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Innovations in vitiligo treatment to be discussed in Kazakhstan: the conference will bring together doctors from all over the country

**From June 26 to 28 in Kostanay and Petropavlovsk, the Kazakh Scientific Center for Dermatology and Infectious Diseases (KSCDIZ) of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan, together with the NGO Society of Dermatovenerologists, Dermatocosmetologists and Leprologists, is holding the Republican educational scientific and practical conference "20 regions of dermatovenerologists, Dermatocosmetologists and Leprologists."**

The event is timed to coincide with World Vitiligo Day and is held as part of the continuing medical education program. The conference will be attended by leading Russian specialists and scientists, as well as young doctors. More than 160 delegates from all regions of Kazakhstan are expected. Since 2015, the conference has established itself as an authoritative platform for the scientific and practical exchange of knowledge and experience.
The purpose of the forum is to strengthen interdisciplinary cooperation, exchange best practices and introduce innovations in the system of specialized medical care. The program includes lectures, presentations, and workshops on modern approaches to the treatment of skin diseases. Special attention will be paid to biological therapy, dermatosurgery, phototherapy and other effective treatment methods.
Participants will get acquainted with the latest scientific research in the field of dermatology conducted in Kazakhstan and abroad. Within the framework of the conference, a "School for young Specialists" will be held with the participation of residents of the KSCDIZ. The sessions of the school will deal with clinical cases and features of various diseases. Consultations of patients with vitiligo and severe chronic dermatoses are also planned, and local specialists will receive organizational and methodological support.
The topics of professional discussions will be the diagnosis and treatment of vitiligo, leishmaniasis, gonorrhea, psoriasis, dermatoses and Hansen's disease.
Vitiligo is a chronic autoimmune skin disease that manifests itself as discolored spots on the face and body. It affects about 1% of the world's population. The disease does not pose a threat to life and does not cause physical harm, but it often seriously affects the psychoemotional state of patients. The disease can develop at any age, but most often before the age of 20. This means that many children in Kazakhstan live with vitiligo.
Every year, more than 15,000 patients with this diagnosis apply to dermatological institutions in the country, but the actual number of patients is probably 2-3 times higher. This is due to the low level of awareness among doctors and the public, as well as the stigmatization of the disease. Many patients prefer to hide the problem and avoid seeking medical help, which makes timely treatment difficult.

Media contact: Marina Maksimova, +7 777 2254601, marina\_maximova@rambler.ru