Skin Cancer Fact Sheet

—Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. More than 3.5 million skin cancers in more than 2 million people are diagnosed annually.

—One in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer in the course of a lifetime.

—Over the last 31 years, more people have had skin cancer than all other cancers combined.

—Forty percent to 50% of Americans who live to age 65 years will have nonmelanoma skin cancer at least once.

—One person dies of melanoma every hour (every 62 minutes).

—One in 55 people will be diagnosed with melanoma in their lifetime.

—The incidence of many common cancers is falling, but the incidence of melanoma continues to rise at a rate faster than any of the 7 most common cancers.

—An estimated 114,900 new cases of melanoma were diagnosed in the United States in 2010 (44,770 noninvasive [in situ] and 68,130 invasive) with nearly 8,700 resulting in death.

—Melanoma is the fifth most common cancer for males and sixth most common for females.

—The majority of people diagnosed with melanoma are white men older than 50 years.

—Approximately 39,000 new cases of melanoma occur in men each year in the United States and 29,000 in women.

—Approximately 5,700 deaths from melanoma occur in men each year in the United States and 3000 in women.

—Five percent of all cancers in men are melanomas; 4% of all cancer in women are melanomas.

REFERENCES


Skin Cancer Fact Sheet. Cutis. 2011;87:272C.