



# Improving Diagnosis in Medicine. One Image at a Time.

Medical images capture a history and tell a story. Our goal with the medical image collection at VisualDx is to represent the full spectrum of human disease across skin types, body location, morphologic variation, and other diagnostic features. To adequately capture the immense variation inherent in disease requires access to hundreds of specialized image collections that span dermatology, ophthalmology, oral medicine, infectious disease, emergency medicine, radiology, and pathology. For this reason, we've established partnerships with many exceptional learning institutions and individuals who have contributed their images toward this effort.

## Worldwide Network

VisualDx has established relationships with an international community of medical experts and developed an efficient means for uploading and centralizing digital cases from around the world. Cases that include tropical and rare diseases, as well as common conditions represented within various ethnic groups and skin types, are continually being added to the collection.

## Educational Role

Medical images play an important role in educating students, residents, and even seasoned providers. The VisualDx image library has been developed through partnerships with exceptional learning institutions and providers. These contributors strongly believe in the importance of images to enhance scholarship, teaching, and learning in medicine. VisualDx shares this belief. Please refer to our image use policy for guidelines.

**To join our global community of image contributors or to learn more about our collection, please contact Heidi Halton, Image Collection Manager, at [hhalton@visualdx.com](mailto:hhalton@visualdx.com).**



## Addressing the Problem

**21-87%**

of the general population in developing countries has skin disease.<sup>1</sup>

**2%**

of educational opportunities available at the American Academy of Dermatology Annual Meeting focused on ethnic or dark skin.<sup>1</sup>

**LIMITED REPRESENTATION OF PATIENTS WITH DARK SKIN** poses challenges in the training of dermatologic disease since individuals with darker skin may vary in presentation of common skin diseases and require different management.<sup>1</sup>

**TEXTBOOKS WRITTEN FOR THE DEVELOPED WORLD** emphasize the latest therapies, many of which are too expensive, unavailable, and not cost-effective.<sup>1</sup>

**28.5%**

of images in VisualDx are skin type IV, V, VI.<sup>2</sup>



1. Figueroa JI, Fuller LC, Abraha A, Hay RJ. Dermatology in southwestern Ethiopia: rationale for a community approach. *Int J Dermatol*. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/9802685>. Published October 1998. Accessed November 5, 2018.

2. Alvarado SM, Feng H. Representation of dark skin images of common dermatologic conditions in educational resources: a cross-sectional analysis. *JAAD* (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaad.2020.06.041>. Published June 10, 2020. Accessed June 18, 2020.

# Cases from International VisualDx Users

“I downloaded VisualDx when I was in residency and found it a useful tool. I am now working in Impfondo, Republic of Congo, and continue to use VisualDx. We had a young woman in her 20s with known HIV and TB present to the clinic with difficulty swallowing, headache, fever, and a generalized papular rash, more prominent on the extremities and face than on the torso. There have been cases of monkeypox here before, but I had never seen it. I used VisualDx to look up a differential for the patient’s rash, as well as specifically monkeypox. The diagnostic overview of monkeypox mentioned several outbreaks in the Likouala region of the Republic of Congo, which is where I am practicing. [The patient’s sample] came back positive for monkeypox.”

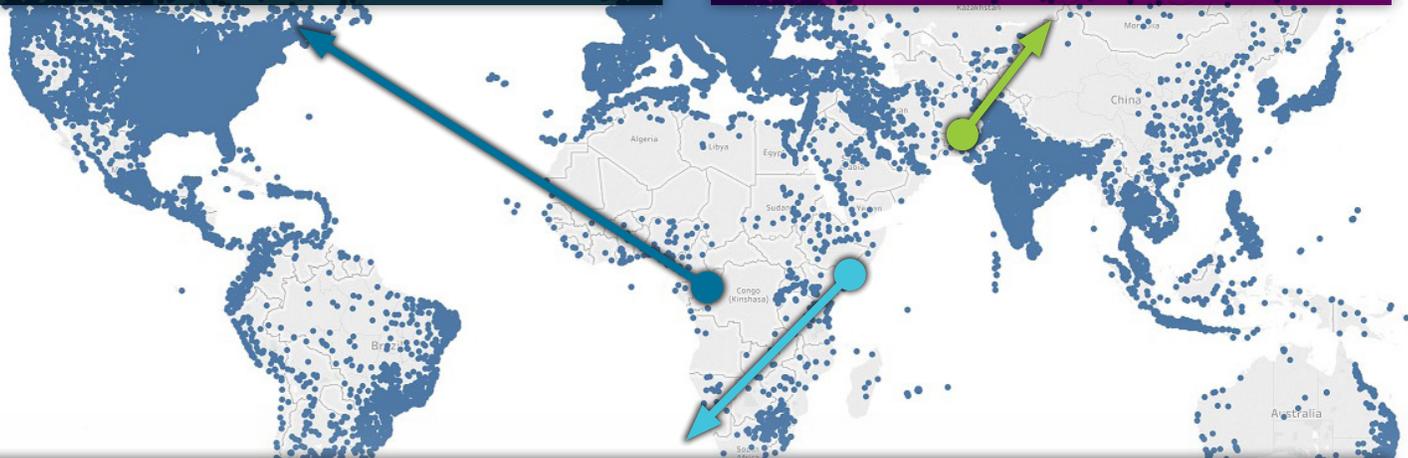


— DR. LAURA FOU DY, FAMILY MEDICINE PHYSICIAN, HÔPITAL EVANGÉLIQUE, REPUBLIC OF CONGO

“A man came to me with a bumpy rash on the nape of his neck. It had first appeared 6 months earlier on one side of his neck and then resolved. He had developed the bumpy rash again, this time on the skin and hair line area of the nape. There was also loss of hair in the area of the lesions. I took a picture for comparison with VisualDx, tentatively labeling it as nodular sclerosis. However, when I accessed VisualDx and entered body location, lesion type, and alopecia in the differential builder, the diagnosis acne keloidalis nuchae appeared at the top of the results, and the images matched my patient.”



— DR. MIRZA RIZWAN UL HASSAN, MURREE, PAKISTAN



“Health metrics for Somalia rank among the worst in the world. I access VisualDx nearly every day, often multiple times, and our residents know that it is my favorite dermatology resource. For example, this week one of the residents gave a lecture on Kawasaki Disease and included no clinical photos. At the end, I pulled up the Kawasaki images on VisualDx on my phone and passed it around the room. [VisualDx] is an invaluable tool in our context.”

— DR. JOSETTE MCMICHAEL, ADJUNCT ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF DERMATOLOGY AT EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE. DERMATOLOGIST AND VOLUNTEER FACULTY, SOMALIA

