

EPONYMS IN DERMATOLOGY LITERATURE LINKED TO CANADAKhalid Al Aboud¹, Ahmad Al Aboud²¹Dermatology Department, King Faisal Hospital, Makkah, Saudi Arabia²Dermatology Department, King Abdullah Medical City, Makkah, Saudi Arabia**Source of Support:**

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None

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Canada is a North American country with a population of approximately 33.4 million as of 2011. Per capita income is the world's ninth highest, and Canada ranks sixth globally in human development [1].

There are several eponyms in dermatology which are linked to Canada. In Table I [2-11], we listed selected eponyms in dermatology literature which are linked to Canada.

Numerous activities related to dermatology have occurred in Canada. The Canadian Dermatology Association, which published the well-known periodical, *The Journal of Cutaneous Medicine and Surgery*, was founded in 1925. The Canadian Dermatology Foundation was established in 1969

and The Canadian Dermatology Nurses Association was founded on 1997.

As a testimony of its Excellency in dermatology teaching, there are several specialized fellowships in Canada, in different subspecialties of dermatology. These fellowships accept candidates from all over the world.

There are also important educational resources in dermatology which are based in Canada. Just an example is, Dermanities (www.dermanities.com), which was launched in 2002 by Benjamin Barankin and David J. Elpern.

The city of Vancouver, in Canada will host the 23rd World Congress of Dermatology in 2015.

Eponyms in dermatology literature linked to Canada	Remarks
Birt-Hogg-Dube' syndrome [2-4]	It is an autosomal dominant trait characterized by multiple fibrofolliculomas and extracutaneous cancer proneness. It is named after three Canadian doctors, Arthur Robert Birt (dermatologist) (Fig. 1), Georgina Hogg (pathologist), (Fig. 2), and Jim Dube' (endocrinologist). Between 1964 and 1972, Arthur Robert Birt was professor and head of the department of dermatology at the University of Manitoba, where he proved a popular and effective teacher. In recognition of Dr. Birt's achievements, the University of Manitoba made him emeritus professor of medicine (dermatology) in 1977. Birt-Hogg-Dube' syndrome, is actually first reported in 1975, by a German dermatologist, Otto Paul Hornstein and his coworker, Monika Knickenberg and sometimes called Hornstein-Knickenberg-Syndrom. That is why a recent paper suggested that the term „Hornstein-Birt-Hogg-Dubé syndrome” appears to be appropriate. Otto Paul Hornstein was born 1926 in Munich. He was the former director of the Department of Dermatology, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg.
Cullen's sign [5,6]	Cullen's sign is described as superficial edema with bruising in the subcutaneous fatty tissue around the peri-umbilical region. It is also known as peri-umbilical ecchymosis. The sign was named after Thomas S. Cullen (1868–1953), (Fig. 3), a Canadian Gynecologist who researched gynecological disease including uterine cancer and ectopic pregnancy, and became a Professor at John Hopkins Hospital. He first described the sign in 1918 after a case of a ruptured extra uterine pregnancy.

Table I. Selected Eponyms in dermatology literature linked to Canada



Figure 1. Arthur Robert Birt.
Reproduced from Reference 3.



Figure 2. Georgina Hogg.
A courtesy of „Dr David
Rayner,Walter Mackenzie Health
Sciences Centre, Edmonton,
Alberta, Canada”



Figure 3. Thomas Stephen Cullen
(1868-1953). A courtesy of National
Library of Medicine

Eponyms in dermatology literature linked to Canada	Remarks
Hunter syndrome [7]	<p>Hunter syndrome, also known as mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS) II, is one of at least 10 defined mucopolysaccharidoses. It is named after, Charles A. Hunter (1873-1955), a Scottish-Canadian physician.</p> <p>Dr. Charles Hunter, in Manitoba, Canada, first described Hunter syndrome in 1917 when he documented short stature, unusual facial features, hepatomegaly, deafness, heart disease, and nodular skin lesions in two brothers. Cutaneous features of this syndrome are firm, hypopigmented to skin-colored papules and nodules generally found on the back, particularly near the scapulae, as well as on the chest, neck, arms, or thighs. These occur generally before 10 years of age in both the mild and severe forms of Hunter syndrome.</p>
Masson's neuronevus and Masson's pseudoangiosarcoma [8]	<p>Masson's neuronevus was used to refer to the neurotized nevus. Masson's pseudoangiosarcoma or the Masson lesion are the other names for intravascular papillary endothelial hyperplasia.</p> <p>These were named after Claude L. Pierre Masson (1880-1959), (Fig. 4), French-born Canadian pathologist.</p> <p>He was the chair of anatomic pathology at the hospital and medical school at Strasbourg, France. In 1927, while he was 46 years old, Masson resigned his position at Strasbourg and accepted the position of chief of anatomic pathology at the University of Montreal Medical School. Pierre Masson died at the age of 79 years. He is buried, as he wished, at the cemetery of Notre-Dame-des-Neiges, atop Mont Royal, where today one has a grand view of the University of Montreal.</p> <div data-bbox="507 1489 845 1915"> </div> <p>Figure 4. Claude L. Pierre Masson (1880-1959). Reproduced from Reference 8</p>

Table I. Selected Eponyms in dermatology literature linked to Canada (continued)



Eponyms in dermatology literature linked to Canada	Remarks
<p>Osler's nodes and Osler-Weber-Rendu syndrome [9]</p>	<p>Osler's nodes are painful, red, raised lesions found on the hands and feet. They are associated with a number of conditions, including infective endocarditis. Osler-Weber-Rendu syndrome or Osler-Weber-Rendu disease are another names for Hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia which is a familial syndrome characterized by multiple telangiectasia of the skin, and of the oral, nasal and gastrointestinal mucous membranes.</p> <p>The above conditions and some other medical conditions are named after Sir William Osler.</p> <p>Osler was a Canadian physician, (1849-1919), (Fig. 5) a native of Canada who at the age of 35 came to USA for 21 years and then moved to the England for the final 14 years.</p> <p>Frederick Parkes Weber (1863-1962) was English physician. Henri Jules Louis Marie Rendu (1844-1902) was a French physician.</p>  <p>Figure 5. William Osler (1849-1919). A courtesy of National Library of Medicine</p>
<p>Senear-Usher syndrome [10]</p>	<p>This is eponym for what is also known as pemphigus erythematodes. It is named after the American dermatologist, Frances Eugene Senear (1889–1958) and the Canadian dermatologist, Barney David Usher (1899–1978). Usher, (Fig. 6), is the first Canadian dermatologist to have his name eponymically attached to a disease. He was born and received his early medical education in Montreal and his MD from McGill University in 1922. In 1926, in collaboration with Senear, Usher published the classic report on pemphigus erythematodes.</p>  <p>Figure 6. Barney David Usher (1899–1978). Reproduced from Reference 10</p>

Table I. Selected Eponyms in dermatology literature linked to Canada (continued)

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