Population-based screening for melanoma



Australasian College of Dermatologists position statement at a glance





Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world.

Skin cancer costs Australia's healthcare system \$1.7 billion each year.¹



Melanoma is the most common cancer in Australians aged 15-39 years.²



Melanoma accounts for nearly two-thirds of all skin cancer deaths.²

Should Australia have a screening program for melanoma?

The Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD) recommends that **targeting people at high risk** of melanoma for screening and surveillance may be cost effective.

Shouldn't we screen everyone?

There is not enough evidence to show that a broader population-based melanoma screening program would improve overall outcomes and reduce cancer deaths. More research is needed.

ACD's position statement on Population-based screening for melanoma has been endorsed by:

melanoma. patients australia



Designing an evidence-based, equitable, targeted melanoma screening program

Government investment is needed in research and programs to **analyse**, **improve and standardise**:



Risk stratification to define who is high risk



Optimal use of new diagnostic technologies



Early detection and diagnosis of skin cancer



Cost-benefit of screening

Scan the QR code to view the full position statement or visit dermcoll.edu.au



About us

The Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD) is Australia's accredited training body and peak professional and membership organisation for specialists in dermatology. We are the Australian authority in skin, hair and nail health, education, information and advocacy.

¹ Gordon L, Shih S, Watts C, et al., The economics of skin cancer prevention with implications for Australia and New Zealand: Where are we now? PHRP 2022; 32(1): e31502119. Available from: https://www.phrp.com.au/issues/march-2022-volume-32-issue-1/skin-cancer-economics/ ² Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2023. Cancer data in Australia. Canberra: AIHW. Available from: https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/cancer/cancer-data-inaustralia/contents/cancer-mortality-by-age visualisation