

## Swedish Society for Dermatology and Venereology – Svenska Sällskapet för Dermatologi och Venereologi

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### General information

The Swedish Society for Dermatology and Venereology (SSDV) was founded in 1901. Currently it consists of 550 members, whereof 500 are dermatologists or residents in dermatology. The society hosts very active subsections in venereology, dermatologic surgery and oncology and contact dermatitis. In addition, several interest groups exist within the society: pediatric dermatology, photodermatology, epidemiology, leg ulcers, inflammatory skin diseases as well as occupational and environmental dermatology. The private dermatologists in Sweden also have a section within the SSDV.

### Goals

The society's main focus lies on education, both for residents and consultants in dermatology. Our annual meeting, usually in May, takes place in different cities every year and includes courses and lectures. SSDV also sponsors the residents' yearly educational meeting. At the annual general meeting of the Swedish Society of Medicine, SSDV has traditionally arranged symposiums reaching out to, and of interest for many other medical disciplines. These activities comply with SSDV's aim to promote the development of dermatology in Sweden by arranging scientific meetings.

There are several challenges in dermatology including the rapid increase of skin cancer, the reduction of beds for hospital care and equal care for patients regardless of sex, age or residence. Making our voice heard in decision-making assemblies, interacting with the Swedish Society of Medicine

and governmental organizations debating health care issues as well as putting more emphasis on preventing disease caused by life style factors like sun exposure or smoking are other areas we are putting more interest in.

Upcoming issues are changes in medical training due to a harmonization within the EU and structural changes taking place within the national health care system, which may lead to more dermatologists taking care of less seriously ill patients instead of treating severe chronic dermatoses since it is becoming more favourable economically.

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