

What's this spot, Doc?

The statistics are sobering: 1 in 5 Americans will develop some form of skin cancer in their lifetime. Most skin cancers are caused by ultraviolet radiation and appear on sun-exposed skin. The good news is, most skin cancers are very treatable if diagnosed early, and your dermatologist can help you evaluate any new or changing spots.

Let's go over the three most common types of skin cancer.

Basal cell carcinoma - Basal cell is the most common type of skin cancer. It typically presents as a pink pearly bump that can bleed. It can also become a sore that doesn't heal. In some cases, it will look like a flat pink patch of skin. These lesions can grow slowly over time and sometimes become locally destructive. They very rarely ever metastasize, however.

Squamous cell carcinoma - Squamous cell is the second type of skin cancer. It can grow more quickly and look like a red scaly bump or patch. It typically arises on chronically sun-exposed skin but occasionally can affect the mouth or genitals. Squamous cell carcinoma can spread to other body organs. Squamous cell can develop from precancerous growths called actinic keratoses. These are subtle pink rough spots that are treated with liquid nitrogen.

Melanoma - Melanoma is the least common but most concerning type of skin cancer. Melanoma rates



are on the rise, especially in young adults, partly due to indoor tanning beds. It may come as a new mole or develop from a pre-existing mole. It can spread to lymph nodes and other internal organs, making early detection and treatment important. Risk factors for melanoma include having fair skin, a large number of moles, atypical moles, a family history of melanoma, and a personal history of skin cancer.

Protecting your skin from ultraviolet light can reduce the risk of skin cancer. If you have any spots that are new, changing, or bleeding, it's time to call your friendly and knowledgeable local dermatologist!

-Andrea Schrieber, M.D.

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Parking Lot Update

We wanted to update you, we are still working on a solution to improve our parking spaces. We understand at times there are minimal to no spots available when all medical facilities in our lot are busy. We are hoping we will have a solution within the next few months. Please allow some extra time to arrive to your appointment. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Construction on Freeway

You may be aware 275 North is closed and under construction from 96 interchange to 5 Mile Rd. If you are heading in that direction, please check your maps for the best alternative route to arrive to our practice. We are hoping this will reopen as planned in September.

Highly Skilled Physicians | Top Quality Care

Whatever your skin care need, call us today to set up an appointment! Same day appointments are available.

- Pediatric & Adult Dermatology
- Laser Therapy
- Photodynamic Therapy (PDT)
- Skin Cancer
- Removal of Skin Cancer, Warts and Scars
- Phototherapy
- Eczema
- Psoriasis
- Vitiligo

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