

SPOTLIGHT ON ACNE

May 2025



A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Readers,

We are pleased to present our first issue of *Spotlight on Acne*, an educational e-newsletter dedicated to a chronic skin condition that currently affects 5.6 million Canadians.

Since 2014, the Acne and Rosacea Society of Canada (ARSC) has served as a trusted online resource hub for individuals struggling with acne. Our close ties with leading dermatologists in the field have allowed us to stay abreast of the latest research in acne, while our popular social media campaigns have helped disseminate valuable information to patients across the country. Committed to raising awareness and providing comprehensive education, ARSC has earned an excellent reputation with the public and medical community as the top, highly respected, not-for-profit organization spearheading acne efforts in Canada.

On behalf of ARSC, I would like to thank you – our loyal supporters – for championing our mission and cheering our progress over the years. Together, we will continue to drive change forward and contribute to a brighter future for Canadians with acne.

Warm regards,

Kathy Giangaspero

Inside this issue...

News

Medical Research
Industry
Social Media

Recommended
Seal Program

Acne Global
Education Day

Did you know?

What's new? Medical Research

A cross-sectional, internet survey has revealed that stigmatizing public attitudes toward individuals with acne exist, especially if the person's condition is severe and/or they have a darker skin tone. Read more [here](#).

According to a qualitative study, antibiotic-prescribing decisions are influenced by a complex interplay of factors in addition to clinical guidelines, thereby highlighting the need for comprehensive stewardship programs in dermatology. Click [here](#) to learn more.

What's new? Social Media

Instagram

ARSC has a new [Instagram page](#) dedicated to raising awareness about acne and acne management. Follow us [@acneaction_arsc](#) and invite members of your network to do the same!

LinkedIn

Last fall, ARSC launched its LinkedIn profile to further raise awareness of our thriving organization and the important work that we do. Check it out [here!](#)

Recommended Seal Program

ARSC's [Recommended Seal Program](#) serves as a reliable, unbiased resource to find effective over-the-counter acne treatments that are available in Canada.

To obtain ARSC's [Recommended Seal](#), the product must contain ingredients that are considered effective for acne, be deemed safe, and have undergone an independent scientific review by dermatologists.

Send your inquiries to: info@acneandrosacea.com

What's new? Industry

The 1726 nm laser is a new acne treatment which targets sebaceous glands. It can be used in all skin types and may provide long-term efficacy. Given its cost, it is typically considered in patients with persistent acne who do not tolerate other therapies or would like a treatment option that does not involve medications. Learn more about this therapy [here](#).

Recent findings show that benzoyl peroxide found in prescription and non-prescription acne medications is not linked to higher levels of benzene in the blood or an increased risk of developing cancer. The FDA has recommended that only a small number of products* be recalled at the retail level. Click [here](#) for the full article.

*Note: The La Roche-Posay product mentioned on the recall list is not a product/formulation that is available in Canada. The product sold in Canada that is approved by the Acne and Rosacea of Canada's Seal program has a similar name (La Roche-Posay Effaclar Duo+M) but does not contain benzoyl peroxide and is not subject to this voluntary recall. In fact, all La Roche-Posay products available in Canada do not contain benzoyl peroxide.

Acne Global Education Day June 7, 2025



Dr. Jerry Tan, international expert on acne, scarring and rosacea and ARSC's past president, will be hosting an [Acne Global Education Day](#) on June 7, 2025, with virtual presentations by world renowned acne leaders. This exciting event will be presented on the Global Dermatology platform on a complimentary [registration](#) basis.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to learn about the latest breakthroughs in acne pathophysiology, treatment innovations and patient-centered care!

Did you know?

"Acne" is derived from the Ancient Greek word "akmé," meaning "point". It was first used in its current context - meaning facial eruptions - in 1743.

Source: Oxford English Dictionary

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