

OPTIMISING PHARMACEUTICAL CARE FOR DERMATOLOGICAL PRESENTATIONS IN COMMUNITY PHARMACY PRACTICE

FIP Multinational Needs Assessment Programme (MNAP)



Pharmacists in community and primary health care settings are often the first point of contact for dermatological presentations, highlighting their role in access, triage and patient support.

This infographic presents key findings from the FIP MNAP report, based on 142 eligible completed survey responses from 51 countries and an accompanying insight board.



Key findings from the report

Guidance gap

22.5%

Access to local or national guidance, protocols, or frameworks for managing common skin conditions

This highlights an important gap in the availability and awareness of standardised support for dermatological care in pharmacy practice.

Confidence level

91.5% **65.0%**

Higher confidence Lower confidence
Acne skin cancer warning signs

Respondents reported most confidence managing frequently encountered presentations and less confidence for rare and complex conditions.

Major Barrier

52.8%

Unclear referral pathways and regulatory limitations

Barriers rated as major or very major were system or policy barriers. Others include: lack of practical tools or information (47.9%), remuneration gap (42.3%) and limited dermatology knowledge or confidence (36.6%)

Future learning need

60.6%

Interactive online courses with real-world cases

Training formats that are accessible, practice-oriented, and applicable to real-world decision-making in pharmacy were reported most valuable.

Most commonly reported dermatological presentations



Structural constraints reported by respondents

88.7%

No additional remuneration
for dermatology-related care

59.9%

No authority to initiate/adapt
treatment
for common skin conditions

52.1%

No structured dermatology
service
available in practice

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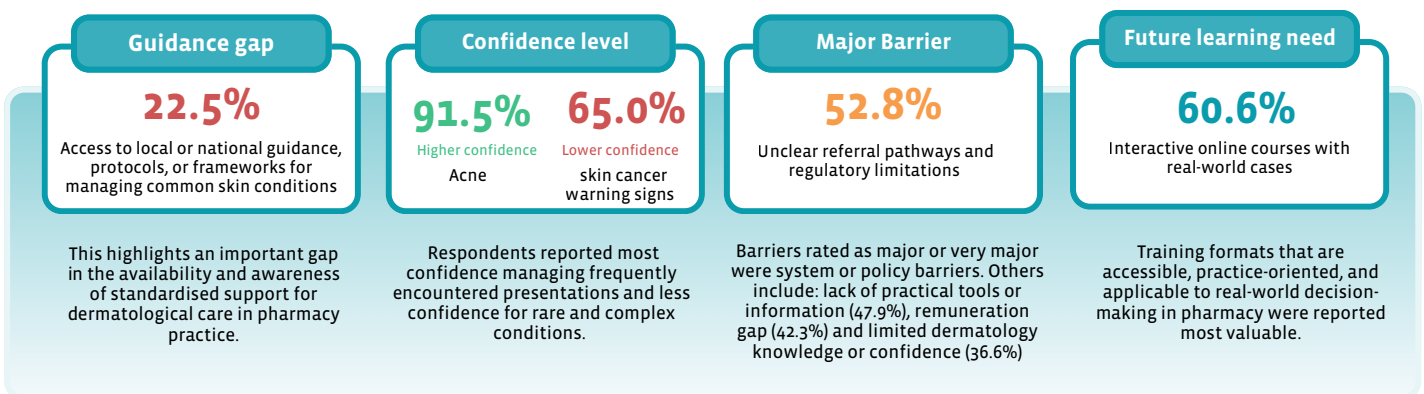


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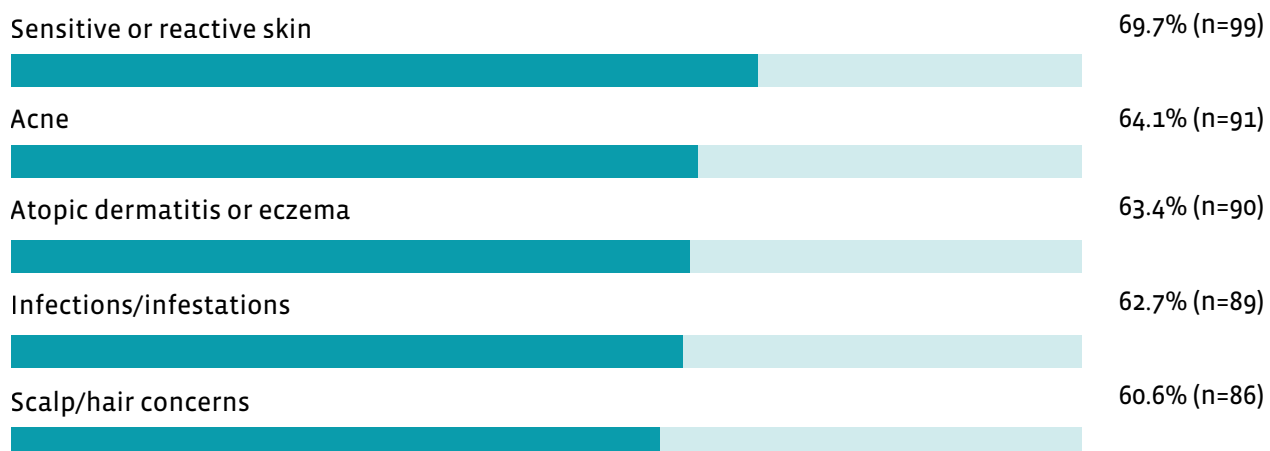
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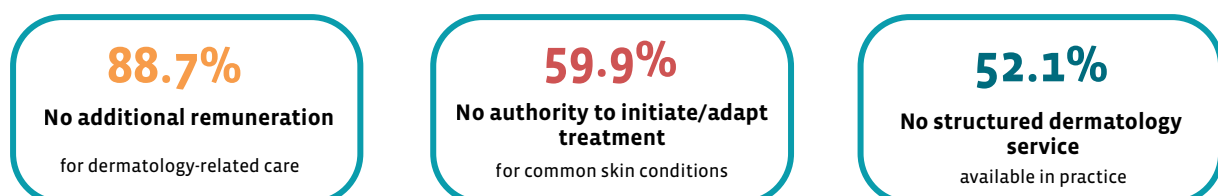
Key findings from the report



Most commonly reported dermatological presentations



Structural constraints reported by respondents



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Guidance and decision support gaps

Access to guidance

Only 22.5% reported access to local or national guidance, protocols or frameworks for managing common skin conditions in practice.

Sources used

Respondents commonly used general online resources (54.2%), industry materials (46.5%) and national clinical guidelines (41.5%).

Confidence reported by respondents

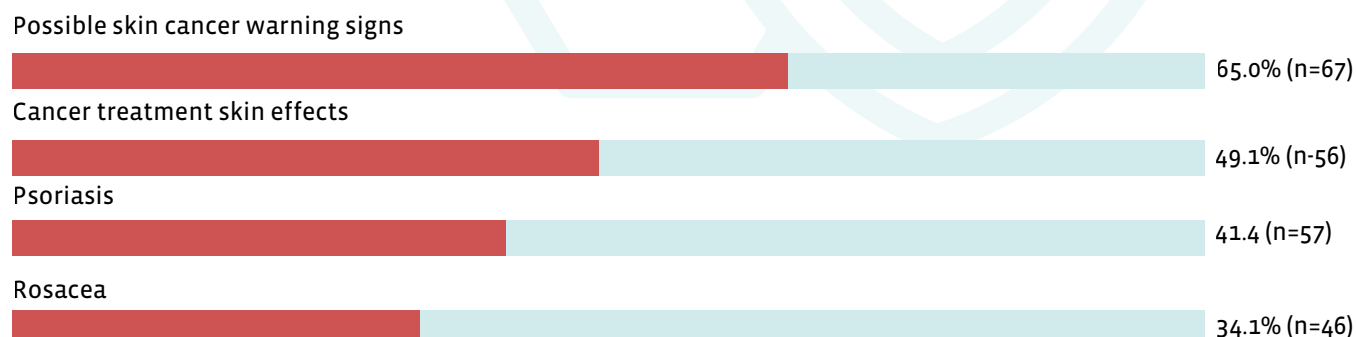
Areas of higher confidence

Reported as very/somewhat confident



Areas of lower confidence

Reported as not very/not at all confident



Respondents reported greater confidence with familiar dermatological presentations, while lower confidence was reported for higher-risk or more complex presentations requiring clearer referral pathways.

>92%

reported being very or somewhat clear about when to manage and when to refer

However, practical referral pathways were inconsistent: 45.8% reported pathways existed and 42.3% reported they did not.

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Supports respondents said would help improve care

Case-based dermatology training



Collaboration with health professionals



Guidance on treatment selection



Guidance for medicine-related skin reactions



Algorithms/flowcharts



Triage/referral criteria



Preferred future dermatology training formats

Interactive online courses with real-world cases: 60.6%

Short modular online learning: 53.5%

Written guidance or handbooks with practical algorithms: 36.6%

Patient education tools to support counselling: 33.8%

Insight board message

Participants highlighted the need for practical competencies in differential recognition, triage, referral decision-making, topical treatment literacy, patient counselling and culturally responsive communication.

They also emphasised collaboration, clearer protocols, stronger training pathways and formal recognition of pharmacists' contribution.

Access the full report [here](#) or scan the QR code.

