

## **Agnieszka Pedrycz - Wieczorska**

Katedra Histologii i Embriologii Uniwersytet Medyczny,  
Wyższa Szkoła Społeczno-Przyrodnicza w Lublinie

### **Histology of the skin and the etiology of its colouring**

The skin is the largest organ in the human body. It separates the body from the outside environment, protecting it from physical, chemical, mechanical and biological factors. Its construction is adapted to perform this function.

The aim of this study was to discuss the histological structure of the skin, focusing on the epidermis, and to list the factors affecting its colour. The attention was drawn to the increased secretion of the existing melanin granules in melanocytes of the skin after the exposure to ultraviolet rays. An important factor affecting the body skin colour is the colour of collagen fibers trabecular layer of the dermis. Another factor is the blood supply. Not without significance is carotene, which is accumulated mainly in adipose tissue and stratum corneum making the skin slightly orange in colour. The information about the skin colour is polygenic and depends on the human race. There is an objective scale to measure the intensity of the colour of the skin. To measure it we use the spectrophotometer.