin receptor isoform B (LeprB) is a novel marker gene for the specialized hair follicle mesenchyme-dermal papilla (DP) cells. Hedgehog regulates mesenchymal niche function in the hair follicle via SCUBE3/TGF- $\beta$  mechanism. LeprB is a useful genetic tool for targeting DP cells and SCUBE3 might be a potential target for treating hair loss conditions.<sup>3</sup>
4. Qingmei Liu et al. from Huashan Hospital, Fudan University, revealed involvement of the hypoxia inducible factor (HIF)-1, Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin, and focal adhesion pathways in AGA. Reduction of EGLN1, EGLN3, SERPINF1, and SFRP2 stimulated proliferation of DP cells, and downregulation of EGLN1, EGLN3, and SERPINF1 promoted HF growth, postponed HF catagen transition, and prolonged the anagen stage, suggesting that these genes may be potentially utilized as therapeutic targets for AGA.<sup>4</sup>
5. Zhang Y et al. from Huashan Hospital, Fudan University, showed microneedling combined with minoxidil had better efficacy for female pattern hair loss with safety and tolerance in randomized trial.<sup>5</sup>
6. Shuying Lv et al. from China-Japan Friendship Hospital predicted the mechanism of Shaoyao Gancao Decoction in the treatment of alopecia areata by network pharmacology, and they identified that it closely related to the PI3K/AKT signaling pathway.<sup>6</sup>
7. Danchen Hu et al. from Peking University First Hospital compared the advantages and disadvantages between quantitative trichoscopy analysis and pathologic examination in evaluating hair parameters. The data obtained from trichoscopy and pathological examination are different to some extent, and cannot be substituted entirely for each other.<sup>7</sup>
8. Yuqian Wang et al. from the First Affiliated Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine, reported on the efficacy and safety of baricitinib in Chinese patients with refractory alopecia areata.<sup>8</sup>
9. Yuxin Ding et al. from the Second Affiliated Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine, reported on an integrative analysis of the lncRNA-miRNA-mRNA competitive endogenous RNA network, which revealed potential mechanisms in the murine hair follicle cycle.<sup>9</sup>

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8. Wang Y, Liu T, Li S, et al. Efficacy and safety of baricitinib in patients with refractory alopecia areata. *Dermatol Ther*. 2022:e15845.
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***Other Academic Activities in 2022***

1. The Chinese guideline for the diagnosis and treatment of androgenetic alopecia is being updated and the new version of Chinese guidelines for AGA is expected to be published in 2023.
2. Many multicenter clinical trials for new drug development for AGA (such as topical finasteride spray and a new androgen receptor (AR) antagonist KX-826) and severe AA (such as a pan-JAK inhibitor, jaktinib, and a JAK-1 inhibitor, SHR-0302) are ongoing in China; more than 50 different research centers are involved.

***Continuing Medical Education Programs on Hair loss in 2022***

1. The 4th symposium on updates on hair disorders and cosmetic dermatology was held by Peking University People's Hospital, September 23-25, in Beijing.
2. A symposium for pigmented and hair loss diseases was held by Huashan Hospital, Fudan University, November 20, in Shanghai.
3. A symposium on dermatologic surgery and new advances on hair transplantation was held by Huashan Hospital, Fudan University, September 16-18, in Shanghai.
4. A series of monthly Ying-Hua Hair online forums (from the 1st to the 11th) was held by China-Japan Friendship Hospital, in Beijing.
5. The 2022 practical technical training course was held by China-Japan Friendship Hospital, Hair Specialist Medical Association, October 29-30, in Beijing.
6. A seminar on alopecia cases was held by Guangdong Medical Cosmetology Association, July 17, in Guangzhou.

**UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN 2023**

The 7th Annual Meeting of the CHRS will be held in Chongqing city, China, in 2023.



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**Sergio Vañó Galván, MD, PhD, EHRS Secretary** | [secretary@ehrs.org](mailto:secretary@ehrs.org)

## 2022 HAIR MEETINGS: FINALLY BACK TO IN PERSON

After such a long time that hair meetings were only held virtually or with restrictions, we were finally able to meet again in person. Recently, we gathered together for two important and excellent hair meetings:

1. The **First Barcelona Hair Meeting: A Practical Approach to Hair Problems with International Speakers** was held September 29–October 1. Organized by EHRS Secretary Sergio Vañó Galván and EHRS member Dr. Ramon Grimalt, this meeting was dedicated to the clinical approach to hair problems with an emphasis on new diagnostic tools and treatments for common (and not so common) hair disorders.

The EHRS held a special session during this meeting, and the prestigious John Ebling Lecture Award was given to Prof. Abraham Zlotogorski, who has contributed vastly to hair research. Prof. Zlotogorski reviewed his fascinating scientific career and discussed his findings in the field of genetic hair diseases.

The EHRS gave a total of 10 travel grants to early career investigators to attend the meeting. Of these, 5 grants were given to UHRS members.

2. The **World Congress for Hair Research** was held November 18-21 in Melbourne, Australia. The meeting was organized brilliantly by president of the Australian Hair and Wool Research Society, Prof. Rodney Sinclair, and was attended by all the hair research societies that are part of the International Federation of Hair Research Societies. The meeting served as an opportunity to meet with our colleagues from all over the globe.

Dr. Claire Higgins, EHRS president, represented our society at the meeting by giving the EHRS lecture titled, “Touch Sensation in the Hair Follicle.” Many excellent talks were given at the meeting by prominent hair researchers, many of whom are also members of the EHRS.



*Prof. Abraham Zlotogorski received the prestigious John Ebling Lecture Award.*



*Dr. Claire Higgins, EHRS president, gave a lecture on touch sensation in the hair follicle at WCHR 2022.*

## TURNING OF THE EHRS BOARD

Prof. Bianca Maria Piraccini has served as president of the EHRS during difficult times and has contributed a lot from her experience and knowledge to the society throughout this challenging period. The EHRS thanked Prof. Piraccini for her long and continuous support during the general assembly of the EHRS that took place during the First Barcelona Hair Meeting. During Prof. Piraccini's tenure as president, she championed enhancing communication between members. She oversaw development of the new website with a member portal and member connection features. She also oversaw introduction of collaboration grants for movement of researchers between EHRS member labs, in addition to introduction of the Remote Symposia series, which we have been holding via Zoom since 2020.

The general assembly approved the election of Dr. Claire Higgins as the new president of the EHRS. Dr. Higgins is a Reader in the Department of Bioengineering in Imperial College, London, with a vast number of publications in the field of hair research. She is also a valuable member of the EHRS having served as a member of the board since 2015 and as the secretary of the society since 2017. During her tenure, Dr. Higgins plans to encourage and enhance participation of Early Career Investigators in the society and in hair research. This will start at EHRS2023 for which she is Programme Chair; there will be breakfast session only for Early Career Investigators.

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Dr. Sergio Vañó Galván was elected our new secretary. Dr. Vano Galván is a well-known dermatologist who serves as a director of the Trichology Unit of the Ramón y Cajal University Hospital and the Trichology and Hair Transplant Unit of the Pedro Jaén Group Clinic, in Madrid.

The EHRS also would like to thank Dr. Tatiana Siliuk, from Russia, for her term as a board member, and would like to welcome our new board members: Dr. Andrey Panteleyev from Russia and Prof. Lidia Rudnicka from Poland.

## COMING IN 2023: THE 20TH EHRS MEETING | SHEFFIELD, UK

We are extremely excited to have our own EHRS meeting soon! The 20th EHRS meeting will be held in Sheffield, UK, June 14-16, 2023. Make sure to mark these dates in your calendar and to prepare your abstracts. Abstract submission will open on January 1, 2023, and details on the submission guidelines can be found at <https://www.ehrs2023.com/abstracts>. Please also take advantage of the early bird registration fees and register for the meeting at <https://www.ehrs2023.com/registration>. A member discount on registration is available for members of the EHRS and any of our IFHRS sister societies. There is also a discounted Early Career Investigator rate that covers students, registrars, and postdocs, so please encourage members of your teams to attend.

The EHRS will offer the usual travel grants for its members, so stay tuned for information on how to apply. In addition, thanks to a generous sponsor, the meeting organizers will offer an additional 10 travel grants covering registration and £500 travel costs to help delegates attend the meeting. To find out more details on these grants, go to the meeting website at <https://www.ehrs2023.com/>.

If the EHRS alone is not enough for you, the EHRS is teaming up with the International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery (ISHRS) and the British Association of Hair Restoration Surgery (BAHRS) in Sheffield to bring you a whole week of hair-related events! The ISHRS is holding a 1-day surgical workshop in Manchester on 12th June, while BAHRS is holding a 1-day conference in The Diamond on 13th June. The EHRS meeting is also being held at The Diamond in Sheffield, and delegates attending both the BAHRS and the EHRS meetings can get a 10% discount if they register for the two meetings together.

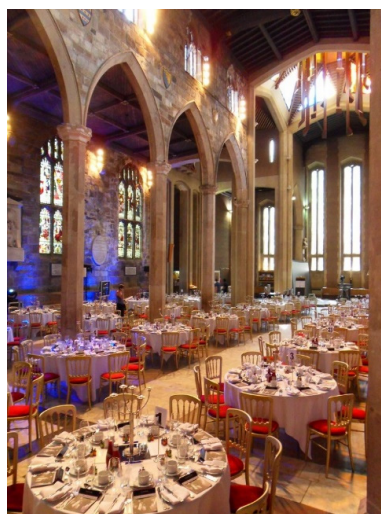
The programme for the meeting is almost complete. We are pleased to have Dr. Mirna Perez Moreno and Prof. Ncoza Dlova as our Basic Science and Clinical Keynote speakers. Prof. Ramon Girmalt will also receive the prestigious John Ebling award at the meeting. Other than an exciting lecture programme, the social events promise to be a highlight of the meeting: we have the Sheffield Cathedral reserved for the Gala Dinner and the Winter Gardens, the largest urban greenhouse in Europe, reserved for the Welcome Reception.

## EHRS REMOTE SYMPOSIUMS

Although we have the opportunity to meet in person, we don't want to lose the option to meet virtually, and we are continuing the tradition of the successful EHRS remote symposiums. The last symposium was held last month, organized by Prof. Julia Ovcharenko, and it focused on psychotrichology. The symposium was extremely successful, with interesting talks from Julia Ovcharenko, Mohammed Jafferany, Ruta Barkauskaite, and Julie Carr. Details on the next virtual symposium will be sent to members of the society soon via the member connection portal on the EHRS website.



Newly elected EHRS leadership: Dr. Sergio Vañó Galván (left), secretary, and Dr. Claire Higgins (right), president.



The Sheffield Cathedral (left) and Winter Gardens (right) provide beautiful venues to host our Gala Dinner and Welcome Reception.



# The Korean Hair Research Society

**Chang Hun Huh, MD, PhD, Secretary General/International Relationship Director of KHRS |**  
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## 2022 ACTIVITIES

### 20th Hair Forum 2022

The 20th Hair Forum 2022 of the Korean Hair Research Society was held in person at the Yousung Hotel Star Ballroom in Daejeon on August 20, 2022. The Hair Forum Part 1 witnessed interesting free communication presentations, various comments, and lively discussions. The Hair Forum Part 2 presented a lecture offering advice for those who had started hair-related basic research. In the Hair Forum Part 3, four recipients of the 2022 KHRS research grants introduced and discussed their research plans.



Group photo from the 20th Hair Forum.

### Symposium at The 74th Korean Dermatological Association (KDA) Autumn Meeting

The 74th KDA Autumn Meeting was held at the Intercontinental COEX Hotel, Seoul, October 15-16, 2022. The KHRS had a symposium for scientific exchange entitled, "Emerging technologies for hair research." Along with a lecture on hair biology, the symposium included lively discussions on the latest scientific findings on the analysis of hair structure using single cell sequencing, which has been used in a variety of recent basic research, and hair loss prediction using alopecia associated genomic variants. In addition, the KHRS was selected as an excellent symposium of the 74th KDA Autumn Meeting.



Education Director of the KHRS, Bark Lynn Lew (left), received an academic award from the president of the KDA.

### Autumn Workshop in Busan

The executive board of the KHRS held a workshop in Busan, October 29-30, 2022. In a pleasant atmosphere, the members had time to share their own useful life tips. Seoul National University Professor Hyeon-Seon Park received the most favorable responses and won the grand prize.

### The 8th Hair Education Program

The 2022 KHRS Continuing Medical Education (CME) was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Swiss Grand Hotel on December 3, 2022. At the CME titled, "Dive into the Right Practice in Hair Diseases," attendees shared and discussed in depth the latest findings and diagnosis of various hair loss diseases. To be helpful in clinical practice, the CME provided lectures on necessary tests for hair loss, such as blood tests and dermoscopy, the diagnosis and treatment of hair loss caused by hypotrichosis, scarring alopecia, and chemotherapy induced hair loss, and the latest findings on androgenetic alopecia, alopecia areata, and COVID-19 and hair loss.



Group photo from workshop in Busan.

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## Reclusive Patient Medical Support Campaign of the KHRS

The KHRS, which joined the Reclusive Patient Medical Support Campaign as the first member of angel societies in the last year, has been supporting pediatric patients with severe alopecia areata in need of wigs; we provided wigs to 47 pediatric patients in the first half of 2022. Oh-Sang Kwon, Vice President of the KHRS, received a letter of appreciation at the 15th National Volunteer Conference.

## KEY RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Over the past several months, the KSHRS has had several articles/research that were published:



Vice President of the KHRS, Oh-Sang Kwon (right), received a letter of appreciation from Standing Representative.

1. Moon IJ, Yoon HK, Kim D, et al. Efficacy of asymmetric siRNA targeting androgen receptors for the treatment of androgenetic alopecia. *Mol Pharm.* 2022 Nov 9.

**Summary:** The authors developed a cell-penetrating, AR-targeting asiRNA (cp-asiAR) for AGA treatment. They validated it using AGA mouse models and ex vivo human scalp tissues. Cp-asiAR treatment showed effective downregulation of AR expression and prevention of DHT-mediated alterations in the hair cycle and hair diameter, indicating its potential as a novel therapeutic option for AGA.

2. Choi GS, Sim WY, Kang H, et al. Long-term effectiveness and safety of dutasteride versus finasteride in patients with male androgenic alopecia in South Korea: A multicentre chart review study. *Ann Dermatol.* 2022 Oct;34(5):349-359.

**Summary:** To describe long-term safety and effectiveness of dutasteride versus finasteride, the authors conducted a multicentre, retrospective study in South Korea (n=600). They observed that dutasteride had greater effectiveness than finasteride and a similar or possibly lower occurrence of overall AEs.

3. Yu DA, Jang S, Ohn J, et al. Protective effect of autophagy in particulate matter-induced hair loss. *J Dermatol Sci.* 2022 Sep;107(3):173-176.

**Summary:** The authors investigated the harmful effects of particulate matter (PM) on hair growth and the role of autophagy upon PM exposure in HFs both ex vivo and in vivo. They demonstrated the detrimental effects of PM on hair growth and suggest autophagy as a potential defense mechanism against PM-induced hair loss.

4. Choi JW, Kim YH, Kwak H, et al. Impact of pediatric alopecia areata on quality of life of patients and their family members: a nationwide multicenter questionnaire study. *Ann Dermatol.* 2022 Aug;34(4):237-244.

**Summary:** To observe pediatric alopecia areata's (AA) affect on the quality of life (QoL) of patients and their family members, the authors conducted a nationwide multicenter questionnaire study. QoL scores were higher in patients with extensive AA than those with mild to moderate AA. The economic and time burden of the family members also increased as the severity of the disease increased.

5. Shin JM, Lee YY, Kim KM, et al. The potential role of fibroblast-derived multi-peptide factors in activation of growth factors and  $\beta$ -Catenin in hair follicle cells. *J Cosmet Dermatol.* 2022 Jun 28.

**Summary:** To investigate the stimulatory effects of multi-peptide factors (MPFs)-containing dermal fibroblast-conditioned medium (DFCM) on hair growth, the authors cultured outer root sheath (ORS) and dermal papilla (DP) cells in MPF-containing DFCM and examined the expression and secretion of growth factors and cytokines. They suggest that MPF-containing DFCM might stimulate hair growth by inducing growth factors in ORS and DP cells.

6. Kim IY, Kim JH, Choi JE, et al. The first broad replication study of SNPs and a pilot genome-wide association study for androgenetic alopecia in Asian populations. *J Cosmet Dermatol.* 2022 Jun 26.

**Summary:** This study aimed to confirm the known susceptibility genes and find additional candidate genes for high-risk individuals for androgenetic alopecia (AGA) in Korean population. The authors conducted the genome-wide association study (GWAS) using 275 AGA cases and 146 controls. A total of 1,143 SNPs in 76 gene regions showed weak replication tendency with the p-values  $<0.05$  and same direction of effects. Additionally, the GWAS results showed 110 SNPs in 13 independent regions with the suggestive p-values  $<1.00 \times 10^{-5}$ .

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## THE YEAR AHEAD: 2023

### *The 19th Annual Meeting of the KHRS*

The KHRS is planning to hold the 19th Annual Meeting of the KHRS in 2023, which has been held as a domestic conference so far, as an international meeting.

### *Pursuing Reimbursement Coverage of JAK Inhibitor*

The KHRS plans to organize and operate a task force to receive an approval for medical insurance reimbursement coverage for JAK inhibitor, an FDA-approved drug for alopecia areata, in Korea.

**Tatiana Silyuk, MD, RHRS President** | [tatianasiliuk@gmail.com](mailto:tatianasiliuk@gmail.com) | <https://rhirs.pro/>

Dear colleagues,

Summing up the results achieved by the RHRS in 2022, we would like to express hope that the overall situation will stabilize in the upcoming 2023. Without doubt, 2022 has been a very difficult year in all aspects of life for our society, causing deep and sincere concerns.

We make every effort to keep the RHRS work at highest efficiency and are very grateful to our international colleagues for their professional support.

From June 30–July 2, St. Petersburg hosted the annual RHRS Congress (which was held instead of the postponed EHRS meeting) in association with the first Advanced Trichoscopy course in Russia. This joint event brought together 237 participants from 53 cities of Russia and Belarus. A substantial list of speakers included several online presentations from Italy, the USA, Switzerland, Egypt, Spain, Brazil, Mexico, and Chile. We are grateful to Antonella Tosti, Bianca Maria Piraccini, Michela Starace, Matilde Iorizzo, May El Samahy, Ramon Grimalt, Sergio Vañó Galván, Isabella Doche, Daniel Asz Sigall, and Jorge Larrondo for the valuable scientific contribution to the program of the congress!



*The joint RHRS 2022 Congress and first Advanced Trichoscopy course in St. Petersburg brought together 237 participants.*

In September and November, the RHRS held two offline courses: the first, on scarring alopecia, was held in St. Petersburg and was attended by 27 participants; the second, on alopecia areata, was held in Moscow and was attended by 33 participants. Both were held in a warm atmosphere and with great interest from the participants.



*Two in-person courses took place in 2022.*

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The final face-to-face event of the year was “Day of Power—Androgenetic Alopecia.” This meeting was held December 6 in Moscow and had 122 participants who came from Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan. The international part of the meeting was represented by three great lectures given online by Ratchathorn Panchaprateep (Thailand), Paulo Ramos (Brazil), and Matilde Iorizzo (Switzerland). On December 5, this scientific meeting was preceded by a major social event of the year, the Gala Dinner for members of the society. As of this date, the RHRS had 333 active society members.



*The final face-to-face event of the year was “Day of Power—Androgenetic Alopecia.”*

The online activity of the RHRS was extended by two webinars—1) Pharmacogenomics in Hair Disorders (speaker, Andrey Doroshkevich) and 2) World Trichology News (speaker, Tatiana Silyuk)—held in November and December 2022, respectively.

Thus, in 2022, the RHRS organized 6 in-person events and held 5 online meetings with a total number of participants at in-person events of 467.

In addition, in late November 2022, the members of the RHRS took part in the National Congress of Regenerative Medicine (held November 23-26 in Moscow), which is the major annual event in the field of biomedicine in Russia with more than 1,500 participants. RHRS members gave 5 talks and presented multiple posters on different aspects of skin and hair follicle functioning.

At the end, we would like to inform the members of the IFHRS community that in 2022 Dr. Andrey Panteleyev was elected the new president of the RHRS. We also congratulate Dr. Panteleyev on his election to the board of the EHRS and thank everyone who supported his candidacy! The new vice president of the RHRS is now Dr. Andrey Doroshkevich.

We once again thank our friends and colleagues for their support during this turbulent time and wish everyone a Happy New Year and all the best in personal and professional life!





# The Society for Hair Science Research (Japan)

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## UPDATES ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY FOR HAIR SCIENCE RESEARCH (SHSR)

The influence of the COVID pandemic on academic/social activities had been moderated in Japan (unfortunately, it has begun spreading again here in Tokyo) enabling SHSR members to actively show their presence again in the field of dermatology and basic skin research. Indeed, thanks to the relaxation of intramural restriction on overseas travel, this author was able to join the November World Congress of Hair Research 2022 that was held in Melbourne. The trip was this author's first overseas travel after the cessation of going abroad lasted for three years, and it was truly a lovely experience (both the meeting and the city!). The SHSR secretary general, Prof. Yutaka Shimomura (Yamaguchi Univ.) and a member of the board of directors, Dr. Hironobu Fujiwara (RIKEN), along with young researchers attended the WCHR, gave talks, and enjoyed renewing old friendships with attendees coming from all over the world. The meeting was well organized, and the program was excellent; this was greatly appreciated by all attendees.

Representing the SHSR, Dr. Fujiwara gave a special lecture on his and his colleagues' recent landmark discovery, introducing "telescope model" of hair follicle morphogenesis, which can be adopted as a generalized model for the development of ectodermal organ architecture. This author and Prof. Shimomura joined the IFHRS board meeting and exchanged our thoughts on the future plans for IFHRS and WCHR. The SHSR also enjoyed social events and interacting with international colleagues.

The SHSR mission includes educating on the current understanding of hair biology and providing updates on the management of hair disease to basic researchers and clinicians (mostly dermatologists). In this regard, SHSR members organized an educational session at the 86th Annual Meeting of the Tokyo division of the Japanese Dermatological Association (JDA). Unfortunately,

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Dr. Hironobu Fujiwara (RIKEN) gave a talk on recent seminal discovery in hair follicle morphogenesis representing the SHSR.



This author (right) and the WCHR2022 president, Prof. Rod Sinclair, at the welcome reception.



This author (left) and the SHSR secretary general Prof. Yutaka Shimomura at the registration of the WCHR2022 in Melbourne.



SHSR members enjoy interaction with German and Singaporean colleagues at the WCHR 2022 gala dinner.



the date was the same as that of WCHR2022, and so some SHSR members could not join the WCHR as the result of overlapping schedules. Dr. Misaki Kinoshita-Ise (SHSR manager, Kyorin Univ.) chaired a trichoscopy session by Prof. Lidia Ludnicka (EHRS, Medical Univ. of Warsaw) and also gave an educational lecture that provided an update on inflammatory hair diseases with a focus on the diagnostic procedure. Prof. Shimomura successfully gave his educational talk on genetic hair diseases remotely from Melbourne!

Possibly because of the emergence of JAK inhibitors as a treatment for severe alopecia areata (AA), hair loss diseases have been attracting a great deal of interest in the field of dermatological research. At the 47th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Investigative Dermatology (JSID; December 2-4, 2022), two presentations respectively from this author and Prof. Taisuke Ito's group reporting on the novel aspect of AA pathophysiology were selected as concurrent oral sessions. In addition, bringing great pleasure to the SHSR, Dr. Misaki Kinoshita-Ise won the competitive JSID young investigator award for her high productivity in the hair science research. She, together with Prof. Ito, also gave educational talks on hair diseases in a sponsored seminar that attracted a fair number of audiences.

It was fortunate that many foreign researchers visited this JSID. As a part of exchange program between the Society for Investiga-



*Dr. Misaki Kinoshita-Ise (left; SHSR manager) received the JSID young investigator award for her achievement in the field of hair research at the 47th Annual Meeting of the JSID (Nagasaki).*



*Dr. Allen Si Won Oak (U PENN Dermatology; second from the right) attended the hair disease clinic at Kyorin University Hospital and enjoyed interaction with Japanese young colleagues.*

tive Dermatology and the JSID, several young researchers stayed for a while after the annual meeting and made visits to several institutes to further enhance interaction between the societies. As a part of the program, this author's hair disease clinic at Kyorin Univ. Hospital hosted Dr. Allen Si Won Oak (Cotsarelis Lab. Dept. of Dermatology, Univ. Pennsylvania School of Med.), who was originally visiting the Dept. of Dermatology, Keio University School of Med. This was a good opportunity to enhance interactions between young physicians and researchers, in this case, based in the United States and Japan.

The SHSR makes it a rule not to hold its own annual meeting in the year of the WCHR. We are planning to hold a virtual board of director meeting and general assembly next January.

It has been almost half year since baricitinib was officially approved for severe alopecia areata. Despite the hard efforts made by key SHSR members in conjunction with the JDA to publicize the proper use of this new treatment modality, misuse due to insufficient understanding of the nature of medication and/or adaptation criteria is still seen. As an additional JAK inhibitor is currently under consideration by the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency in Japan, the SHSR will continue its endeavor to correct misinformation and to educate on the use of JAK inhibitors for AA to secure medical safety while maintaining maximal efficacy.



# UHRS Ukrainian Hair Research Society

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Dear colleagues, we have a great tradition to summarize the results of the professional year. On behalf of the Ukrainian Hair Research Society (UHRS) we would like to express our main words of gratitude to the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) for the fact that we are alive and that we are able to continue our scientific and educational projects. For many years, we have been bringing together specialists interested in the development of trichology: promote scientific research in hair, implement educational programs, support young researchers, develop professional connections between leading scientific associations, implement Good Clinical Practice in trichology, and organize effective interaction with patients. But today our main task is to support each other and do everything for our decisive victory and to demonstrate that the strength is in unity.

The war has become a real challenge for all of us—for a person, for a citizen, and for a doctor. We can state with absolute certainty that the role of psychodermatology has never been more important, especially now when we in Ukraine are experiencing collective psychotrauma—both patients and doctors. Today's Ukrainian dermatologists are learning how to help patients in crisis situations. Those of our colleagues who stayed in Ukraine most often can only provide remote consultations, without any access to the full range of highly effective potential currently available in modern medicine. Those of our colleagues who were forced to leave the country had to quickly learn the differences in health systems and build relationships with local colleagues all over the world. In the face of Ukrainian doctors, we would like to express our gratitude for the tremendous support we are receiving from our colleagues all over the world. This is the driving force behind our ability to care for our patients.

## CHARITY

We have created a CHARITY FOUNDATION to help UHRS members who have suffered from Russian aggression. The result of this work is personal financial assistance to Ukrainian colleagues, humanitarian aid to Ukrainian hospitals, and assistance to the AFU. Thanks to the UHRS partners, we were able to purchase two vehicles for the frontline, which are now helping to protect our sky.

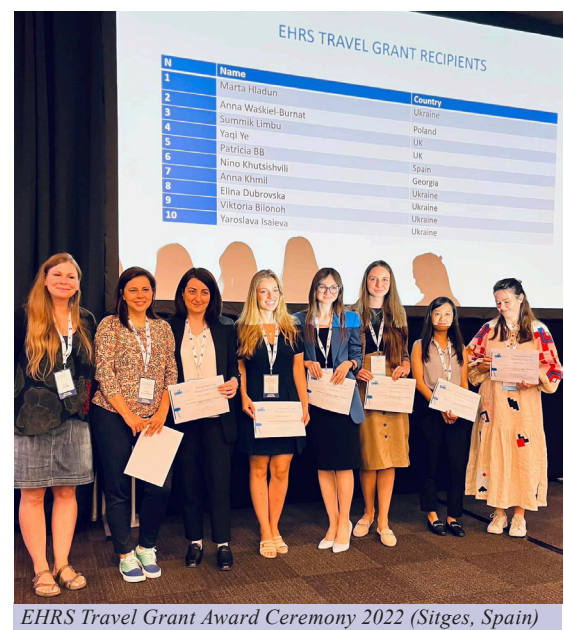
## SCHOOL OF ALOPECIA

Despite any inconveniences, "School of Alopecia" continues to work, helping patients with alopecia areata from all over Ukraine. Traditionally, we held a charity all-Ukrainian flash mob of free consultations on International Alopecia Day, and we helped a young volunteer to buy a hair replacement system (<https://www.facebook.com/inessa.serbina.9/posts/597837331951170>).

## COLLEGIATE SOLIDARITY

Never before have different countries of the world been so close to us as they are now! Ukraine is really lucky to have friends who have extended their helping hand.

In order to facilitate the participation of the UHRS members in the First Barcelona Hair Meeting, our Spanish colleagues set a reduced registration fee. The second largest team of 25 doctors represented Ukraine at the Barcelona meeting. Another example of collegial solidarity was the support of young Ukrainian scientists who were awarded with 5 travel grants for original clinical research by the European Hair Research Society (EHRS). We thank the EHRS Board for the decision that supported Ukrainian clinicians in this difficult time.



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The Australasian Hair and Wool Research Society (AAHWRS) also provided unprecedented support to Ukrainian doctors by inviting members of the UHRS to participate in the WCHR2022 in Melbourne for free. Despite the tragic circumstances, 8 doctors of the Ukrainian team took an active part in the work of the Melbourne meeting. For the first time as a friendly society, we presented the work of our society since Ukraine was adopted by the Federation Board into the international trichological family. This is an award that gave us incentive to further improve our activities. At WCHR2022, we presented our original research on psychotrichology.



Board Meeting of IFHRS at the WCHR2022 (Melbourne, Australia)

The recent Alopecia Areata Summit, organized by the American Hair Research Society (AHRS), was devoted to JAK inhibitors as a new class of drugs to treat patients with alopecia areata. At the friendly invitation of American colleagues, 200 Ukrainian doctors took an active part in the summit, where once again we were able to show real unity and thirst for development and knowledge.



Ukrainian team at WCHR2022 (Melbourne, Australia)



Plenary session by UHRS at the WCHR2022 (Melbourne, Australia)

## RESEARCH

The main scientific topics of the UHRS on the study of alopecia areata, androgenetic alopecia, and trichoscopy were added to by a new direction—psychotrichology. The UHRS research activity takes place in cooperation with two universities of the country: V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University and Kyiv Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education. Among original hair research in Ukraine, several topics are being developed as part of preparation of PhD and doctoral theses: 1) development of clinical pathogenetic variants of androgenetic alopecia and search for differentiated therapy, 2) investigation of the efficacy of various therapeutic approaches to the treatment of androgenetic alopecia taking into account their influence on the processes of immune inflammation and regeneration, 3) optimization of planning and evaluation of the efficacy of hair autotransplantation in patients with androgenetic alopecia using mathematical modeling, and 4) alopecia areata epidemiology in Ukraine: creation of an all-Ukrainian national registry of patients with alopecia areata within the framework of the global GRAAS project.

## MILITARY DERMATOLOGY

Military dermatology has become the most challenging task. Based on the experiences of the wars in Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Bosnia, and Afghanistan, the structure of the dominant dermatological nosology in military personnel and civilians in combat environment was analyzed. It is obvious that among these diseases, nosologies caused by external actions, as well as dermatoses caused by psychotrauma, were identified. Despite the fact that the role of stress in the occurrence and recurrence of some chronic dermatoses was previously considered, the modern paradigm calls for revision. According to preliminary statistical data of eight specialized dermatotrichological clinics of Ukraine, it has been possible to notice an increase in the incidence of five nosological diseases in military personnel and civilians in the war zone compared to the previous year: psoriasis, seborrheic dermatitis, telogen effluvium, alopecia areata, and pressure alopecia.

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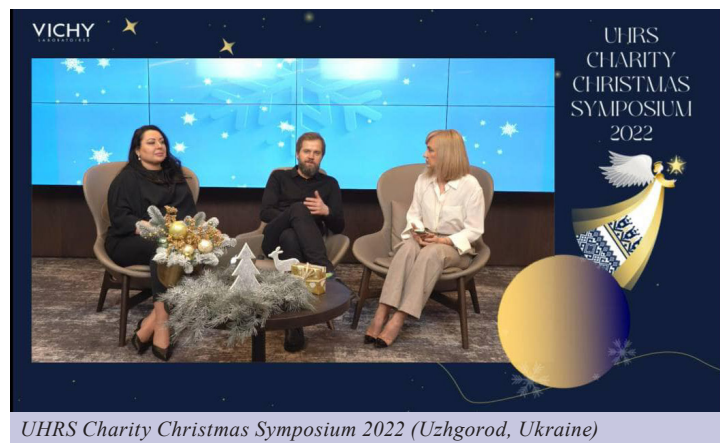


## CREATION OF PROFESSIONAL LITERATURE

We are proud to have created a whole library for trichologists, and we are still working on it. In 2021, a monograph on psychotrichology was added to our literature collection; it is the first one in the world on this topic, and we presented it exactly one year ago at the 3rd UHRS Congress. We are happy to announce that the English-language version will be released in 2023.

## NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONGRESSES

In 2022, we were planning a completely different scale of the congress, since we are used to a relentless motion forward. But the war changed our lives and plans. On December 17, we dared to hold the UHRS CHARITY CHRISTMAS SYMPOSIUM 2022 (<https://www.symposium2022.uhrs.org.ua/>) It is people who have given life to our Christmas symposium, just like at all previous ones. Ukrainian headliners Yuliya Ovcharenko, Inessa Serbina, Kuzma Khobzei, and Yuliya Kachuk are residents of hero cities. No matter what, our country stands and so do we! We do not just stand aside, but sincerely invest our strength and knowledge into the development and future of Ukrainian trichology. The scientific component of the congress was devoted to the most common hair pathology—*androgenetic alopecia (AGA)*—and it was highly aimed at clinical practice. Recognized world experts Drs. Lidia Rudnicka, Nino Lortkipanidze, Maryanne Makredes Senna, Sergio Vañó Galván, and Antonella Tosti joined us to discuss the latest innovations in the field of diagnostics and therapy of AGA. Participation in the traditional clinical trichoscopic quiz presented the winners of the contest with pleasant Christmas surprises, the monograph “Psychotrichology.” The proceeds from the sold tickets were used to help military doctors: our colleagues at the frontline. Every day we should remember what a high price it is we are paying to approach the victory and support our colleagues who are saving the fighters!



*UHRS Charity Christmas Symposium 2022 (Uzhgorod, Ukraine)*

## BIRTH OF THE “UKRAINE BRAND”

Today, the brand of Ukraine is being born—the brand of freedom, dignity, and honor. Even while being under attack, being without electricity, and having scarred wings, we continue to fly. And the history of Ukrainian trichology goes on.

On behalf of the members of the UHRS, we would like to say thank you to all of our colleagues who have shared our pain and who have been providing us with constant humanitarian aid, who have participated in our charity projects, and who have assisted us in obtaining travel grants and employment for our Ukrainian colleagues. Together we are bound to win!

We are wishing all friendly societies many reasons for inspiring encounters and pride in working together in a Happy, Peaceful New Year 2023!

## Staff and Member Societies

*Chair:* Wilma F. Bergfeld, MD

*Executive Secretary:* Victoria Ceh, MPA

*Immediate Past Chair:* Gillian Westgate, PhD

*Managing Editor, IFHRS Newsletter:* Cheryl Duckler

### IFHRS MEMBER SOCIETIES

American Hair Research Society – founding member

Australasian Hair and Wool Research Society – founding member

Chinese Hair Research Society

European Hair Research Society – founding member

The Korean Hair Research Society – founding member

Russian Hair Research Society

The Society for Hair Science Research – founding member

Ukrainian Hair Research Society

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