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## This Month in *JAAD* Case Reports: May 2021



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Cultural competence of health care providers has been shown to improve patient compliance, satisfaction, and health outcomes. The Liaison Committee on Medical Education, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, and numerous state medical boards and specialty societies have recognized the importance of cultural competence in reducing health disparities, with many having implemented some form of the required training to address potential knowledge and performance gaps.<sup>1</sup>

In the January 2021 edition of *JAAD* Case Reports, Meister et al<sup>2</sup> addressed the knowledge gap in caring for patients in the Haredi Jewish community. Using a series of 5 cases, they illustrated how understanding the unique cultural practices in this population led to the correct diagnosis and treatment in each patient.

By introducing the reader to terms such as “upsherin,” “tzitzis,” “payot,” “phylacteries,” and “tellifin,” they provided a glimpse into the ultraorthodox Jewish culture and presented evidence demonstrating the importance of cultural awareness for dermatologists.<sup>2</sup>

#### Conflicts of interest

None disclosed.

#### REFERENCES

1. McKesey J, Berger TG, Lim HW, McMichael AJ, Torres A, Pandya AG. Cultural competence for the 21st century dermatologist practicing in the United States. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2017;77(6):1159-1169.
2. Meister H, Silverberg NB. Dermatologic considerations in ultraorthodox Jews: an illustrative case series. *JAAD Case Rep*. 2020;7:113-116.

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