

Pierre Fabre Laboratories Presents the World's First Study on the "Epidemiology of Acne"

Published in February 2024 in the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology (JAAD), this study provides unprecedented insight into the prevalence of acne worldwide.

Castres, France – March 18, 2024. Pierre Fabre Laboratories announces the publication of the world's first study on the epidemiology of acne in the prestigious Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology¹ (JAAD) in February 2024. This project, conducted as part of the ALL study, offers unparalleled insight into the prevalence of acne worldwide, highlighting significant variations by age, gender, geographic region and impacts on quality of life and stigmatization.

The ALL study gathered the testimonies of over 50,000 people, representative of the adult population of 20 countries, spread over five continents, i.e., over 50% of the world's population.

"This study represents a major advance in our understanding of the various etiological factors of acne. It paves the way for new prevention and treatment strategies for this chronic skin condition, taking into account the lifestyles and specificities of each population," explains **Dr. Gautier Doat, Medical Director at Avène Dermatological Laboratories.**

Acne affects one in every five people worldwide.

The worldwide prevalence of acne is 20.5%. It was highest among teenagers/young adults (16-24 years) at 28.3% and remains fairly high among adults aged 25-39 at 19.3%.

Women are more affected than men.

Generally speaking, women (23.6%) are more prone to acne than men (17.5%).

Latin America and East Asia top the list of hardest hit regions.

Significant disparities were observed between geographical areas. Acne prevalence was highest in Latin America (23.9%), East Asia² (20.2%), Africa (18.5%) and the Middle East (16.1%), and lowest in Europe (9.7%) and Australia (10.8%).

"This study provides an in-depth understanding and new insight into the demographic factors influencing the epidemiology of acne worldwide", explains **Prof. Jean-Hilaire Saurat, University of Geneva, Past President of the ILDS** (International League of Dermatological Societies). *"The high percentage of acne in Latin America and East Asian countries can be explained by genetic factors, of course, but probably also by cultural factors, primarily diet".*

¹ [https://www.jaad.org/article/S0190-9622\(24\)00002-1/pdf](https://www.jaad.org/article/S0190-9622(24)00002-1/pdf)

² East Asia: China, South Korea, Japan.



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ALL Colors
ALL Skins
ALL Dermatoses

20 countries
50 000 people

*An International Patient Centric Survey
by Pierre Fabre*

A major impact on quality of life...

Acne sufferers experience fatigue (50%) and difficulty sleeping (41%). Because of their dermatosis, they are also more inclined to be cautious about spending (44%), have often had to give up activities they cared about (27%) or change their plans (31%).

Regarding sleeping difficulties, a paper presented at the EADV in October 2023 highlighted that itching was one of the first symptoms cited by acne sufferers, behind burning or tingling sensations, and skin pain.

... and higher levels of stigmatization

Acne sufferers reported feeling excluded or rejected by others at 31%, feeling that people avoid physical contact at 27%, or avoid approaching them at 26%.

A study entitled *"Patients' testimonies, feelings, complaints and emotional experiences with dermatoses on open social media: The French infodemiologic patient's free speech study"*, published in the JEADV in January 2024, confirms a significant stigma around acne, by presenting the difficulties expressed by patients with visible dermatoses on social networks. The self-image of acne sufferers is the worst of all skin diseases (eczema, psoriasis, vitiligo, and rosacea), as it is often linked to the psychological impact of having pimples all the time and dealing with flare-ups.

Another study, *"On the prevalence and risk factors of selfie phobia in people with facial, skin or hair conditions"*, also showed that fear and feelings of stigmatization among acne sufferers can have a significant impact on physical health and mental well-being, as acne very often affects their social and professional lives.

About the ALL project, the largest dermatology database in the world

The ALL study, launched at the end of 2022 in collaboration with the company EMMA, aims to collect data on all skin types (ALL Skins), all skin diseases (ALL Dermatoses) and all phototypes (ALL Colors) to build the largest private database in the world. A total of 50,552 people from adult populations in 20 countries (representing over 50% of the world's population) across five continents answered the study's 65 questions.

More than one in three people suffer from a skin disease, yet health and prevention policies do not consider dermatology to be a public health priority. The ALL study aims to provide a global overview of the prevalence of major skin diseases and their consequences, in order to raise awareness among all parties concerned. Patients suffering from dermatological diseases need better support, and it is crucial that public authorities be persuaded to attach greater importance to dermatoses in prevention programs. The main themes addressed are related to the prevalence and impact of pathologies, but also to behaviors, care pathways and the needs of patients affected by one or more dermatoses such as atopic dermatitis, psoriasis, acne, rosacea, or vitiligo.

The ALL database has been built with a planned analysis of results from 2023 to 2027. The 3.3 million data points will enable the identification of information essential to a better understanding of the patient experience. These data are shared with dermatology specialists and patient associations, providing them with the means to advocate for better recognition of skin diseases.



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About Pierre Fabre Laboratories

Pierre Fabre Laboratories is the world's 2nd largest dermo-cosmetics company and the 2nd largest private French pharmaceutical group. Its portfolio includes numerous medical franchises and international brands such as Pierre Fabre Oncologie, Pierre Fabre Dermatologie, Eau Thermale Avène, Ducray, A-Derma, Klorane, René Furterer, Même Cosmetics, Naturactive, Elgydium, Inava and ArthroDont.

In 2023, Pierre Fabre Laboratories posted 2.83 billion euros in revenues, 70% of which came from international sales in 120 countries and invested €190 million in R&D half of it for targeted therapies in oncology.

Established in the South-West of France since their creation in 1962, Pierre Fabre Laboratories manufacture 95% of their products in France employs some 10,000 people worldwide. The company is 86% owned by the Pierre Fabre Foundation, a government-recognized public-interest foundation, and by its own employees through an international employee stock ownership plan. Pierre Fabre Laboratories' sustainability policy has been assessed by the independent AFNOR Certification body at the "Exemplary" level of its CSR label (ISO 26 000 standard for sustainable development).

Further information about Pierre Fabre Laboratories can be found at www.pierre-fabre.com, @PierreFabre.

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