

Melanoma

Melanoma is a form of **skin cancer** characterized by the uncontrolled growth of pigment-producing cells (melanocytes) located in the skin.

Incidence of melanoma has been increasing for at least 30 years

Source: American Academy of Dermatology Association

Melanoma represents **1.7%** of the estimated **19 million** new cancer cases worldwide


Source: GLOBOCAN 2020

An estimated **324,600** new melanoma cases are diagnosed globally each year

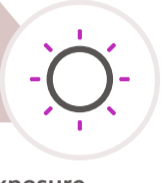
Source: American Society of Clinical Oncology

Risk factors and screening

Periodic skin examinations, both done at home and at an annual dermatologist visit, could be key to diagnosing skin cancer. If an area of concern is found on the skin, it is always best to consult a dermatologist as soon as possible.




Family history
Around **10% of all people** with melanoma have a family history of the disease.²



UV ray exposure
Melanoma is more than **20 times more common** in White people than in Black people.³

There are a number of factors that may put someone at a higher risk for melanoma.



Several atypical moles
The presence of **more than 50** common moles indicates an increased risk of melanoma.¹

Source: 1. Mayo Clinic 2022 2. American Cancer Society 2019 3. American Cancer Society 2023

Median age

65

at diagnosis

Source: American Cancer Society 2023

72

at death

Source: SEER U.S. 2016-2020

Diagnosis and staging

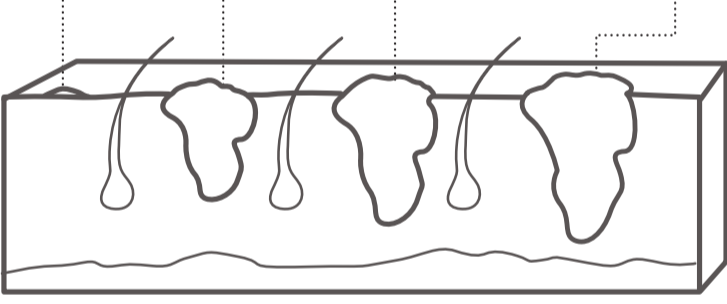
In the unfortunate event that an individual has skin cancer, a dermatologist will present a diagnosis of melanoma in one of the following stages:

Stage 0
Melanoma in situ, or an abnormality on the epidermal region of the skin

Stage 1 and 2
Early stage, localized disease

Stage 3
Cancer that has spread to the lymph nodes within the region of the cancer or to the lymph vessels

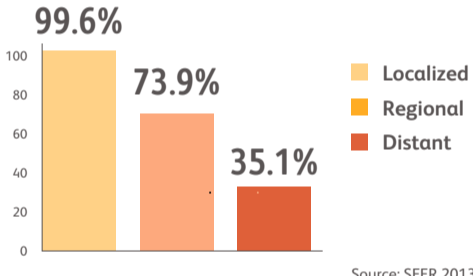
Stage 4
Cancer that has spread to other major organs in the body



Source: American Society of Clinical Oncology


Survival rates and recurrence

Five-year relative survival rates vary depending on the stage and type of melanoma:



Stage	Five-year relative survival rate
Localized	99.6%
Regional	73.9%
Distant	35.1%

Source: SEER 2013-2019




Within five years after surgery, **one third** of patients with stage IIB and **one half** of patients with stage IIC melanoma see their cancer return


Source: American Society of Clinical Oncology

Potential benefits of early intervention


There are notable advantages of earlier diagnosis and treatment of melanoma. These may include:



Improved survival outcomes



Increased quality of life



Lower cost of treatment

Early detection is the most important predictor of melanoma survival and may also be associated with improved quality of life for patients. Surgery to remove early melanoma has proven to be curative for many patients over the course of 150 years. However, survival rates are roughly halved if regional lymph nodes are involved, emphasizing the importance of early intervention.

Treatment options

Thanks to years' worth of research and development, several treatment options for melanoma exist. The recommended treatment will depend upon the stage that the cancer is diagnosed in, among other factors, and may include:



Immunotherapy



Surgery



Chemotherapy



Radiation therapy



Targeted drug therapy