**World Atopic Eczema Day 2022**

**Unite to recognize the many burdens of Atopic Eczema**

*September 14th*

On September 14th, World Atopic Eczema Day, the patient communities across the globe join forces to raise awareness for the disease, speak up about the physical, financial and mental health burdens on patients and caregivers and insist on their right to access appropriate care and treatment.

Atopic eczema (also known as atopic dermatitis (AD) is one of the most prevalent skin diseases in the world. It is more than itchy skin, it is a systemic, multidimensional disease that affects the minds and bodies of over 230 million people worldwide. However, despite its prevalence, it is often dismissed as “just a skin condition,” leaving patients without the multidisciplinary care they need.

[Organisation name] joins the International Alliance of Dermatology Patient Organisations (GlobalSkin), the European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients’ Associations (EFA) and calls on healthcare professionals, health policy decision makers and all stakeholders to recognize and take action to alleviate the burdens of atopic eczema. #InsideAtopicEczema #AtopicEczemaDay

[INSERT GLOBAL, EUROPEAN OR LOCAL QUOTE HERE]

[INSERT LOCAL STATISTICS]

Today, we draw attention to atopic eczema, a complex disease that has an immense burden on patients and caregivers. Globally, atopic eczema affects up to 20% of children and 10% of adults.

Patients with this disease spend most of their lives requiring comprehensive daily care and management. Caring for a child with atopic eczema can affect personal relationships, decrease psychosocial functioning, bring sleep loss for family members and a feeling of helplessness in dealing with the child’s daily suffering. Atopic eczema may also result in work absence or decreased work productivity for adult patients and for parents.

Join [Organization Name], GlobalSkin, EFA and the growing global community to encourage health systems to address the full range of atopic eczema’s impact. Be part of the conversation on channels like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn by using the hashtags: #UniteForAtopicEczema and #AtopicEczemaDay

“As a global community, we mark September 14, as World Atopic Eczema Day. We unite to raise awareness for the disease and the impact it has on millions of patients and heir caregivers worldwide. We recognize and validate the emotional toll and financial burden atopic eczema can have and how this multi-dimensional disease impacts mental health, restricts life, and often leads to increased risk for the development of other health conditions. We call upon healthcare professionals and policy makers to join us on this awareness day by demonstrating how they support and care for atopic eczema patients all over the globe. Together we can make change happen.” - Jennifer Austin, Chief Executive Officer, GlobalSkin

“The inside of atopic eczema and what patients cope with every day is too often overlooked by most people. Even in 2022, patients are struggling to receive the care they need to be able to live their lives to the fullest. What patients need, and patient organisations are pushing for, is a multidisciplinary approach to caring for atopic eczema/dermatitis. That is why at EFA we urge healthcare providers to work with other patients, their caregivers and other healthcare providers to understand their unique needs and deliver the best care for them.” - Carla Jones, EFA President

About The Organisations:

**International Alliance of Dermatology Patient Organizations (GlobalSkin)**

GlobalSkin is a unique global alliance, committed to improving the lives of skin patients worldwide. With 190 Members organizations globally, they nurture relationships with their membership, partners and all involved in healthcare—building dialogue with decision-makers around the globe to promote patient-centric healthcare. Since 2018, GlobalSkin has been working with the global Atopic Eczema Community and launched AltogetherEczema.org, a central hub for people all over the world to identify common issues related to atopic eczema, share information and insights, and work together to find solutions. Learn more at [GlobalSkin.org](http://www.globalskin.org)

**European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients Associations (EFA)**

The European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients’ Associations (EFA) is the voice of the 200 million people living with allergy, asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in Europe. We bring together 45 national associations from 26 countries and channel their knowledge and demands to the European institutions. We connect European stakeholders to ignite change and bridge the policy gaps on allergy and airways diseases so that patients live uncompromised lives, have the right and access to the best quality care and a safe environment. Learn more at [efanet.org](http://www.efanet.org)

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