

## Major League Baseball Players Found to be at Risk for Skin Disorders

SKIN: The Journal of Cutaneous Medicine(TM), Analysis of dermatologic disorders occurring in Major League Baseball Players

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Education that enhances the identification and efficient implementation of proper treatment has the potential to minimize the impact of skin disease on MLB player performance." *Alex M. Glazer, M.D.*  are the most common injuries plaguing professional athletes. Major League Baseball (MLB) players are particularly susceptible to physical and environmental trauma to the skin that can impact their performance. MLB athletic trainers frequently must identify and manage these conditions in order to allow their players to function at the most competitive level.

New research, published today in <u>SKIN: The Journal of</u> <u>Cutaneous Medicine(TM)</u>, sheds additional light on the types of skin conditions commonly experienced by professional baseball players, and suggests that the distribution of disease in these athletes may differ from the general population.

Alex Glazer, M.D., of the Department of Dermatology at the University of Arizona, and coauthors found—in a survey of 25 of the 30 MLB head athletic trainers—that the most common skin conditions plaguing professional baseball players are mechanical, infectious, and contact-related problems such as blisters and contact dermatitis. This differs from non-player personnel and the general public. MLB has partnered with the American Academy of Dermatology for nearly 20 years to promote skin cancer awareness among players and staff; this new data suggests that there may be the potential to expand this education across all facets of skin disease.

"Education that enhances the identification and efficient implementation of proper treatment has the potential to minimize the impact of skin disease on MLB player performance," says Glazer, who emphasizes the importance of a collaborative effort between dermatologists and athletic trainers to ensure proper education and treatment of these high-performing athletes.

SKIN: The Journal of Cutaneous Medicine(TM) is a peer-reviewed online medical journal that is the official journal of The National Society for Cutaneous Medicine. The mission of SKIN is to provide an enhanced and accelerated route to disseminate new dermatologic knowledge for all aspects of cutaneous disease.

For more details please visit <u>www.jofskin.org</u> or contact jofskin@gmail.com.

Editors' Note: Please see the article for additional information, including other authors, author contributions and affiliations, financial disclosures, funding and support, etc.

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