

# 11<sup>th</sup> Global Dermatologists Congress

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## Improving patient empowerment through health literacy

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The World Health Organization has identified low health literacy as a serious public health concern. This presentation will identify global issues within health literacy including influences on patient empowerment, quality of life, wastage and socio-economic costs. Patient empowerment is simply a process to help people gain control which includes people taking the initiative, solving problems, making decisions and can be applied to different setting in health & social care environment leading ultimately to self management. It is important for health care professionals to address health literacy in every patient consultation to ensure people have enough knowledge, understanding, skills and confidence to use health information and take an active role in their own well being.

### Biography

Barbara Page has worked in Dermatology Nursing for over 27 years and 16 years of these were as a Specialist Dermatology Liaison Nurse. She has worked as a Dermatology Nurse Advisor, an Honorary Clinical Teacher, Dundee University School of Nursing & Health Sciences and Lecturer for NHS Education for Scotland. Her special areas of interest are eczema, psoriasis and the psychological impact of skin disease. She is currently a Chair of the Psychodermatology sub group of the British Dermatological Nursing Group (BDNG) and represents BDNG as a Committee Member of Psychodermatology, UK. She is also a Trustee of National Eczema Society; Honorary Member and Trustee of Primary Care Dermatology Society; Founder & Honorary Chair of Scottish Dermatological Nursing Society; Nurse Advisor to Skin Care Campaign Scotland; Past Secretary & Board Member of International Skincare Nursing Group. She has published widely and served on a wide range of Nursing Advisory Boards.

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