

# IT'S A FACT!

FACTS ABOUT  
MELANOMA FROM  
THE MELANOMA  
RESEARCH  
FOUNDATION

- Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States.
- Melanoma is the most dangerous form of skin cancer because people can die from melanoma. Every hour of every day, someone dies of melanoma in the United States.
- Melanoma is one of the fastest growing cancers in the United States and Worldwide.
- Melanoma is the most common cancer in young adults between 20-30 years old.
- Melanoma is the primary cause of cancer death in women between 25-30 years old.
- Melanoma is the number 2 cause of cancer death (after breast cancer) in women between 30-35 years old.
- Today, 1 in 60 people will develop melanoma and it is estimated that by the year 2010, 1 in 50 people will be diagnosed with melanoma.
- Melanoma strikes people of all ages (including children) , all races, all economic levels and both sexes
- The majority of melanoma is caused by exposure to UV light and sunlight
- Unlike many other cancers, skin cancer and melanomas are visible on the skin, making it easier to detect in the early stages.
- Most melanoma can be cured if detected early.
- The general population, especially men over 50 years old and young women are encouraged to check all areas of their skin, including skin not normally exposed to the sun, looking for new spots or changes in existing spots in terms of color, size or shape.
- The best way to prevent skin cancer is protecting yourself from the sun:  
Seek shade  
Cover up with clothing and hat to protect from sun exposure  
Avoid excessive sun exposure and sun burning  
Apply sunscreen with sun protective factor (SPF) of 15 or higher, both UVA and UVB protection

*There is an urgent need to improve the diagnosis and treatment of melanoma.*



# It's a Fact!

FACTS ABOUT  
MELANOMA FROM  
THE MELANOMA  
RESEARCH  
FOUNDATION

- Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States.
- Melanoma is the most dangerous form of skin cancer because people can die from melanoma. Every hour of every day, someone dies of melanoma in the United States.
- Melanoma is one of the fastest growing cancers in the United States and Worldwide.
- Melanoma is the most common cancer in young adults between 20-30 years old.
- Melanoma is the primary cause of cancer death in women between 25-30 years old.
- Melanoma is the number 2 cause of cancer death (after breast cancer) in women between 30-35 years old.
- Today, 1 in 60 people will develop melanoma and it is estimated that by the year 2010, 1 in 50 people will be diagnosed with melanoma.
- Melanoma strikes people of all ages (including children) , all races, all economic levels and both sexes
- The majority of melanoma is caused by exposure to UV light and sunlight
- Unlike many other cancers, skin cancer and melanomas are visible on the skin, making it easier to detect in the early stages.
- Most melanoma can be cured if detected early.
- The general population, especially men over 50 years old and young women are encouraged to check all areas of their skin, including skin not normally exposed to the sun, looking for new spots or changes in existing spots in terms of color, size or shape.
- The best way to prevent skin cancer is protecting yourself from the sun:
  - Seek shade
  - Cover up with clothing and hat to protect from sun exposure
  - Avoid excessive sun exposure and sun burning
  - Apply sunscreen with sun protective factor (SPF) of 15 or higher, both UVA and UVB protection

*There is an urgent need to improve the diagnosis and treatment of melanoma.*