

**EPONYMS IN THE DERMATOLOGY LITERATURE  
LINKED TO UNITED KINGDOM**Khalid Al Aboud<sup>1</sup>, Ahmad Al Aboud<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Department of Public Health, King Faisal Hospital, Makkah, Saudi Arabia<sup>2</sup>Dermatology Department, King Abdullah Medical City, Makkah, Saudi Arabia**Source of Support:**

Nil

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None

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The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, commonly known as the United Kingdom (UK) and Britain, is a sovereign state located off the north-western coast of continental Europe.

The United Kingdom is a developed country and remains a great power with considerable economic, cultural, military, scientific and political influence internationally [1].

England and Scotland were leading centres of the Scientific

Revolution from the 17th century and the United Kingdom led the Industrial Revolution from the 18th century, and has continued to produce scientists and engineers credited with important advances [1].

There are several eponyms in dermatology literature, which are linked to United Kingdom.

In Table I [2-14], we highlighted on some examples of eponyms in dermatology literature, linked to United Kingdom.

Eponyms in the dermatology literature linked to United Kingdom	Remarks
Anderson-Fabry disease [2]	Also known as Fabry disease, angiokeratoma corporis diffusum and alpha-galactosidase A deficiency; is a rare X-linked lysosomal storage disease, which can cause a wide range of systemic symptoms. The disease is named for Johannes Fabry (1860-1930), who was a German dermatologist. And William Anderson (1842-1900), (Fig. 1), who was an English surgeon and dermatologist.
Brooke-Spiegler syndrome (BSS) [3]	Brooke-Spiegler syndrome (BSS), multiple familial trichoepithelioma (MFT), which also is known as epithelioma adenoides cysticum or Brooke's disease, and familial cylindromatosis are allelic, dominantly-inherited conditions with overlapping clinical features. All are characterized by the appearance of benign, adnexal neoplasms in late childhood and early adolescence. Tumors commonly occurring in BSS include spiradenomas, trichoepitheliomas and cylindromas. BSS is named for, Henry Ambrose Grundy Brooke (1854-1919), who was, an English dermatologist. Eduard Spiegler (1860-1908), was an Austrian chemist and dermatologist.
Donovan bodies [4,5]	Donovan bodies are rod-shaped, oval organisms that can be seen in the cytoplasm of mononuclear phagocytes or histiocytes in tissue samples from patients with granuloma inguinale. They were discovered by Charles Donovan (1863-1951). In 1905 he identified the micro-organism responsible for the disease granuloma inguinale. This also bears his name Donovan granulomatosis. Donovan was born in Calcutta. At the age of thirteen he was sent to Cork City to live with his grandfather to advance his secondary and university education.

**Table I. Selected Eponyms in the dermatology literature linked to United Kingdom**



Figure 1. William Anderson (1842-1900)



Figure 2. William Boog Leishman FRS (1865-1926)



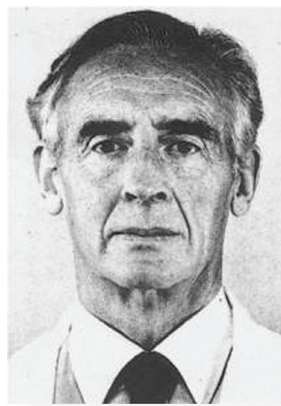
Figure 3. Alan Lyell (1917-2007)

Eponyms in the dermatology literature linked to United Kingdom	Remarks
Dowling-Degos disease [6]	Also known as, reticulate pigmented anomaly of flexures, is a rare genetic disease of the skin, clinically characterized by flexural brown pigmented reticulate macules, comedo-like papules on the back, neck and pitted perioral or facial scars. Reticulated hyperpigmentation anomalies were initially distinguished from acanthosis nigricans by Dowling and Freudenthal in 1938. In 1954, Degos and Ossipowski described a patient with a similar case. The syndrome designated Dowling-Degos Disease (DDD) by Wilson-Jones and Grice in 1978. Dowling was an English physician.
Hartnup disease [7]	It is inborn error of tryptophan excretion. Also known as „pellagra-like dermatosis“. It is an autosomal recessive metabolic disorder affecting the absorption of nonpolar amino acids. The disease was named for the Hartnup family of England, who were looked at in a 1956 study of the disease.
Leishmaniasis [4,5]	Leishmaniasis is a zoonotic infection caused by protozoa that belong to the genus <i>Leishmania</i> . The disease is named after Leishman, who first described it in London in May 1903. Lieutenant-General Sir William Boog Leishman (1865-1926), (Fig. 2), was a Scottish pathologist and British Army medical officer. In 1901, while examining pathologic specimens of a spleen from a patient who had died of kala azar he observed oval bodies and published his account of them in 1903. Captain Charles Donovan confirmed the finding of what became known as Leishman-Donovan bodies in smears taken from patients in Madras in southern India.
Lyell's syndrome [8]	This is another name for toxic epidermal necrolysis. Toxic epidermal necrolysis. It is named after, Alan Lyell (1917-2007), (Fig. 3).
Rowell syndrome [9]	This syndrome is a combination of erythema multiforme-like lesions in patients with, lupus erythematosus. Some authors believe that, the coexistence of cutaneous lupus erythematosus and erythema multiform does not justify the framing of a separate syndrome as suggested by Rowell et al, in 1963.
Sneddon-Wilkinson syndrome [10,11]	This is another name for subcorneal pustular dermatosis. It was first described by Sneddon and Wilkinson in 1956. It is a rare, benign, chronic, sterile pustular eruption which usually develops in middle-age or elderly women; it is rarely seen in childhood and adolescence. The etiology of this entity is unknown. The syndrome is named after 2 British dermatologists, Ian Bruce Sneddon (1915-1987), (Fig. 4), and Daryl Sheldon Wilkinson.

Table I. Selected Eponyms in the dermatology literature linked to United Kingdom (continued)



**Figure 4. Ian Bruce Sneddon (1915-1987)**



**Figure 5. George Crichton Wells (1914-1999)**



**Figure 6. Arthur Whitfield (1868-1947)**

Eponyms in the dermatology literature linked to United Kingdom	Remarks
Sweet syndrome [12]	Also known as , acute febrile neutrophilic dermatosis. It was first described in 1964 by Dr. Robert Douglas Sweet (1917-2001), who was an English physician. It was also known as Gomm-Button disease in honour of the first two patients Dr. Sweet diagnosed with the condition.
Wells Syndrome [13]	This is another name for eosinophilic cellulites. Named after George Crichton Wells (1914-1999), (Fig. 5).
Whitfield's ointment [14]	Whitfield's Ointment is salicylic acid and benzoic acid in a suitable base, such as lanolin or vaseline. It is used for the treatment of fungal infections. Named for, Arthur Whitfield (1868-1947), (Fig. 6), who was a British dermatologist.

**Table I. Selected Eponyms in the dermatology literature linked to United Kingdom**

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