VisualDx: Medicine's Second Opinion At Your Fingertips

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Knowledge Nook 9-4-24

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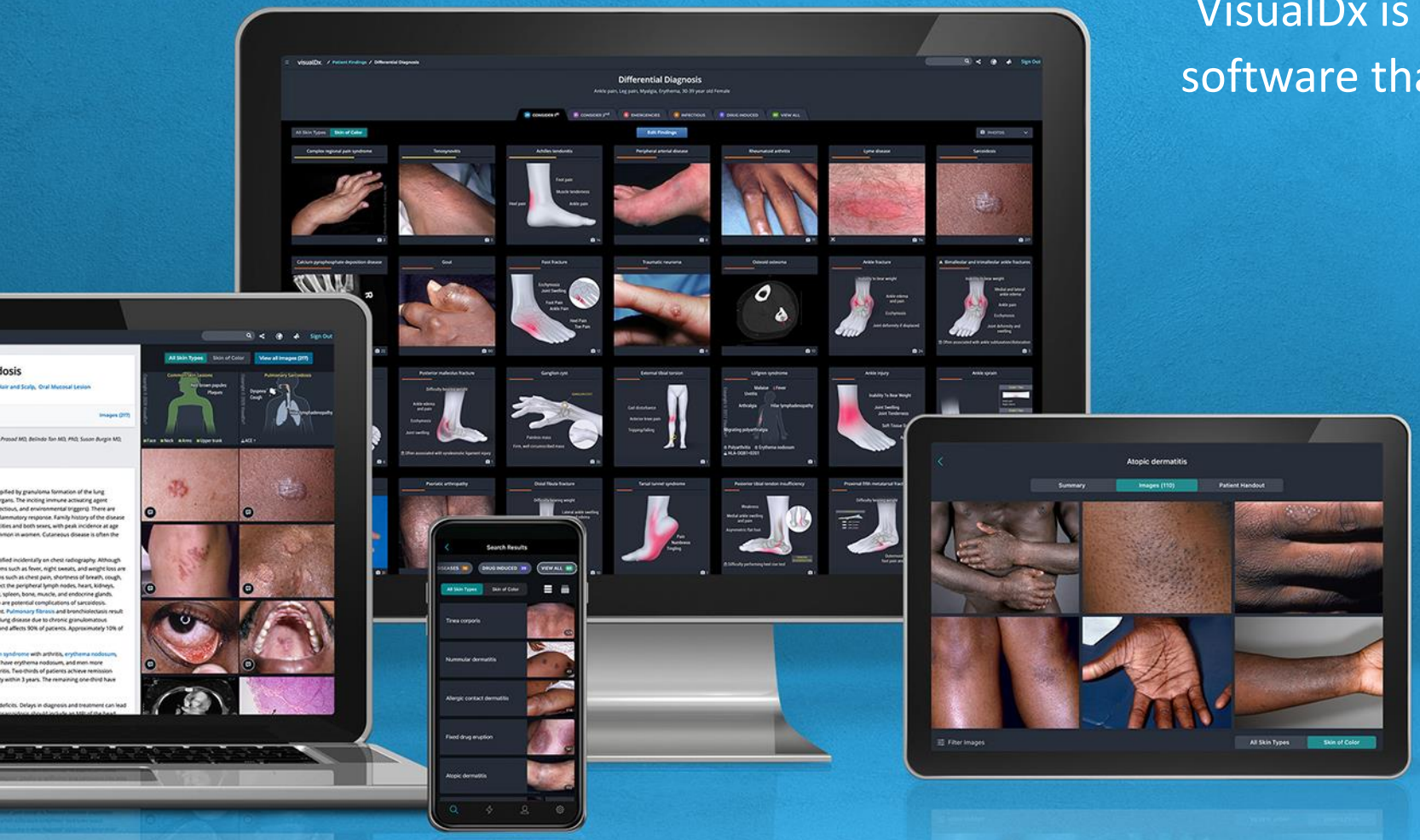
VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

What is VisualDx?

VisualDx is powerful clinical decision support software that you can use at the point of care.



- Search 3,400 diagnoses for concise information including best tests, management, and therapy options.
- Build a patient-specific diagnosis based on a chief complaint, medication, or travel finding.
- Engage patients with images that resemble their condition and handouts for nearly 400 common conditions.
- Review more than 47,000 high-quality medical images showing the variation of presentation.

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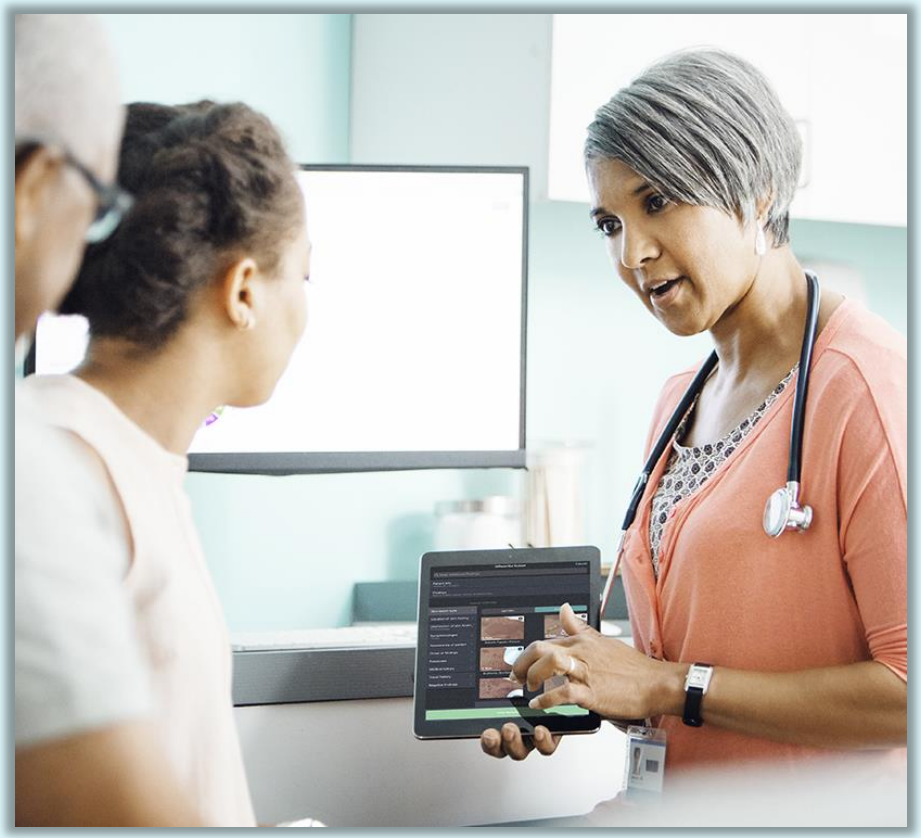
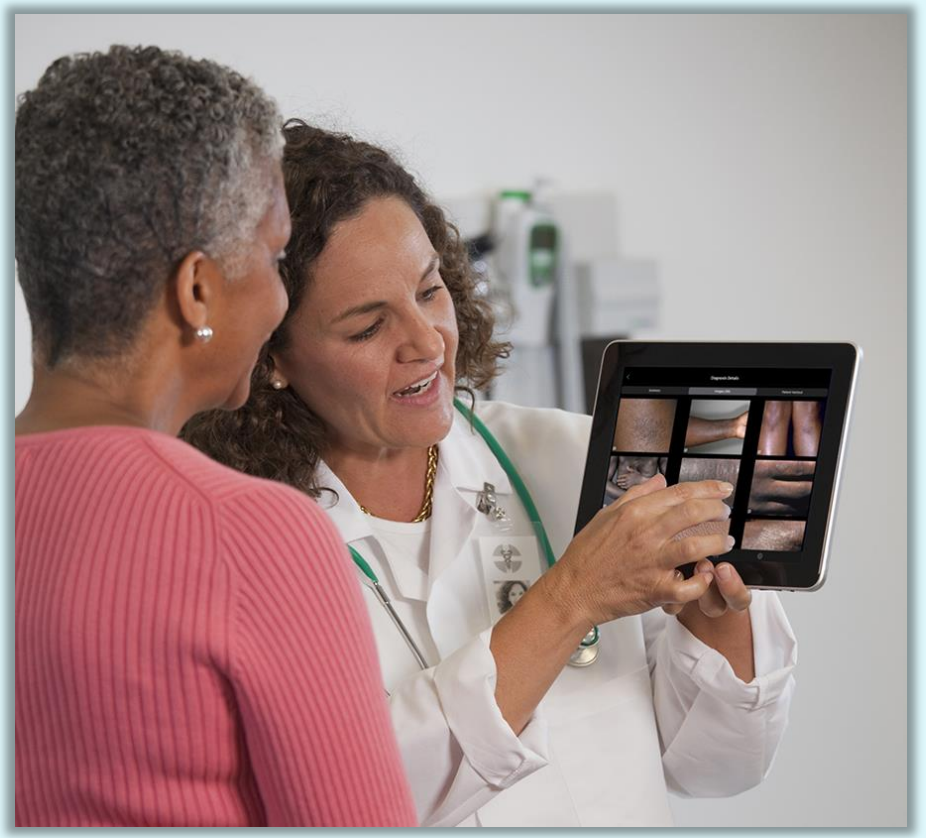
VisualDx Fills Knowledge Gaps

Equity in Knowledge = Improvement in Diagnosis = Improved Health Care Outcomes



During the diagnostic process, doctors can use VisualDx to understand that variations in disease include skin color. VisualDx helps to fill in knowledge gaps related to skin of color.



Doctors engage patients with shared decision-making by using VisualDx to show images to the patient that look like them. Patients are more confident in the diagnosis and compliant with treatment.

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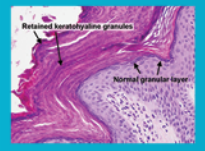
VisualDx is More Than Skin Deep

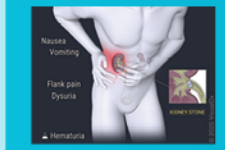
PLUS AGE-SPECIFIC CONTENT INCLUDING INFANT • CHILD • TEEN • ADULT • GERIATRIC

IMAGE VARIETY IN VISUALDX

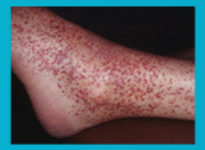
ECG
101



Lab (histopath, gross)
1,395



Illustrations
400

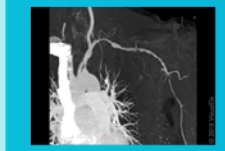


Clinical Images
47,000+

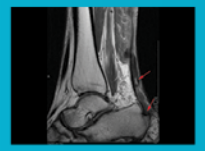
Sympticons
4,196

Skin of Color Images
29%

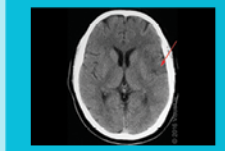
Radiology Total: 3,240



Angiography
7

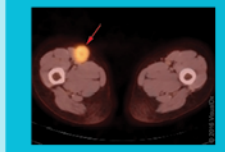


MRI
809



CT
941

Ultrasound
203



PET/CT
10

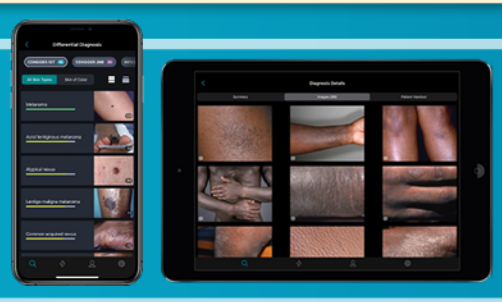
X-ray
1,270

CLINICAL CONTENT BY SPECIALTY

- Allergy / Immunology **326**
- Cardiology **151**
- Dermatology **1,240**
- Drug-Induced **859**
- Endocrinology **175**
- ENT **123**
- Eye **252**
- Gastroenterology **234**
- Genetic **588**
- Hematology **163**
- Infectious Disease **562**
- Injury / Trauma **316**
- Nail **101**
- Nephrology **118**
- Neurology **323**
- Oncology **241**
- Oral **129**
- Orthopedic **328**
- Pediatric **1,272**
- Poisoning / CBRN* **121**
- Psychiatry **68**
- Pulmonary **197**
- Rheumatology **145**
- Women's Health **171**

Some diagnoses may be counted in more than one specialty. Clinical content is added and updated with each VisualDx data release.

*Chemical/Biological/Radiation/Nuclear



Dermatology for the Non-Dermatologist

The days of dreading rash are over. With VisualDx you can grow more confident in diagnosing skin conditions and recognizing lesions in dark skin. VisualDx is designed to help you identify lesion types and make an accurate diagnosis.

Updated 6/2023

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Why Use VisualDx?: Speed and Accuracy Through Visualization

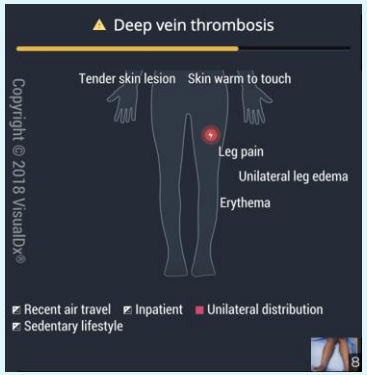
Text-based Analysis

Many support and reference tools contain only detailed text, which makes it hard to use them at the point of care to quickly compare several possible diagnoses.

Visual Pattern Recognition

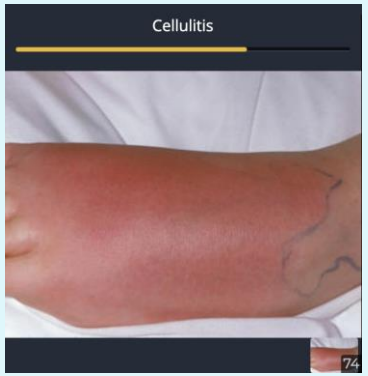
VisualDx uses medical images (including radiology, pathology, EKG), Sympticons™ and Illustrations to help you quickly compare a number of diagnoses.

Illustration



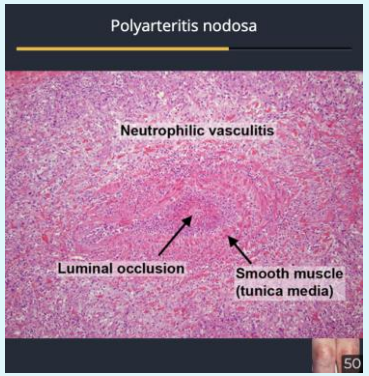
Sympticon

Radiology



Light Skin Image

Dark Skin Image



Pathology

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The Cost of Diagnostic Error

A 48-year-old patient presenting with bilateral leg redness and swelling. The patient had been admitted to the hospital 3 times over 6 months for the diagnosis of “cellulitis.” In this case, the correct diagnosis was erythema nodosum.

Each year, at least **one in five** cellulitis patients in the U.S. is diagnosed incorrectly, hospitalized, given medications they don’t need, and put at risk for dangerous complications.

500,000 inpatient admissions for cellulitis in the U.S. each year.

Costs estimated at $12,000 per admission and an error rate of 20%.

Misdiagnosis costs **one billion** dollars per year for cellulitis alone.

The **highest cost** is potential patient harm, as they can have a serious medication reaction to antibiotics or develop a serious infection during hospitalization.

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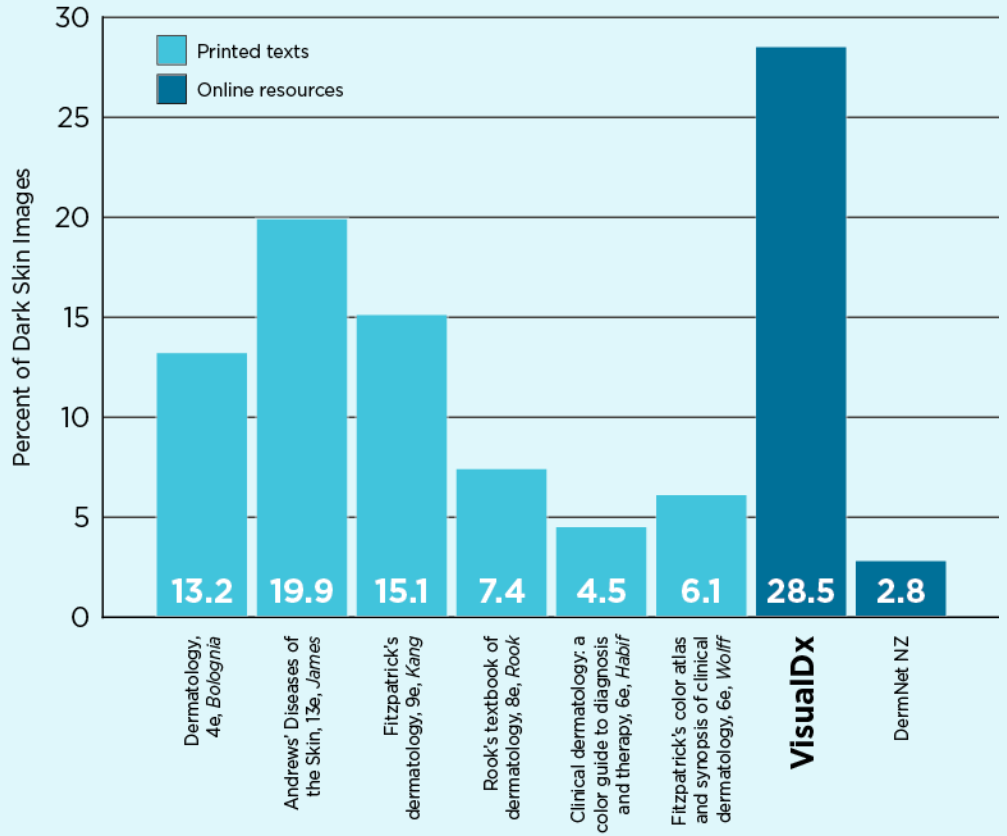
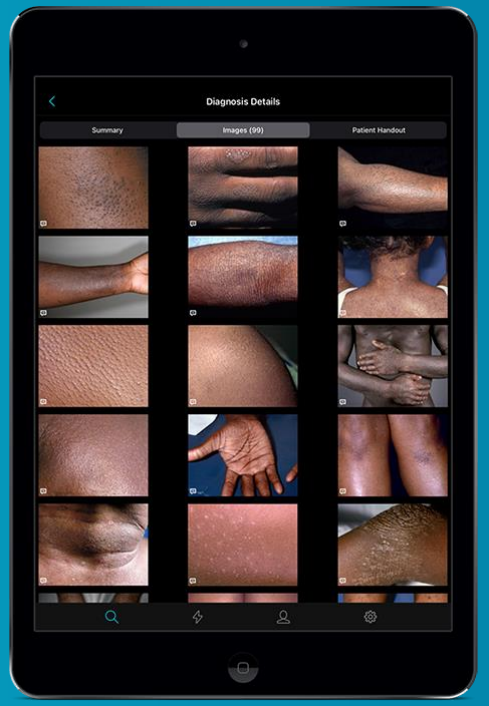
The World's Leading Skin of Color Atlas

Extent of illustration of dark skin in commonly used dermatologic learning resources for the 65 common dermatologic conditions included in this study.





- VisualDx is recognized for showing "pathology on dark skin in remarkably high proportion compared other resources."
- We believe representation is critical to bridging gaps of knowledge in medicine.

28.5% of images in VisualDx are skin type IV, V, VI.

Type IV | Type V | Type VI

Source: Alvarado SM, Feng H, Representation of dark skin images of common dermatologic conditions in educational resources: a cross-sectional analysis, *JAAD* (2020), https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaad.2020.06.041. Published June 10, 2020. Accessed June 18, 2020.

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Disease Appearance: Differences in Skin Presentation

VisualDx is the only resource to have 1/3 of its images representing people of color.

CELLULITIS

Brown to red patch in a person of color with cellulitis.

Bright, erythematous patch and edema in cellulitis.

LYME DISEASE

Large erythematous patch of Lyme disease is subtle and can easily be missed in patients of color.

Classic targetoid, erythematous patch of Lyme disease is easily seen.

SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS

In deeply pigmented skin severe inflammation can cause depigmentation as in this patient.

Classic malar erythema in this patient with light skin.

EXANTHEMATOUS DRUG ERUPTION

Coalescing erythematous papules are much less obvious in this child with exanthematous drug eruption.

Multiple erythematous papules coalescing on trunk in light skin are obvious on light skin.

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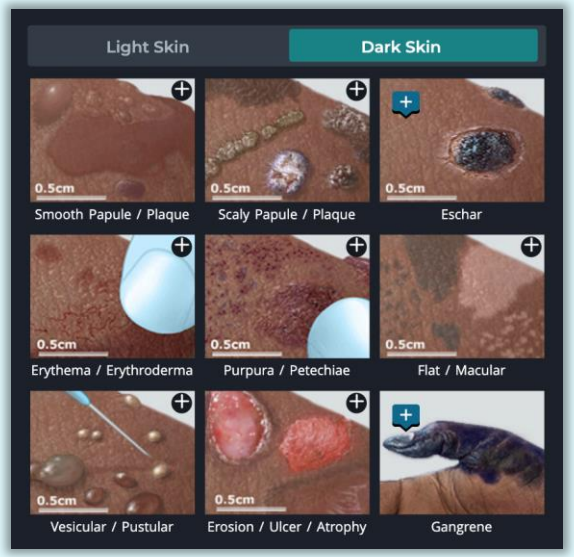
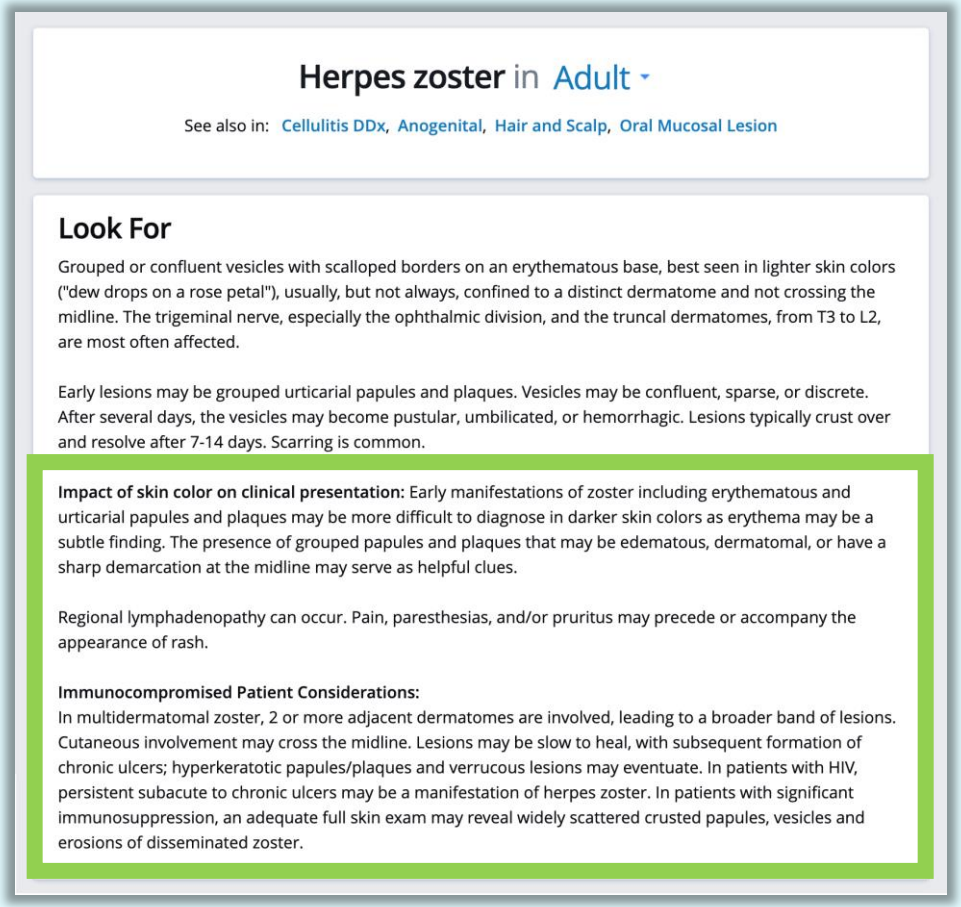
Product Enhancements that Support Diversity and Inclusion

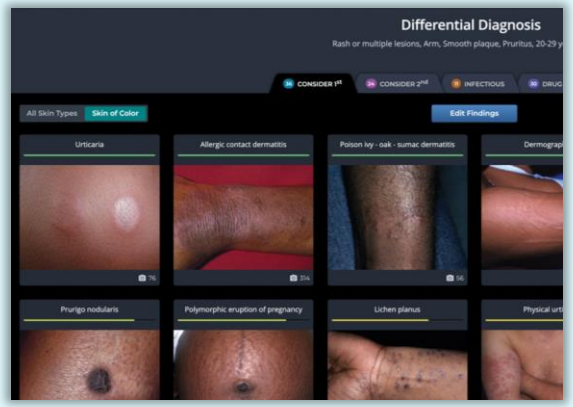


Choose lesion morphology for skin of color.

Share patient handouts in English or Spanish. Handouts are written specifically for a patient audience.



Access information on special considerations such as patients of color or immunocompromised conditions. Our editorial team continues to add clinical considerations throughout VisualDx.



View the differential with skin of color images and filter images by skin type.

Read image captions to gain additional insight into presentations of disease.

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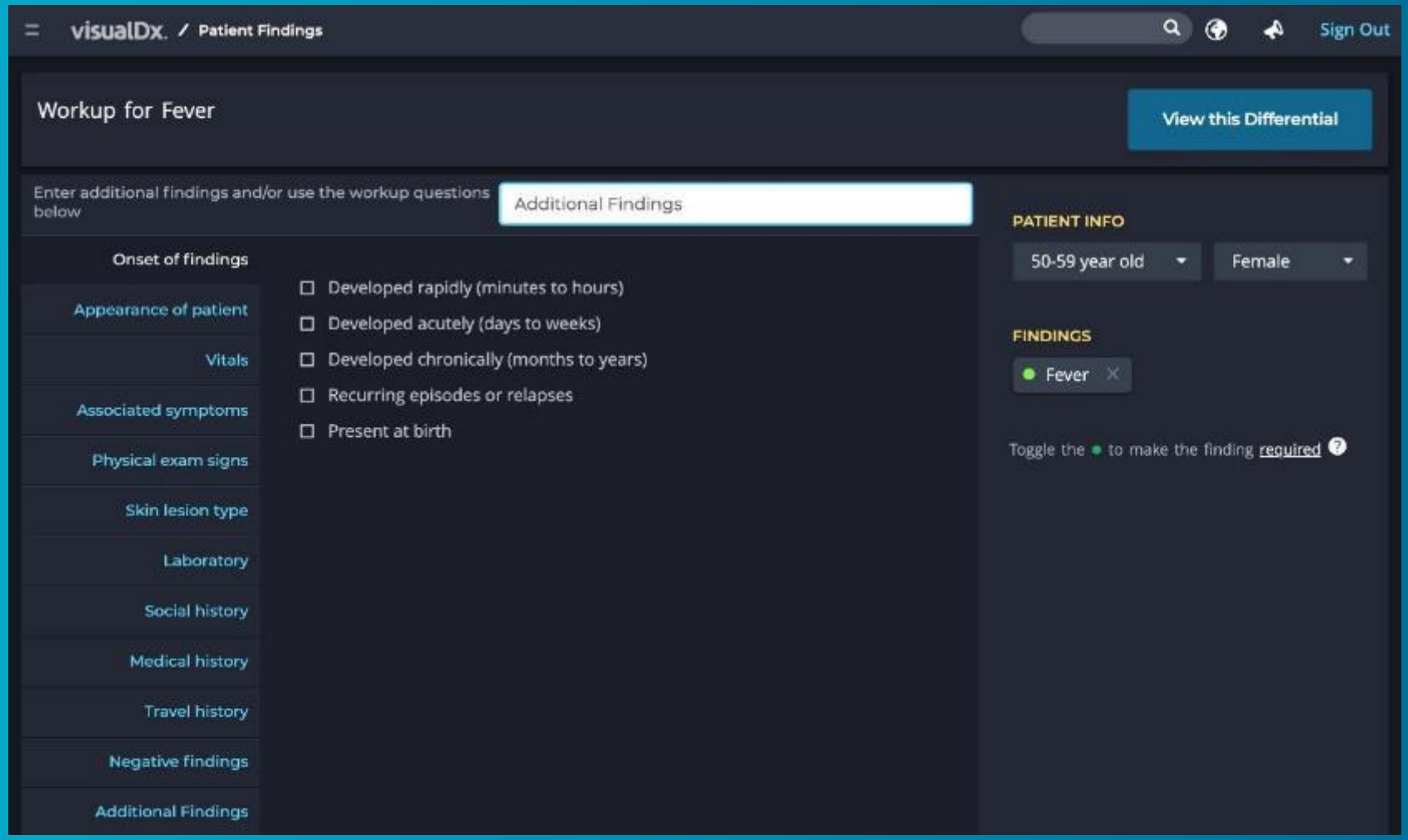
Patient Assessment: Patient-Specific Workup

- Supports problem-based learning
- Triage the patient symptoms
- More than 4,100 symptoms and findings in both basic and clinical terminology
- More than 222,000 finding/diagnosis relationships



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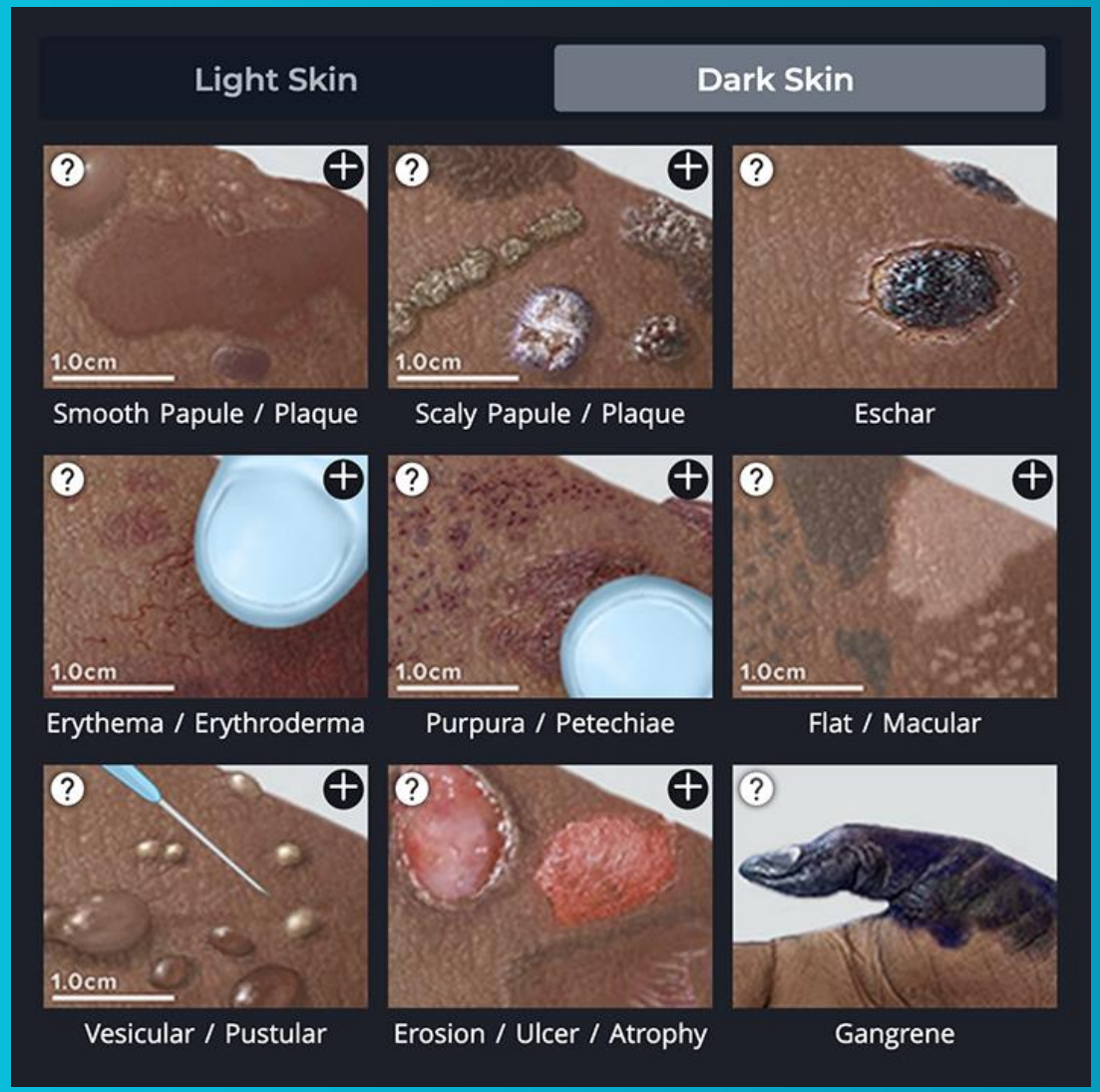
Clinical Medicine: Dermatology - Morphologies



Skin lesions on dark skin

Skin lesions on light skin

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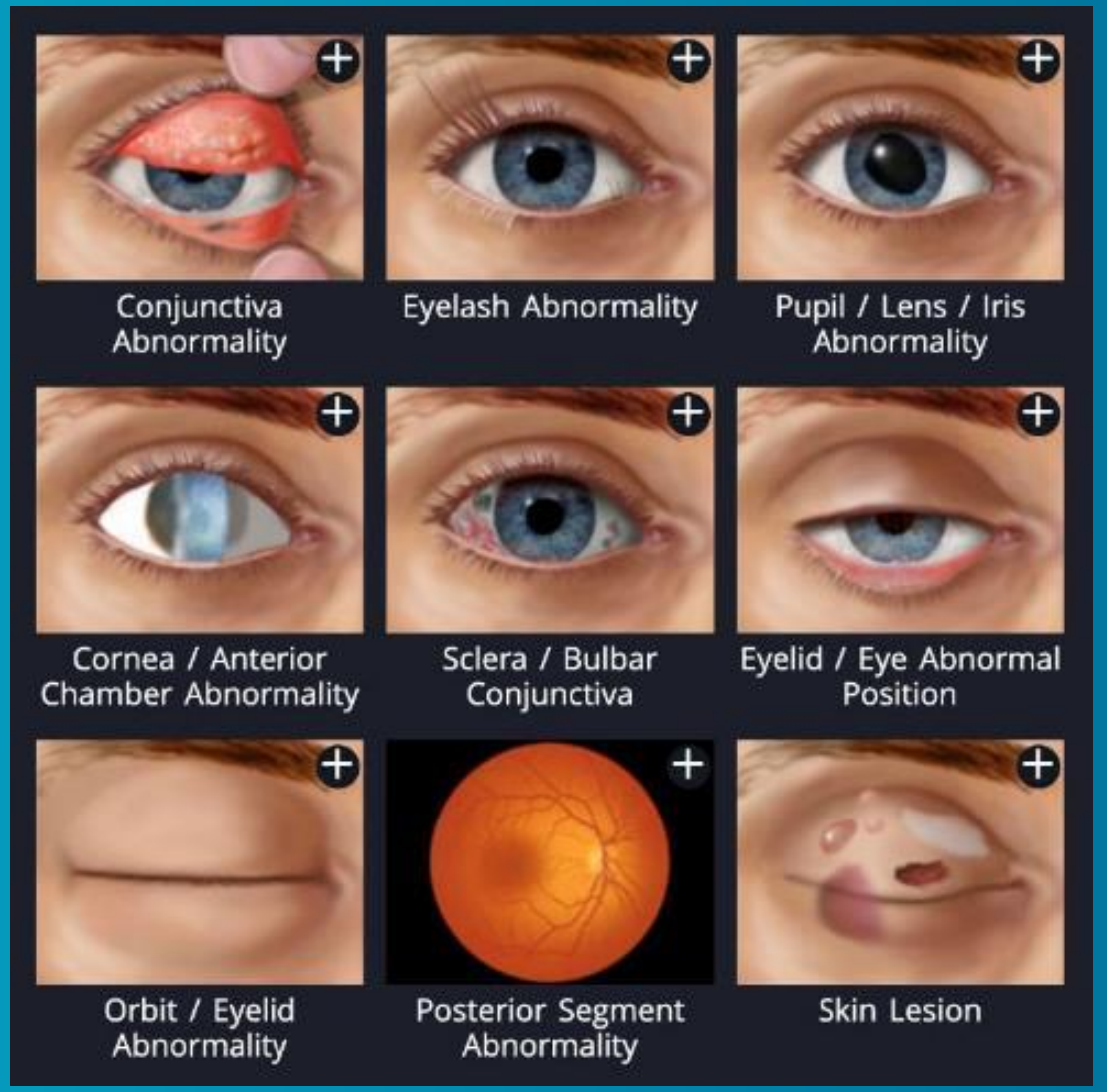
Clinical Medicine: Ophthalmology, ENT, and Oral



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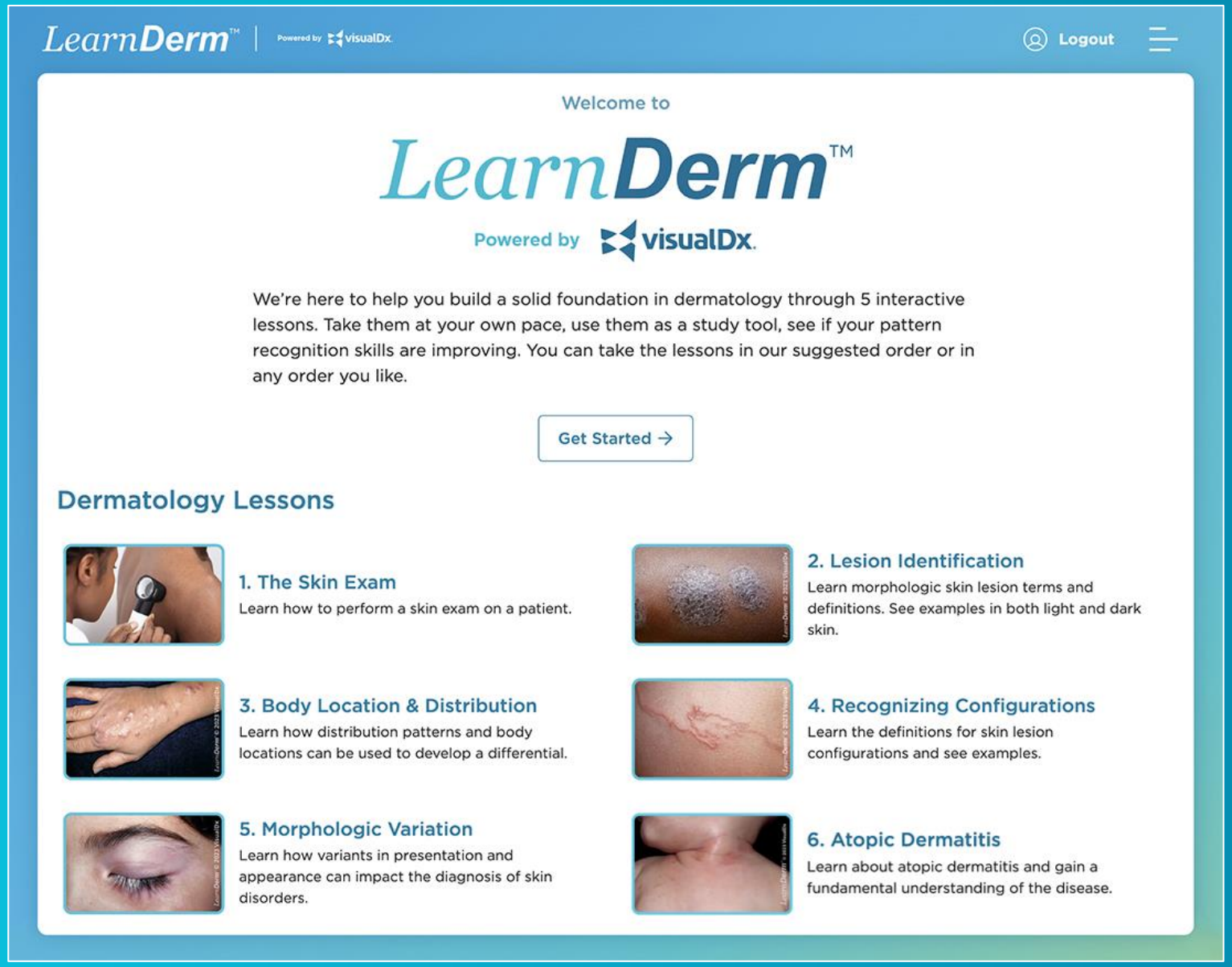
Clinical Medicine: Dermatology



LearnDerm

Non-dermatologists learn terminology, pattern recognition skills, and dermatology fundamentals with 6 self-paced lessons and quizzes.

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What's New in VisualDx?

Product Enhancements

Introducing VisualDx's New Compare View Feature
Compare View empowers clinicians to refine their differentials by providing a side-by-die comparison of visually similar conditions.

Clinical Education Center
Empowering Future Medical Professionals: Technology's Role in Medical Education

PACT Act Resources – Now Available on your VisualDx Dashboard!

Content Updates

August 2024: Mpox & Long COVID updates, new TNF-alpha inhibitor findings and more

June 2024: Rare dermatological images, new patient handouts and more

April 2024: Infectious disease outbreaks and neglected tropical disease images

February 2024: Additional images and medical illustrations and updates to recent public health outbreaks

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INSTITUTIONAL EXCLUSIVE

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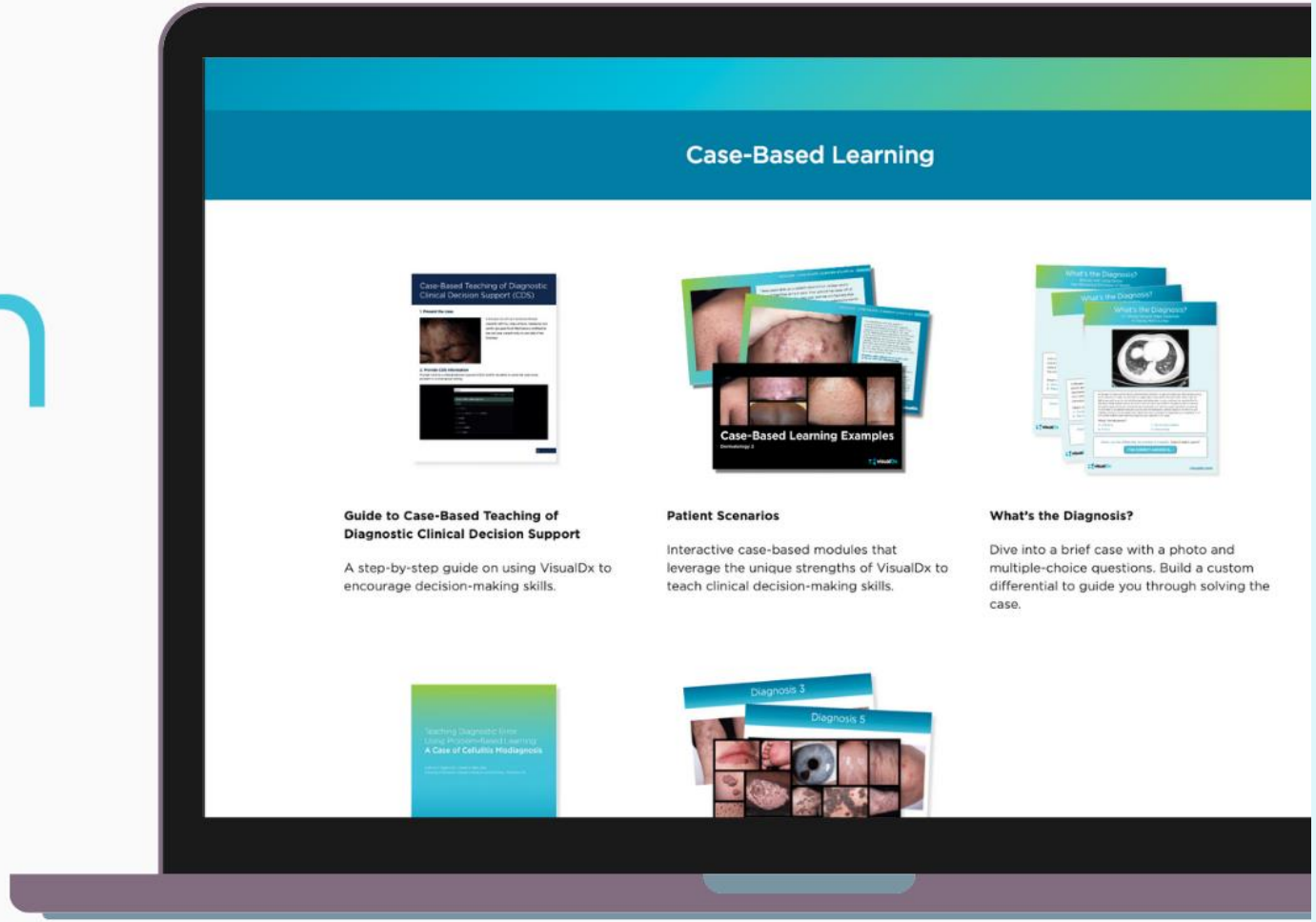
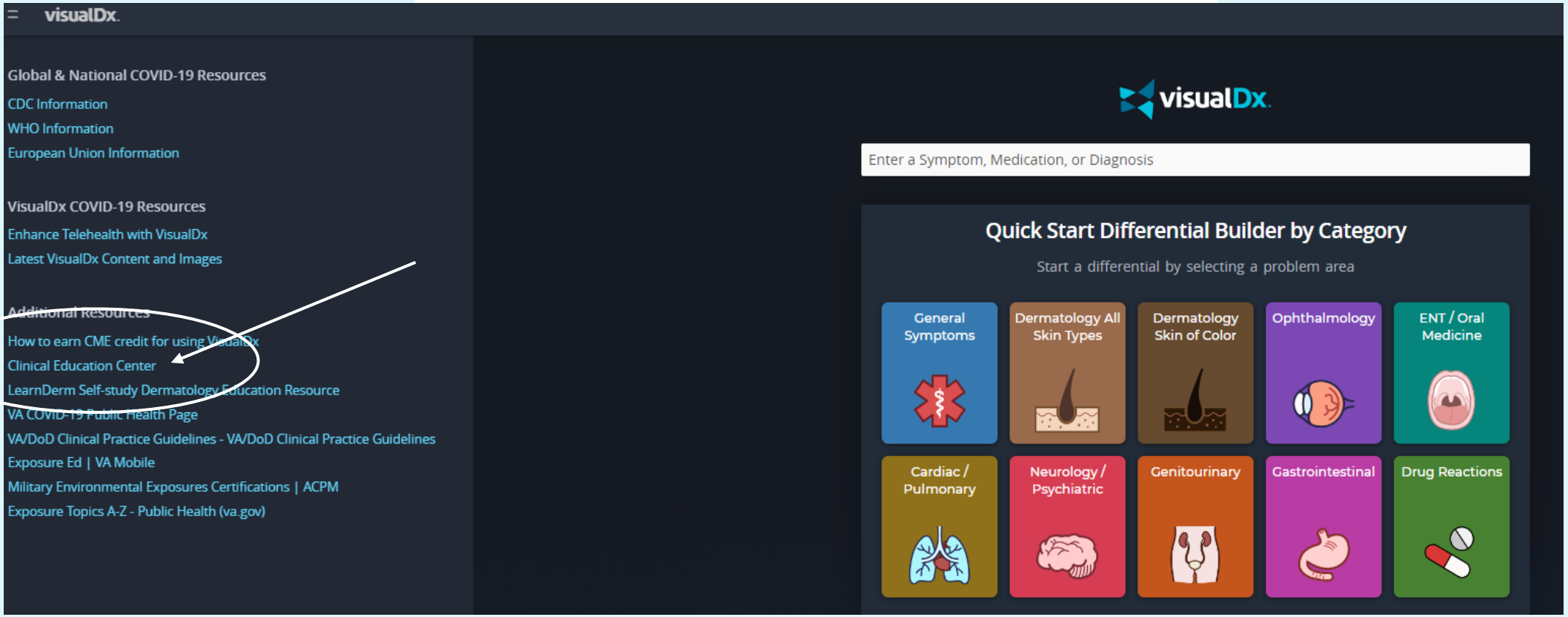
Clinical Education Center

Educational resources created to instill lifelong information-seeking habits.



Clinical Education Center

Readily-available resources for classroom and remote learning:.



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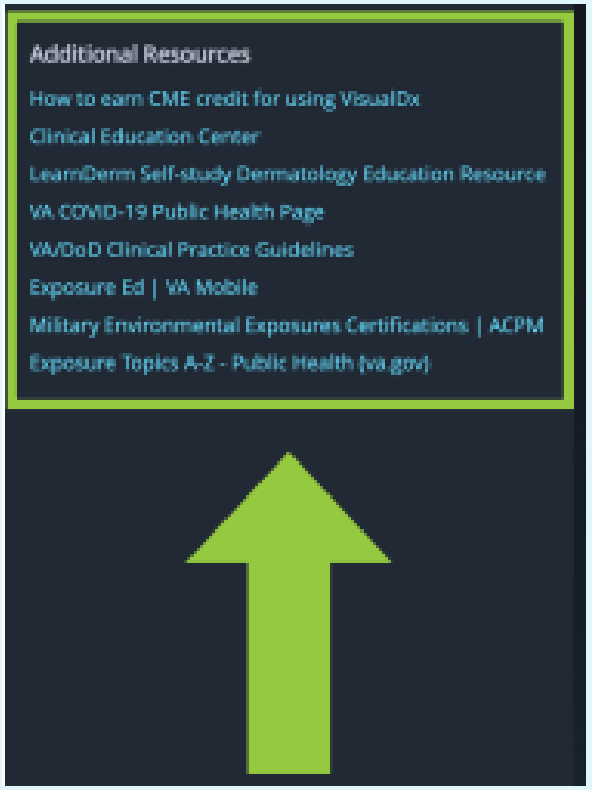
PACT Act Resources

Quickly access the information you need with dynamic links right on the homepage of VisualDx on the web.

Resources include:

- VA/DoD Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Exposure Ed | VA Mobile
- Exposure Topics A-Z - Public Health (va.gov)
- Military Environmental Exposures Certifications | ACPM



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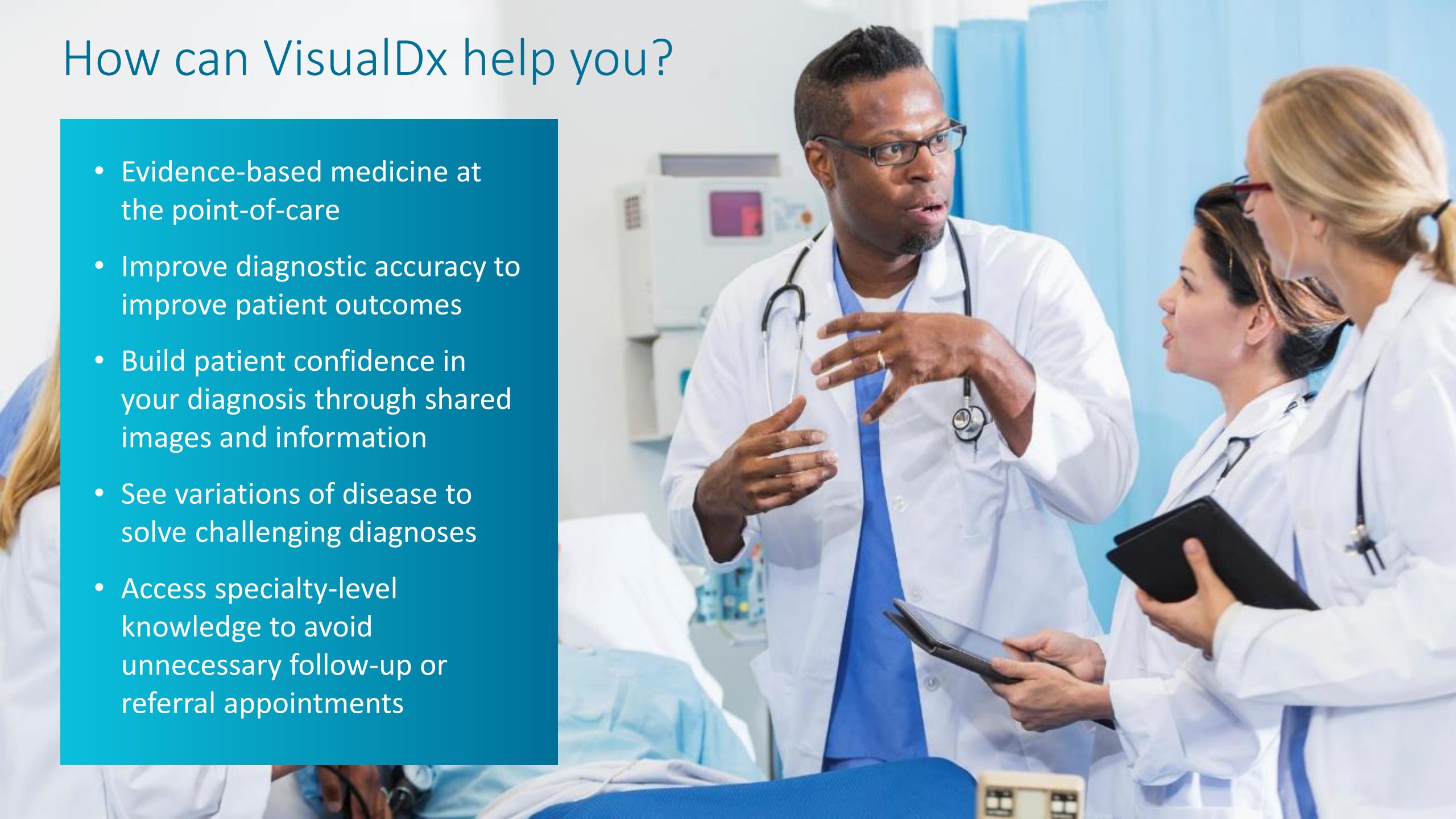
How can VisualDx help you?

- Evidence-based medicine at the point-of-care
- Improve diagnostic accuracy to improve patient outcomes
- Build patient confidence in your diagnosis through shared images and information
- See variations of disease to solve challenging diagnoses
- Access specialty-level knowledge to avoid unnecessary follow-up or referral appointments



Create Your Personal Account

Bring VisualDx with you anywhere and everywhere.

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

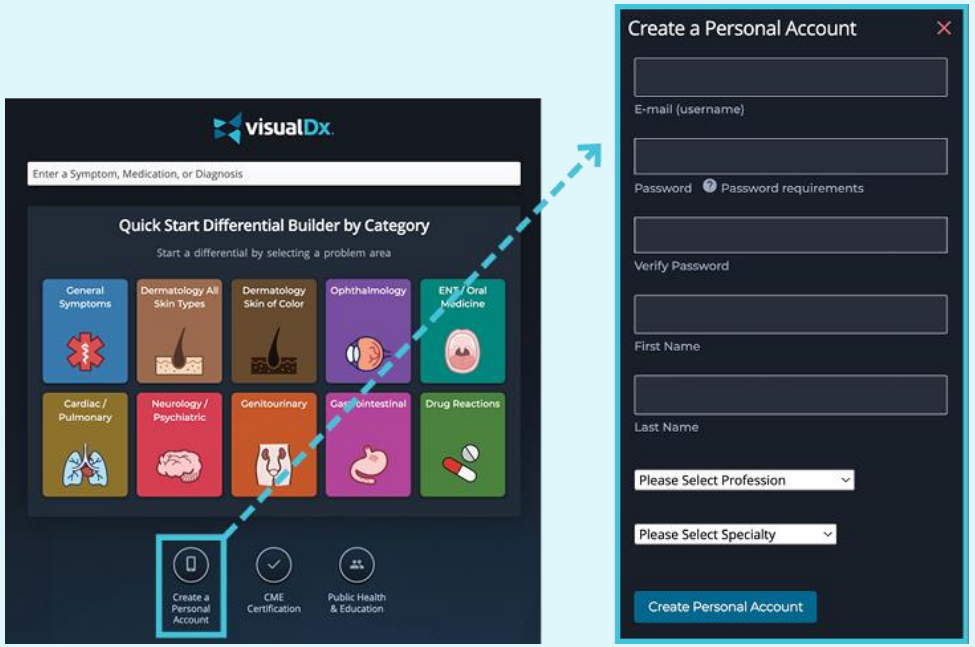
How do I get access?

1. While on the VA network (onsite, VPN, or Citrix), go to www.visualdx.com/visualdx

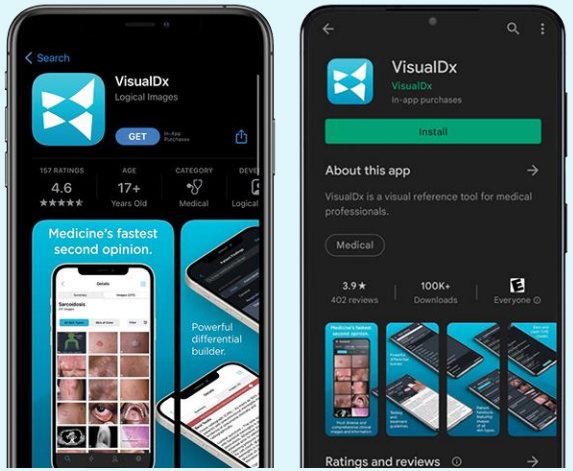
2. Click **Create a Personal Account** and fill out the information to create a personal login account.

3. Search **VisualDx** in either the App Store or Google Play. Download and enter the username and password you created in Step #2. Congratulations, you're ready to go!

4. You can also access **VisualDx** through the ***VHA National Desktop Library***



TIP
You MUST complete Step 2 before downloading the app.



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Internal and External Support Team

Internal

- Support - Contact Library Network Office
  - vhalno@va.gov

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