IMPACT MELANOMA

SKIN CANCER AFFECTS PEOPLE OF ALL RACES AND ETHNICITIES

Skin cancer is the **MOST COMMON** form of cancer in the United States, and it is the **MOST PREVENTABLE**.

Skin cancer, including its deadliest form melanoma, can affect people of all skin types including People of Color (POC).

PEOPLE OF COLOR refers to a large population including people of African, Asian, Latin, Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, and Native American descent.

THE RISK

Unfortunately, skin cancer is often diagnosed at a later stage for POC leading to poorer health outcomes and significantly lower survival rates.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION

People of color can reduce their skin cancer risk through preventive measures and early detection.

PREVENTION STRATEGIES TO REDUCE SKIN CANCER RISK

Seek shade during peak sun hours (10 AM - 2 PM) when the sun's harmful UV rays are strongest.

Be mindful of the UV index. Adopt prevention strategies when the UV is 3 or higher.

Use sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher and reapply every 2 hours.

WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Protect your face, ears and neck. Wear sunglasses that block UVA and UVB rays.

5-YEAR MELANOMA SURVIVAL RATE

ALL STAGES; SEXES COMBINED*

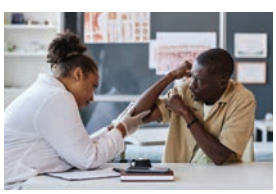
White	**94%**
American Indian and Alaska Native	**86%**
Hispanic	**83%**
Asian American and Pacific Islander	**77%**
Black	**70%**

3X

Black patients are more than three times as likely to be diagnosed with melanoma at a later stage than non-Hispanic White patients.

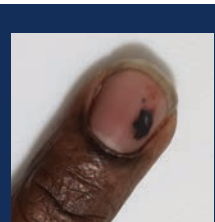
*© American Cancer Society 2025, Data Source: Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results 22 registries, National Cancer Institute 2024.

THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY DETECTION



In addition to preventive measures, early detection can make a significant difference in one's overall health outcome. It is important to notice changes in your skin including the warning signs outlined below. Men are at a higher risk of developing skin cancer, including melanoma, on the back, neck, and head. Women are commonly at risk of developing melanoma on the legs.

FOLLOW THE ABCDEs OF MELANOMA WHEN LOOKING AT A SPOT FOR WARNING SIGNS:



Melanoma can sometimes develop in the nailbed of a finger or toe. Ask your doctor to look at any unusual spots or lesions you notice in these areas.

Visit your doctor for skin checks.

Together, let's reduce the risk of skin cancer for people of color by increasing awareness of the risks, adopting sun safe habits, and noticing any changes in your skin to get them checked.

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PREVENTION. DETECTION. SUPPORT.

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