ABSTRACT BOOK
ABSTRACTS

24TH WORLD CONGRESS
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# HEURISTIC IN A DERMATOLOGIC APPROACH TO SKIN DISEASE

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Little has been published on how we make diagnoses in dermatology, where we err and how we can improve our diagnoses. Based on previous findings in cognitive research, flawed thinking and misinterpretation of visual findings are the most likely cause of most diagnostic error in dermatology.  This talk focuses on heuristics used specifically in dermatologic approach to disease, with clinical examples given to demonstrate how a heuristic approach is helpful but needs to be monitored for cognitive and visual traps.

Discussion: Examples are given of the classic eight diagnostic heuristics of dermatology: Primary lesion, morphology/shape, location, distribution, pattern, color, feel/texture and context. A better understanding of how a dermatologist traditionally approaches disease can help physicians avert some predictable diagnostic error.

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