

Finding Melanomas

Your Guide to Self Skin Cancer Screening

Melanomas are a type of skin cancer - most often caused by sun damage - that can spread to different parts of the body (metastasize). **Melanomas can be fatal**.



Early detection is key

99%

of patients whose melanoma is caught before it spreads will survive at least 5 years. 25%

of patients whose melanoma is caught after it spreads will survive at least 5 years.

Examine your skin for warning signs

Look for something different:

A new (especially if you are 55 or older) or **changing** mole

One part of the mole is growing differently than the rest (look for **difference in color, shape, size**)

A mole **different from your other moles**, often referred to as "ugly ducklings"







Tips for self skin cancer screening

- Check your skin at least **once a month**
- Use a mirror or a partner to help you look in hard to see areas such as your scalp, back, genitals, soles of your feet.
- Take photos of moles you want to track. If you have an iPhone, you can download the MoleMapper app (www.molemapper.org)
- **Know your risk**. Certain genetic, health and behavioral traits have been proven to elevate the risks of getting a melanoma.
- If you find something that seems concerning, do something about it! Talk to your PCP, explore options for an in-person or virtual visit with a dermatologist.