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## Clinical and Experimental Dermatology

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**The divergent roles of growth differentiation factor-15 (GDF-15) in benign and malignant skin pathologies****Sevil Alan**

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**G**DF-15 (Growth Differentiation Factor-15) is a member of the transforming growth factor  $\beta$  (TGF- $\beta$ ) superfamily. GDF-15 is not only involved in cancer development, progression, angiogenesis and metastasis, but also controls stress responses, bone formation, hematopoietic development, adipose tissue function and cardiovascular diseases. GDF-15 is regulated by p53, has shown antitumorigenic and proapoptotic activities *in vivo* and *in vitro*. Also, GDF-15 is involved in skin biology and histamine-induced melanogenesis; it is overexpressed in melanoma cells and is associated with depth of tumor invasion and metastasis. GDF-15 level is increased in patients with systemic sclerosis and is related with the degree of skin sclerosis and intensity of pulmonary fibrosis. In the future, GDF-15 may be a potential target for therapy in benign disorders with skin fibrosis and malignant lesions of the skin.

**Biography**

Sevil Alan has received her PhD from Ege University, Turkey during the period of 1993-1999. She completed her Dermatology Residency at the Adana Numune Education and Research Hospital in Adana, Turkey. Currently, she is working as a Dermatologist in Akdeniz University School of Medicine, Turkey. She is an Editorial Board Member of journals like *SM Dermatology*, *Dermatology & Pigmentation Disorders*, and *International Journal of Clinical Dermatology & Research (IJCDR)*. She is serving as a Reviewer for journals like *JAMA Dermatology*, *International Research Journal of Public and Environmental Health*, *International Medical Journal of Sifa University*. She has authored many research articles.

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