

# Skin infections by the numbers

Skin infections are among 24 skin diseases or disease categories examined in the Burden of Skin Disease report commissioned by the American Academy of Dermatology. The report examined prevalence, economic burdens, and mortality for skin disease in the U.S. using 2013 health care claims data drawn from insurance enrollment and claims databases and found that:

- **84.5 million Americans — one in four** — saw a physician for skin disease; 50% of them are over 65 and have an average of 2.2 skin conditions.
- Skin disease **cost the U.S. healthcare system \$75 billion** in medical, preventative, and prescription and non-prescription drug costs.
- **One in three Americans with skin disease were seen by a dermatologist**, who collaborate with other physicians throughout the health care system in caring for these patients.

When combined, over 40.8 million individuals sought medical treatment for skin infections in 2013, which is almost 1 in 2 Americans affected by skin disease. The three disease areas — viral and fungal diseases, cutaneous infections, and HPV (human papillomavirus/molluscum) — were each among the top 5 by number of affected people that sought care in 2013. That year:

- The medical cost of treating **skin infections exceeded \$11.4 billion** and each of the three disease areas were among the top 5 by cost, with cutaneous infections at the top totaling \$8.1 billion.
- The combined **lost productivity costs for individuals and caregivers affected was over \$3.3 billion**, almost one third of the total lost productivity for the 24 skin disease categories analyzed.
- Nearly **2,500 people died of cutaneous infections and viral and fungal diseases.**

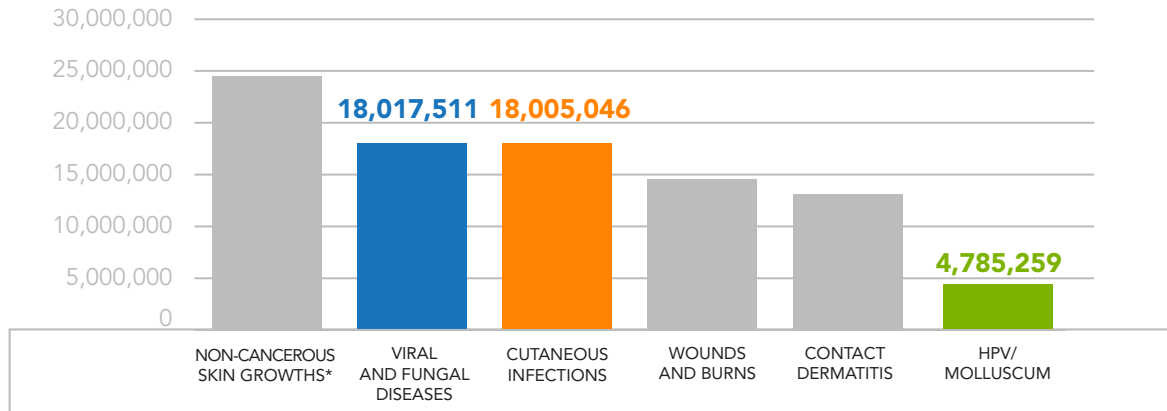
The charts that follow provide topline data on how skin infections contribute the overall burden of skin disease.

The full report includes data on prescription and non-prescription drug costs, and how age and insurance status and provider relate to the burden associated with skin infections and skin disease broadly. To purchase the report visit [www.aad.org/BSD](http://www.aad.org/BSD).

# Prevalance

## NUMBER OF CARED-FOR INDIVIDUALS

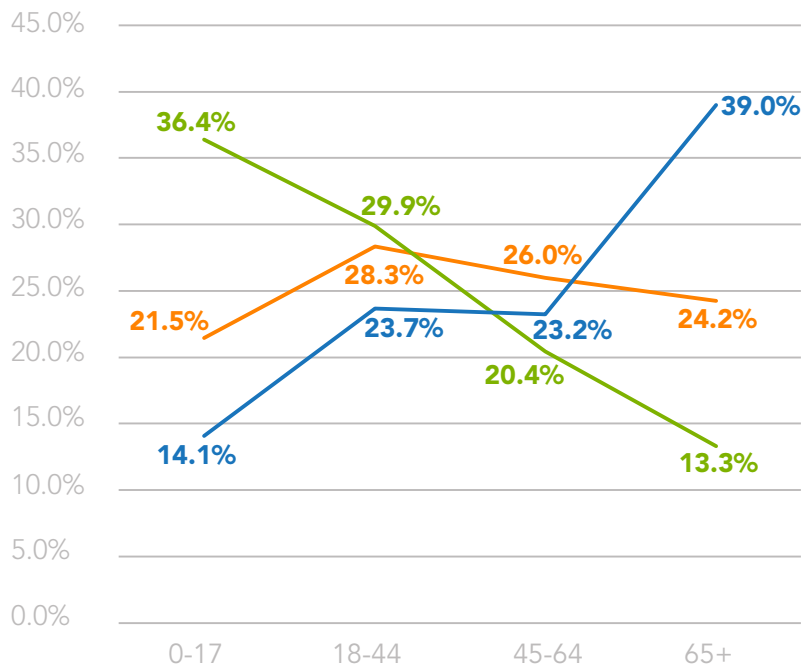
- VIRAL AND FUNGAL DISEASES
- CUTANEOUS INFECTIONS
- HPV/MOLLUSCUM
- OTHER SKIN DISEASES



\*This category is clinically broad in nature and includes, among other diseases: benign neoplasms, melanocytic nevi (unspecified), pilar cysts, pilonidal cysts (with or without abscess), scars and fibrosis, etc.

## SKIN INFECTIONS PATIENTS BY AGE\*

- VIRAL AND FUNGAL DISEASES
- CUTANEOUS INFECTIONS
- HPV/MOLLUSCUM

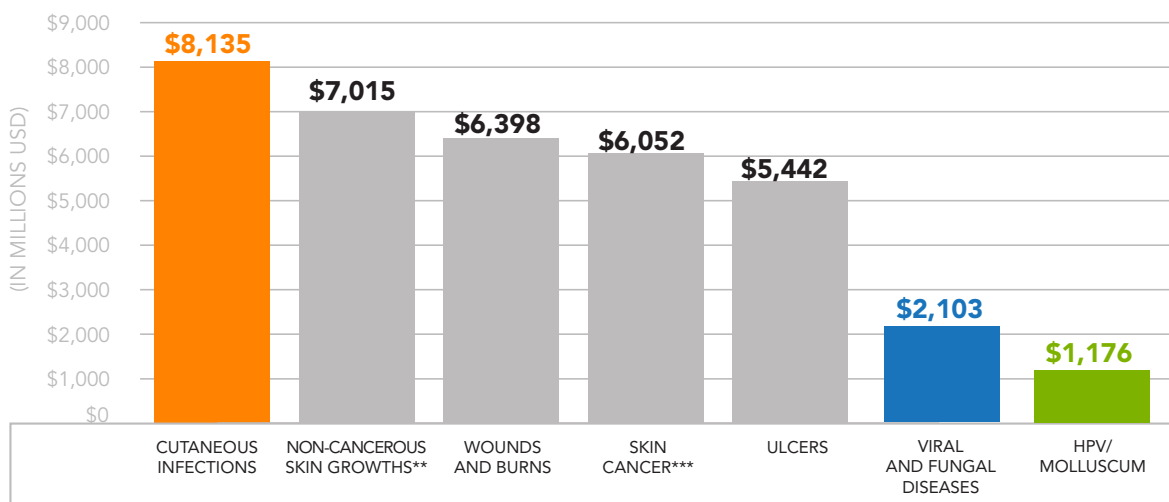


\*Percentage of skin ulcer, wound, and burn patients seen by a physician by age group.

# Cost

## TOTAL MEDICAL COST\*

- VIRAL AND FUNGAL DISEASES
- CUTANEOUS INFECTIONS
- HPV/MOLLUSCUM
- OTHER SKIN DISEASES



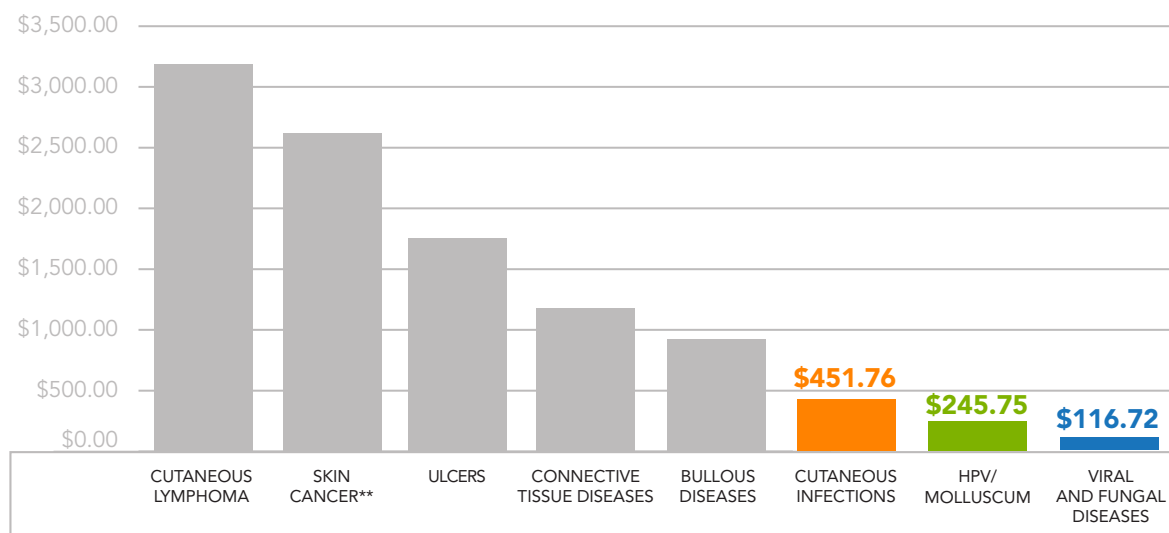
\*In millions of dollars compared to most costly skin diseases.

\*\*This category is clinically broad in nature and includes, among other diseases: benign neoplasms, melanocytic nevi (unspecified), pilar cysts, pilonidal cysts (with or without abscess), scars and fibrosis, etc.

\*\*\* Represents combined data for melanoma and nonmelanoma skin cancer.

## COST OF SKIN DISEASE PER AFFECTED PERSON\*

- VIRAL AND FUNGAL DISEASES
- CUTANEOUS INFECTIONS
- HPV/MOLLUSCUM
- OTHER SKIN DISEASES



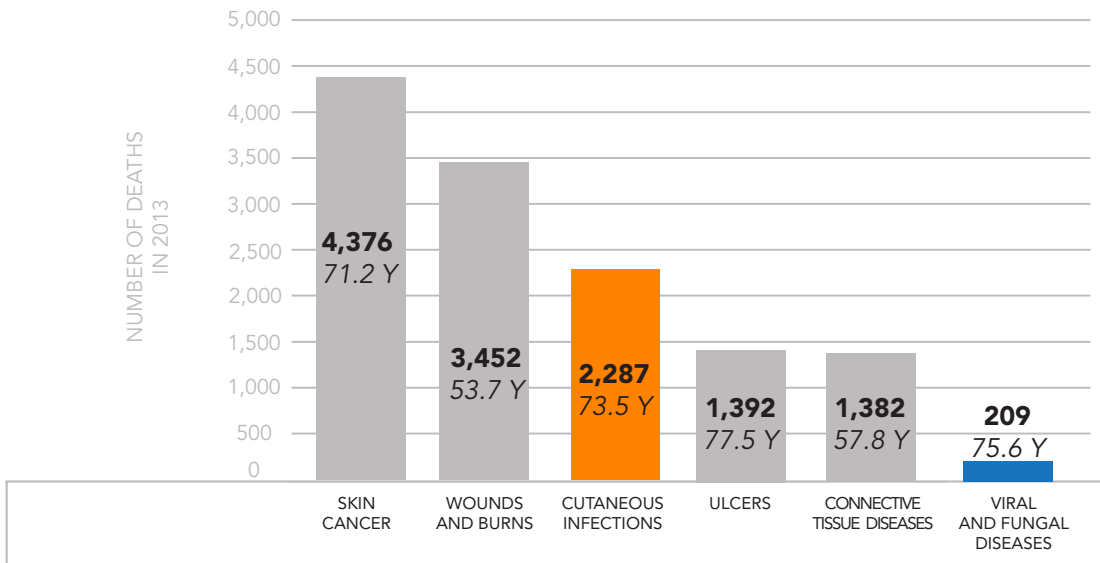
\*Compared with most costly skin diseases.

\*\*Represents combined data for melanoma and nonmelanoma skin cancer.

# Life Impact

## MORTALITY\*

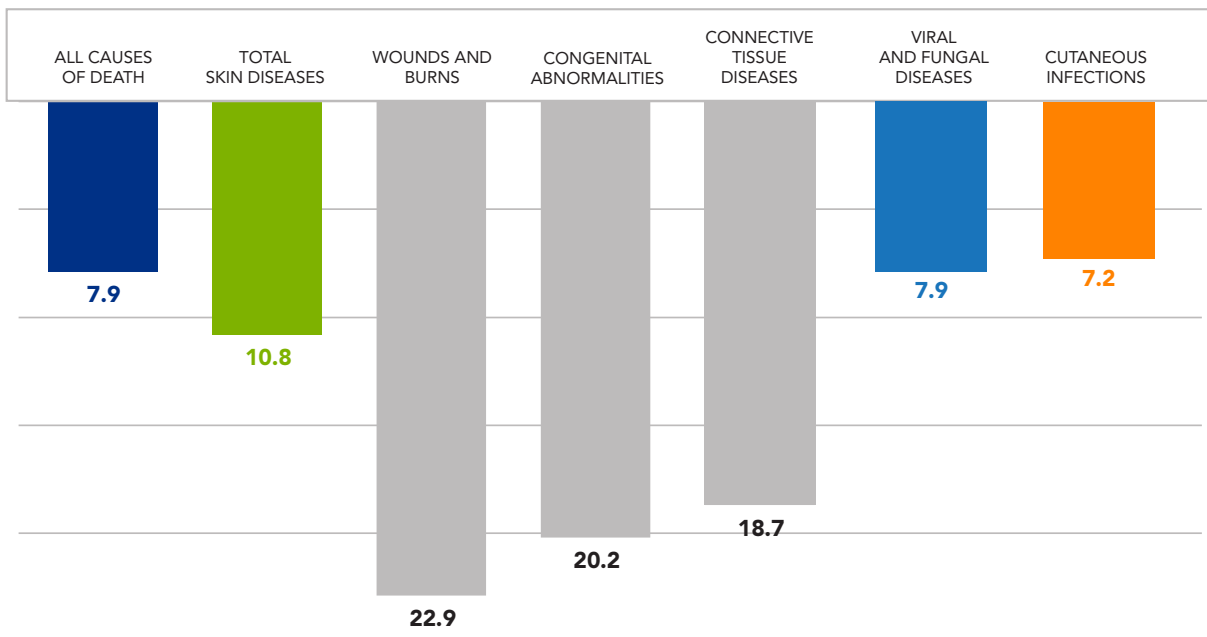
● VIRAL AND FUNGAL DISEASES ● CUTANEOUS INFECTIONS ● OTHER SKIN DISEASES



\*Provides the total number of deaths and average age at death from skin infections compared with other skin diseases with highest mortality.

## YEARS OF POTENTIAL LIFE LOST\*

● VIRAL AND FUNGAL DISEASES ● CUTANEOUS INFECTION  
● TOTAL SKIN DISEASES ● ALL CAUSES OF DEATH

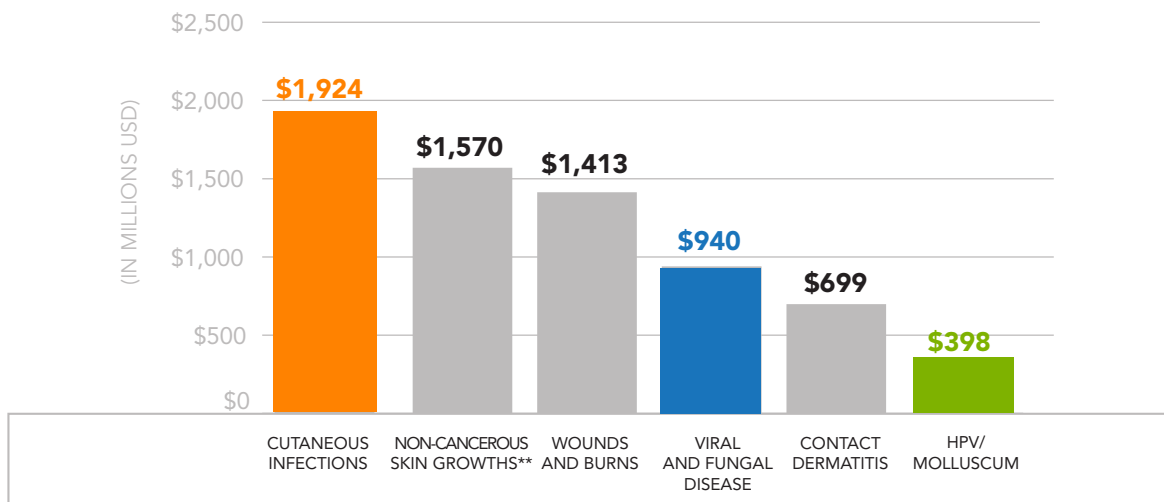


\*Estimate/projected number of life years lost due to non-cancerous skin growths compared to top skin diseases leading to early death; Projected based on prototypical lifespan of 75 years.

# Life Impact

## LOST PRODUCTIVITY (OPPORTUNITY COST)\*

- VIRAL AND FUNGAL DISEASES
- CUTANEOUS INFECTIONS
- HPV/MOLLUSCUM
- OTHER SKIN DISEASES



\*Time lost by patients and/or caregivers multiplied by average wages in 2013 (\$192/day); In millions of dollars compared with skin diseases leading to the most loss of productivity.

\*\*This category is clinically broad in nature and includes, among other diseases: benign neoplasms, melanocytic nevi (unspecified), pilar cysts, pilonidal cysts (with or without abscess), scars and fibrosis, etc.



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