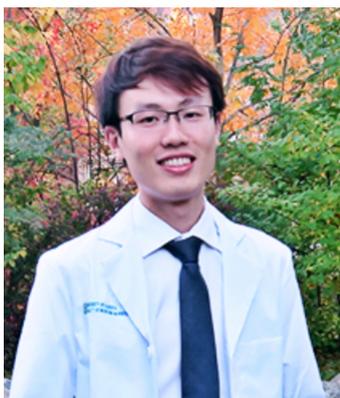


Hear Harry's Volunteer Story: Contributor, Canadian Skin Magazine & Psoriasis Pathogenesis Project



Harry Liu, MD, BSc
PGY2 Dermatology Resident, University of British Columbia

I am a second-year dermatology resident from the University of British Columbia. Two years ago, I was looking for opportunities to advocate, educate and support people living with skin diseases on a broader level. After learning about what CPSA does, I knew we shared the same values and I immediately connected with them. In addition, CPSA is the umbrella organization for many other groups with lots of opportunities to make positive changes.

What do you perceive as outcomes of your involvement?

Over the past two years, I was involved in multiple patient education projects, including writing articles to explain the mechanism of psoriasis, educate the importance of sun protection, and discuss the psychosocial impact of genital psoriasis. Personally, I learned how to use simple language to explain complex concepts to patients. When I see patients in clinical settings as a resident, I am able to give them the educational materials I made. It is very rewarding.

I enjoy volunteering with CPSA for lots of reasons, first because there are always lots of wonderful innovative initiatives [that] I had the privilege to be involved in...that interested me. The staff at CSPA are absolutely amazing as they are always supportive and open to new ideas. It is a very strong and diverse community.

Why would you tell others that they should get involved with CSPA?

I believe working on various projects with CSPA certainly made me a more empathetic person with better communication skills. You would acquire new skills if you volunteered for CSPA. Skin diseases are often associated with a significant impact on people's quality of life. Getting involved with CSPA would also give you the unique chance to advocate for people with skin conditions. Don't wait to join the community if you hope to use your skills to make positive changes!