



A. PAUL KELLY
SUSAN C. TAYLOR

DERMATOLOGY FOR SKIN OF COLOR



Dermatology for Skin of Color

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Dermatology for Skin of Color

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Dedication

A. Paul Kelly

To my wife, Beverly, my children, Traci and Kara, my parents Amanda and Paul and my granddaughters Keiley and Hayden, for their love, support, and wisdom.

Susan C. Taylor

To my wonderful family: my husband, Kemel Dawkins, my daughters, Morgan Elizabeth and Madison Lauren, my parents, Ethel and Charles and my sister, Flora.

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FOREWORD

The specialty and field of skin of color in dermatology has expanded greatly in recent years. In the United States, the proportion of the population with skin of color, including those of African descent as well as Latinos and Asians, is increasing. This trend will eventually lead to half of the U.S. population being composed of these groups by the middle of this century. The majority of the worldwide popu-

lation is already composed of groups with skin of color.

Dermatological management and care can be vastly different in patients with skin of color. This is due to a number of differences in pathophysiology of skin disease, presentation of skin disease, and the presence of unique skin diseases in these patients. *Dermatology for Skin of Color* is inclusive of these differences. The textbook is important to

the contemporary practice of dermatology, regardless of geographic locations, because patients with skin of color are encountered throughout the United States, as well as worldwide.

*Rebat M. Halder, MD
Professor and Chairman
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INTRODUCTION

In the United States, as we begin the twenty-first century, great hope and promise fills the specialty of dermatology. New understandings of the genetic basis of illnesses, biological treatments for psoriasis, new devices for use in anti-aging, as well as other topical treatment for skin diseases have improved the lives of our patients.

The U.S. population is in the midst of a dramatic demographic shift. This population shift primarily involves increases in the number of people of color. Currently, the U.S. population is 12.7% black, 13% Hispanic, 4.6% Asian, and 2.5% other races. The shift will continue so that the projected population in the year 2050 will be 24.4% Hispanic, 14.6% black, 8% Asian, and 5.3% other races! This means that by year 2050, the U.S. population will be majority people of color.

Even as these diverse populations continue to increase, we still have a limited knowledge about ethnic skin. Evidence-based data about structural

and functional differences (if any) in the skin of people of color is lacking. It is of utmost importance that these population groups be studied further and in greater detail so that disease response and treatment may be elucidated. Cultural competency is likewise important when treating these patients. In many skin of color patients, we are seeing delayed treatment for various skin diseases, including worsening of prognosis for melanomas.

It is because of the aforementioned reasons that a textbook, such as this one, on skin of color is an important and welcomed addition to the medical literature. An understanding of diseases that occur commonly in skin of color populations, their presentation, clinical features, diagnostic criteria, and treatment are essential for all dermatologists. As important is an understanding of the cultural habits, practices, and beliefs of diverse ethnic groups, which this text also offers.

In addition to great textbooks, academic institutions and specialty societies can also make an important contribution to skin of color dermatology. The Skin of Color Society is doing just that by embarking upon the task of developing a comprehensive skin classification system for patients with skin of color. This system, designed to complement the Fitzpatrick Skin Type classification system, would provide predictive information related to a patient's response to trauma (scarring) and inflammation (dyschromias), for example.

Finally, I applaud Dr. A. Paul Kelly and Dr. Susan C. Taylor for editing this textbook, which will undoubtedly expand our understanding of dermatological problems in our patients of color.

*David Rodriguez, MD
Skin of Color Society
Miami, Florida*

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PREFACE

Historically, mainstream dermatologic research, literature, and training had little focus on skin of color. In addition to the paucity of reliable information regarding the pathology, physiology and reactivity of more darkly hued skin, there were misconceptions based on myth, folklore, and prejudice. Fortunately, by the end of the twentieth century, new interest and attention had turned to the burgeoning field of skin of color. Textbooks first by Johnson and then by Halder and Grimes served to create a foundation upon which an understanding of ethnic skin, pigmented skins, and darker skin types have been built. Efforts by the Skin of Color Society, the Dermatology section of the National Medical Association, and the American Academy of Dermatology

have also aided in advancing understanding of skin of color.

The purpose of *Dermatology for Skin of Color* is to provide an in-depth, scientific view of all aspects of skin of color. Thus, we have created a comprehensive textbook and photographic atlas written by dozens of nationally and internationally recognized experts in the field. It is intended as both a textbook and as a reference guide for all physicians, especially dermatologists, medical students, dermatology residents and physician extenders. It contains chapters on the structure, function, biology, and the myriad of diseases occurring in patients of color as well as cosmetic issues. In addition, *Dermatology for Skin of Color* provides a rich understanding of the cultural habits, practices, beliefs, and use of alternative medicine by patients of

diverse backgrounds. It concludes with a section on comparative dermatology from Africa, Asia, and Latin America and a spectacular atlas of skin of color dermatology.

As our population grows increasingly multiracial, multicultural, as well as multiethnic, dermatologists will be challenged with the task of recognizing how darker skin differs from lighter skin, what is normal versus pathological, which treatments have the highest efficacy and lowest morbidity, and how to interact with patients in a culturally competent manner. It is our hope that this book will serve as an invaluable tool to help dermatologists and the larger medical community meet those challenges.

A. Paul Kelly, MD
Susan C. Taylor, MD

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To paraphrase a popular idiom, “It takes a village to create a dermatologist.” The village for me has great depth and breadth and consists of mentors. Some of them I directly trained under at Penn, Harvard, and Columbia. Others I have had the pleasure of observing and learn-

ing from at scientific meetings and through their writing. Still others I interact with currently and are always stimulating my thoughts, ideas, and passion regarding skin of color. Dr. Vincent DeLeo, a real leader in dermatology, not only sparked my interest in skin of color

but has nurtured it for the past 15 years. Dr. A. Paul Kelly, a leader in dermatology with extraordinary knowledge, insight, and vision, has been a guiding force. A profound thank you to the remainder of my village, past, present, and future.

Skin of Color Center:

Vincert DeLeo
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Jeffery Weinberg
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The Skin of Color Textbook Family: Beverly Baker-Kelly, A. Paul Kelly, Anne Sydor, Sarah Granlund and Sandhya Joshi.

My Family: Ethel Taylor, Charles Taylor, Flora Taylor, Kemel Dawkins, Morgan Dawkins, Madison Dawkins.

—Susan

Drs. Kenney, Livingood and McDonald are the professors most responsible for my dermatology sojourn. Dr. John A. Kenney, Jr. my professor of dermatology

at Howard University, College of Medicine, was the first person to stimulate my interest in skin diseases. As a vibrant lecturer and enthusiastic clinician, he not only influenced me to become a dermatologist, but also similarly influenced six other of my medical school classmates (“the Magnificent Seven”) to choose dermatology as a career. Through his expertise, persistence and dedication, dermatologists and other physicians have become aware of the nuances unique to skin of color and implications for treatment.

Dr. Kenney’s efforts have led to the recognition of specialized treatment of dermatologic diseases in skin of color.

Dr. Clarence S. Livingood, and the dermatology staff at Henry Ford Hospital, provided me with a superb dermatology residency program, with a special emphasis on quality patient care. Dr. Livingood’s example of hard work, commitment, dedication and excellent patient rapport were the ingredients that have not only helped me to survive in academic dermatology but have also helped me to persevere in the preparation of this textbook.

My two years with Dr. Charles J. McDonald at Brown University School of Medicine was a perfect “dermatologic finishing school”. Dr. McDonald was responsible for my developing administrative and teaching skills and broadening my horizons in skin diseases related to medical disorders. He also nurtured my interest in skin diseases in skin of color, and planted the seed for me to undertake the writing of a textbook on this subject. My heartfelt thanks to these teachers: Drs. Kenney, Livingood and McDonald.

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Thanks to my mother, Amanda Walker Kelly, and father, Joseph Paul Kelly, MD, who always encouraged me to do the best job possible, no matter my profession or endeavor. Thanks are in order for my many colleagues, especially the members of the Section on Dermatology of the National Medical Association, who donated photos for the textbook, encouraged me to complete this textbook and gave me therapeutic pearls on treating skin disorders in skin of color.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank my daughters, Traci Allyce Kelly

and Kara Gisele Kelly, who allowed me sustained seclusion while I developed my areas of expertise in skin of color.

And to my wife of forty-two years, Attorney and Professor Beverly Baker-Kelly, who unswervingly supported me throughout each phase of the production of this book. She is to be credited with the idea for the Atlas portion of the book due to her longstanding legal work, vision and commitment to internationalism.

Last, but not least, appreciation goes to my co-editor, Dr. Susan C. Taylor, who conceived of the idea of this textbook on dermatology for skin of color and who gave me the great privilege of being her co-editor.