



THE AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF DERMATOLOGISTS

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Dermatology Australasia and Australasian College of Dermatologists

Course outline:

Vesicular and Bullous Disease
2025



Dermatology
AUSTRALASIA

1. Course information

1.1 Course aims

Vesicular and Bullous diseases are diseases that involve the development of blisters and pustules on various areas of the body.

Some of the more common conditions included in this category are:

- Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) (covered in other modules associated with this course)
- Vesicular hand dermatitis
- Bullous pemphigoid
- Dermatitis herpetiformis
- Pemphigus vulgaris and foliaceus
- TEN (covered in other modules associated with this course) and
- Friction blisters

Primary vesicular-bullous skin lesions: include vesicles and bullae.

Secondary lesions: may include scale, crust, milia, and scarring. These conditions are classified by depth of skin involvement.

1.2 Learning objectives (LOs)

After completing this module, you should be able to:

1. Identify and describe cutaneous changes that may be associated with Vesicular and Bullous Disease
2. Critically analyse clinical cutaneous observations and/or investigations to diagnose Vesicular and Bullous Disease
3. Plan and develop treatment and management regimens appropriate to Vesicular and Bullous Disease
4. Assess when to refer a patient on to a specialist dermatologist

1.3 Learning and teaching activities

The course is organised into seven components.

- **Pre-learning activities:** are completed prior to starting the course and include a self-rating of your current skills and knowledge about Vesicular and Bullous Disease.
- **Self-paced online modules:** There are five self-paced online modules. At the end of each module participants will need to complete the Topic Scenarios which consist of case studies with T/F or multiple choice questions.
 - Vesicular & Bullous Disease
 - Dermatitis Herpetiformis
 - Bullous Pemphigoid
 - Pemphigus Vulgaris
 - Pemphigus Foliaceus
- **Case Discussion Forum:** This is a forum where students list differential diagnosis, treatment and management options on various case studies. Lecturers and other students can provide feedback for discussion. This is an interactive course component.
- **2 Case Study Submissions:** In approximately 500 – 600 words students need to submit 2 cases from their practice that are relevant to Vesicular and Bullous Disease. They need to present:
 - Clinical finding of the case
 - Any investigations
 - Description of the management
 - Photos of the clinical case (if possible)
 - Summary of the case – therefore a reflection of the main learning points; how the patient was managed, rationale as to why this particular patient was managed in this way or in retrospect what could you have done differently and any other significant learning points. Please include a reference to a literature review.
- **Webinars:** 1 live webinar is held as part of this course in Trimester 3. Attendance or watching the recording are mandatory. Attendance is preferred, as it is an opportunity to interact with your lecturer and colleagues.
- **Final Assessment:** The final assessment for the subject is an online 30-minute examination with 4 case-based questions.
- **Post-course Self Reflection:** completed after starting the course and includes a self-rating of your acquired skills and knowledge about Vesicular and Bullous Disease.

Clinical scenarios are the main teaching and assessment tool across all learning modes of the course. They illustrate the essential content in the online modules. They are used to assess the application of knowledge and skills in the end-of-topic tests and final examination.

2. Course Structure and Outline

You can enroll in this course at any time to access the course material. This course is delivered over a 16 - week period and is self-paced.

Please be advised that the webinars are only run in Trimester 3 of each year and enrolment in this Trimester is thus encouraged.

The course consists of a total of approximately 14 hours of student effort. Here is a general overview of how long items may take:

- 2 hours orientation/planning/pre- and post-reflection exercises
- 4 hours online learning
- 1 hour live webinar
- 2 hours Case Discussion Forum
- 4 hours Case Study Submission
- 0.5 hours Final Online Exam
- 0.5 hours Additional Reading

CPD Hours

	Total Hours	Educational Activities	Performance Review Activities	Outcome Measurement Activities
RACGP CPD hours	14	5	7	2
ACRRM PDP hours	15	6	7	2

1. Vesicular & Bullous Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) • Vesicular hand dermatitis • Bullous pemphigoid • Pemphigus vulgaris and foliaceus • Dermatitis herpetiformis • TEN • Friction blisters
2. Dermatitis Herpetiformis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical overview • Practice scenarios
3. Bullous Pemphigoid	
4. Pemphigus Vulgaris	
5. Pemphigus Foliaceous	

3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment tasks

Tasks	Task Description	Time	Weighting
Quizzes & Practice Scenarios	Complete the 5 topics and associated activities such as short diagnostic quizzes and practice scenarios.	At the end of the relevant topics	Need to pass to proceed
Webinar	Attend the live or view the recorded webinar		Compulsory to complete
Case Discussion Forum	Reply to at all the available cases	Throughout enrolment	10%
Case Study Submission	500 words on relevant VBD case	No later than 2 weeks before Trimester end	75% pass mark 40% weighting
Final Online Exam	A mark equivalent to 75% of the total possible mark for the exam must be obtained to be considered to have passed the exam.	After completing the content, 30 minutes	75% pass mark 50% weighting

3.2 Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

Be sure to provide a list of references whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research to inform your own work. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Please read the ['ACD Academic Misconduct policy.'](#) This policy is available on the ACD Website.

4. Readings and resources

Reading and Resources for examinable material will be provided within the course content. Some extended readings and resources need to be independently sourced.

5. Administrative matters

Please see our Terms and Conditions [here](#).

For further information or questions about the course, please contact enquiries@dermatologyaustralia.com.au.

The Australasian College of Dermatologists complies with the requirements of the Federal Privacy Act and the National Privacy Principles. A full copy of the College's privacy policy is available [here](#).

Acknowledgements

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- Dr Benjamin Carew
- Dr Daniel Hewitt
- Dr Simon Lee
- Dr Victoria Mar
- Dr Jim Muir
- Dr Adam Sheridan
- Associate Professor Peter Soyer

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