



## Article Navigation

### JOURNAL ARTICLE

# Successful treatment of psoriasis improves psoriasis-specific but not more general aspects of patients' well-being [Get access](#)

H.L. D.G. FORTUNE, RICHARDS, K. B. KIRBY, McELHONE, C.E.M. C.J. MAIN, GRIFFITHS

*British Journal of Dermatology*, Volume 151, Issue 6, 1 December 2004, Pages 1219–1226, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2133.2004.06222.x>

Published: 01 December 2004 [Article history](#)

[Views](#)

[Cite](#)

[Permissions](#)

[Share](#)

## Summary

**Background** Psoriasis has a detrimental effect on patients' quality of life. However, there is a relative dearth of information on which aspects of a patient's well-being are affected by successful treatment.

**Objectives** To investigate whether, and to what extent, improvement in the clinical severity of psoriasis induced by photochemotherapy with psoralen plus ultraviolet A (PUVA) translates into meaningful changes in beliefs about psoriasis, coping, stress, distress or disability.

**Methods** In a prospective study, 72 patients were assessed before PUVA therapy and again when they had achieved clearance of their psoriasis.

**Results** Patients demonstrated significant reductions in psoriasis-related disability, psoriasis-related stress or daily hassles and in the frequency of psoriasis-related symptoms. By comparison, there were no significant differences in levels of anxiety, depression or worrying. Similarly, patients' perceptions about cure, potential chronicity, causes, consequences and coping also remained unchanged.

**Conclusions** These results suggest that while clearance of psoriasis produces a significant reduction in factors specific to psoriasis (disability and stress), it does not impact upon psychological distress, on patients' beliefs about psoriasis or on coping. This observation highlights the complex features of patients' psychological experience of psoriasis and may provide further impetus for integration of psychological interventions into standard care protocols.

disability, distress, psoralen plus ultraviolet A, psoriasis, psychology, stress

© 2004 British Association of Dermatologists

This article is published and distributed under the terms of the Oxford University Press, Standard Journals Publication Model ([https://academic.oup.com/journals/pages/open\\_access/funder\\_policies/chorus/standard\\_publication\\_model](https://academic.oup.com/journals/pages/open_access/funder_policies/chorus/standard_publication_model))

You do not currently have access to this article.

## Sign in

 [Get help with access](#)

British Association of Dermatologists members

[Sign in through society site](#)

All other society members

[Sign in through society site](#)

### Personal account

- [Sign in with email/username & password](#)
- [Get email alerts](#)
- [Save searches](#)
- [Purchase content](#)
- [Activate your purchase/trial code](#)
- [Add your ORCID iD](#)

[Sign in](#)

[Register](#)

### Institutional access

[Sign in through your institution](#)

[Sign in through your institution](#)

[Sign in with a library card](#)

[Sign in with username/password](#)

[Recommend to your librarian](#)

### Institutional account management

[Sign in as administrator](#)

## Purchase

[Subscription prices and ordering for this journal](#)

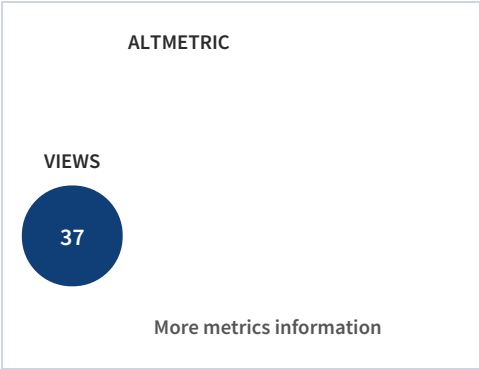
[Purchasing options for books and journals across Oxford Academic](#)

## Short-term Access

To purchase short-term access, please sign in to your personal account above.

Don't already have a personal account? [Register](#)

EUR €58.00      GBP £50.00      USD \$62.00



Email alerts

- Article activity alert
- Advance article alerts
- New issue alert

---

Receive exclusive offers and updates from Oxford Academic

Citing articles via

Web of Science (62)

Google Scholar

Latest | Most Read | Most Cited

Publications in the *BJD*: the impact of being read (and cited)

“When you do not feel comfortable in your skin, you cannot get out of it” – A Qualitative Interview Study exploring Psychosocial Impact and Coping Strategies among Patients with Prurigo Nodularis

A loss-of-function variant in *KLF4* affecting zinc finger motifs causes progressive symmetric erythrokeratoderma

Measurement properties and interpretability of the Patient-Reported Impact of Dermatological Diseases (PRIDD) measure

Urticaria and the risk of cancer: a Danish population-based cohort study

More from Oxford Academic

- Clinical Medicine
- Dermatology
- Medicine and Health
- Books
- Journals

- About British Journal of Dermatology
- Editorial Board
- Author Guidelines
- Recommend to Your Librarian
- Advertising and Corporate Services

Journals Career Network

Online ISSN 1365-2133  
Print ISSN 0007-0963  
Copyright © 2024 British Association of Dermatologists

- About Oxford Academic
- Publish journals with us
- University press partners
- What we publish
- New features

- Authoring
- Open access
- Purchasing
- Institutional account management
- Rights and permissions

- Get help with access
- Accessibility
- Contact us
- Advertising
- Media enquiries

- Oxford University Press
- News
- Oxford Languages
- University of Oxford

*Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford. It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship, and education by publishing worldwide*