

WOMENS WELLBEING

A special report looking at women's wellbeing in the workplace **page 6**



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24 PREGNANCY & BABY CARE

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WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Five year delay

Missed opportunities for early diagnosis of psoriasis are relatively common in the UK, according to a new study. **Millie Browning** reports

SPECIAL REPORT

People suffering from psoriasis are only being diagnosed five years after initially reporting symptoms including rash, dry skin and itching, a new study by the University of Manchester reveals.

Diagnosis is pertinent

The study found that sufferers in the UK were eight times more likely than those who did not have psoriasis to be diagnosed with pityriasis rosea six months before being correctly diagnosed. They were also twice as likely to be diagnosed with eczema or fungal skin infection tinea corporis a year before being diagnosed with psoriasis.

The findings were based on the electronic patient records from over 700 general practices between 2010-17 and included treatments and diagnosis of people with and without psoriasis.

Lead author, Maha Abo-Tabik, PhD research student at the University of Manchester, said the study was particularly "pertinent" given the fact that early diagnosis of psoriasis can improve the effectiveness of treatment. "That is why we think it is essential to design additional dermatology training for primary care professionals to improve their diagnostic skills for psoriasis," she said.

The wait is real

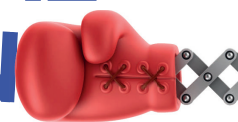
This month the team at *TM* coincidentally heard first-hand about the wait for the correct diagnosis for psoriasis, as Ryan Sooklal-Grizzle joined us on the podcast to discuss his experiences. The 26-year-old was first diagnosed eight years ago, but the process was lengthy. "I started getting rashes on my skin and I went to the doctors and because as a child I had eczema, initially they thought it was just my



eczema that had gotten worse," he said. "The GPs just carried on diagnosing like I had eczema, or at one point they thought it was a fungal infection, so they were giving me different treatments for that." It wasn't until seeing someone with psoriasis on TV and making the suggestion to a doctor that Ryan was eventually diagnosed.

For more on psoriasis and Ryan's story, listen to our latest podcast at: [tmmagazine.co.uk/podcast/category-insight-eczema-and-psoriasis](https://www.tmmagazine.co.uk/podcast/category-insight-eczema-and-psoriasis).

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The Professional Assistant:

Tiredness & fatigue

This month's module focuses on tiredness and fatigue and looks at the causes and negative impact of tiredness on general health as well as advising which treatment and self care options should be recommended to customers.

SUPPORTING

learning

IN PHARMACY

Technician Matters

This month's CPD module (page 30) looks at population and public health. Page 28 brings you the latest pharmacy technician news and insight whilst also featuring a column by APTUK's equality, diversity and inclusion executive.

