

HECOS Consensus Meeting

Core patient-reported outcome measurement instruments for therapeutic hand eczema trials

Adjacent to the Congress of the European Society of Contact Dermatitis (ESCD)

June 23-24, 2026

Location:

Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences

University of Copenhagen

Blegdamsvej 3B

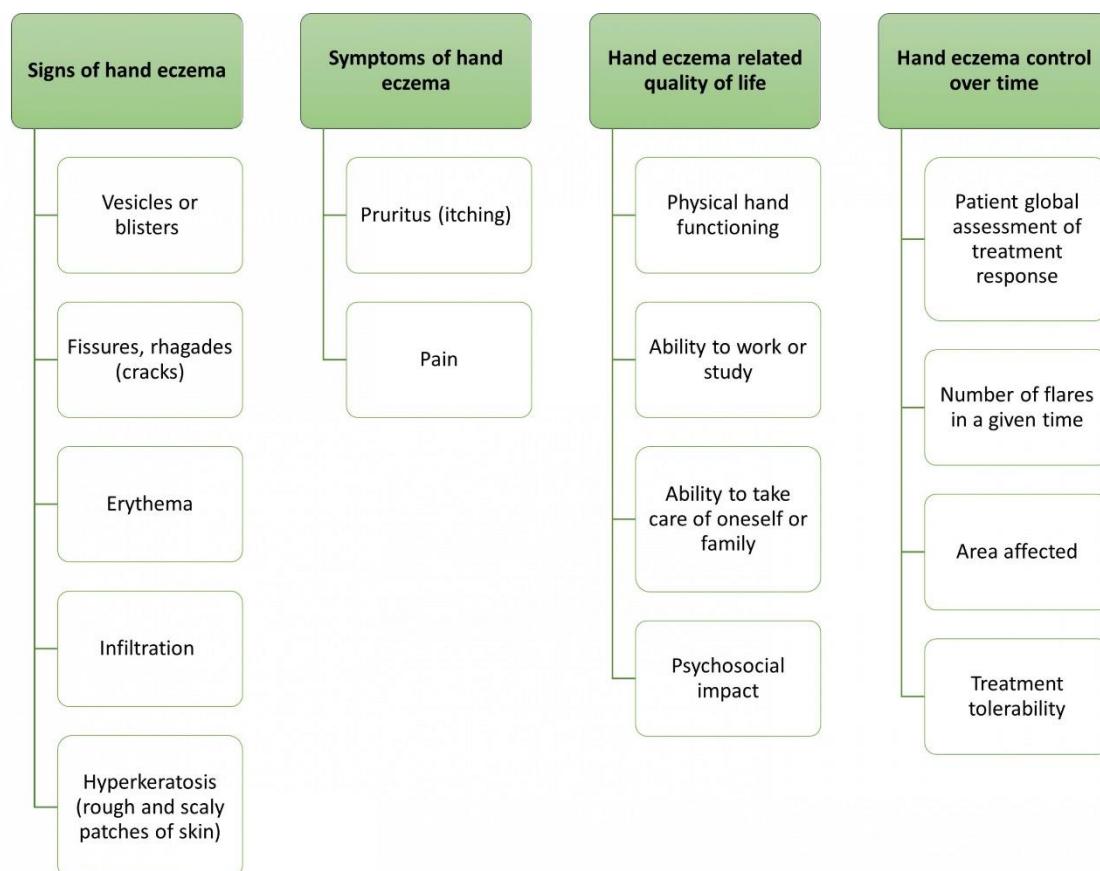
2200 Copenhagen N

DENMARK

Background

It is difficult to synthesize evidence about effective hand eczema therapies across studies because a uniform set of core outcomes measures is lacking. In 2024, a panel of 40 international stakeholders with various backgrounds followed the hand eczema core outcome set (HECOS) initiative's call to come together in Dresden and meet this challenge. There is now consensus that all therapeutic hand eczema trials should measure a set of four domains with 15 subdomains (in addition to study-specific outcomes). This promotes the generation of comparable and meaningful results.

Core outcome set for therapeutic hand eczema trials:



- <https://www.c3outcomes.org/hecos>
- <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/40276953/>

Aim

Having determined *what* to measure, the HECOS initiative is once more reaching out to patients, health professionals, students, researchers, and industry representatives, to convene in Copenhagen and agree on *how* to measure these domains. We shall reach consensus about patient-reported core measurement instruments. (Clinician-reported outcomes will be discussed at a later meeting.)

Preliminary agenda

The venue, timeline, registration details, and contents of the meeting are not yet confirmed.

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

14.00-18.30: Discussion of patient-reported instruments for the domains 'symptoms of hand eczema', 'hand eczema related quality of life', and/or 'hand eczema control over time' (focus not yet determined). This includes a methods briefing, a presentation of validated candidate instruments and their measurement properties, several discussion rounds in plenary and breakout sessions, and consensus votes.

During a short break, light refreshments and coffee are available.

From 19.00: Social Dinner

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

9.00-13.00: Continued discussion of patient-reported instruments. This includes a recap of Day 1, several discussion rounds in plenary and breakout sessions, and consensus votes.

During a short break, light refreshments and coffee are available.

Who should attend?

Anyone with an interest in hand eczema: patients, health professionals, students, researchers, industry representatives.

What does participation mean?

Participants must agree to attend both days of the HECOS consensus meeting. For a meaningful discussion and voting, everybody needs to be present on Tuesday from 14:00 to 18:30 and also on Wednesday from 9:00 to 13:00. Participants who are experienced in the development of core outcome sets and are familiar with HECOS do not need to attend the methods recap on Tuesday from 14.00 to 15.00. Further exceptions can be made only for patients.

Registration

For early pre-registration, you may already contact HECOS.derma@ukdd.de. We will add you to the list of attendants and ask you later to complete the registration form.