

Editorial

Colored Dermatology

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The world is created out of colours. Most of the beautiful things in our surroundings have many faces and various paints. Only few can take one colour like the fruit "orange", however, most of the others wear different dyes like the reptiles.

Colour is an important clue for us to know the surroundings. The simple example is that the impurity of water is reflected by colour before taste. It is said that as much colours in the fruits, as much it is fresh and rich in antioxidants.

Mona Lisa of Leonardo da Vinci gained its fame from its integrity of colours that remained over the years. It has been observed that some colours trigger pleasure while others signal for depression or suicide in some people.

Colours have taken an important aspect in our everyday life. For example, the White house, the Green peace organization, the Orange revolution in Ukraine, etc. Medicine is not an exception. The drug, sildenafil (Viagra®) was marketed as blue tablet.

In dermatology profession, there is no place for a person with colour blindness. The diseases may be as white as vitiligo to as black as malignant melanoma, passing

by the red colour of erythroderma.

The colours even invade our periodicals. Let us consider the Blue journal (Journal of American Academy of Dermatology), the Orange journal (International Journal of Dermatology). What will happen, however, if some other journal wants to publish its cover in the same colour?

The colours are in everything in dermatology e.g.

- the *black* dots alopecia
- the *Congo red*
- the *brown* bodies in chromoblastomycosis
- the *yellow* nail syndrome
- the *blue* nevus, and
- the *green* discolouration of pseudomonas infection

are only few examples.

Some insects do not recognize certain colours. This can be utilized in preventing some vector-born diseases in dermatology.

In this editorial we seek the answer of why the publishers do not publish the colour in its real nature. The red should be in red and the green should be in green as well. Presumably, the only limitation is the cost and may be some colours like white or yellow that cannot appear well in the background of white.

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The real benefit for dermatologist to realize things in its true colours is worth all the cost, we believe. The problem of few colours that cannot appear in white background can be overcooked by making few tricks like using black frames to the letters, or using a special background for those words. A good advantage for the publishers is that colours do not appear

well in photocopy, so the orders for reprints will increase.

The era of black and white TV is over. Hopefully, same thing will occur to the text of our periodicals. We should present to others a clear message that our profession is very colourful.

Manuscript Submission

Manuscripts should be sent to the Editor, Dr. Ijaz Hussain,
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