

A SIMPLE CHECK COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE

Checking your skin regularly for skin cancers could save your life. Look for spots that are new or have changed in colour, size or shape, or non-healing sores.

Show your doctor if you notice anything unusual. Skin cancers are best treated when found early. There are three main types of skin cancer to look for:

Basal Cell Carcinoma (BCC)



- Appears as a lump or scaly area that is either red, pale or pearly in colour.
- May bleed or form an ulcer or non-healing sore.
- Grows slowly and is usually found on the head, neck or upper torso.

Squamous Cell Carcinoma (SCC)

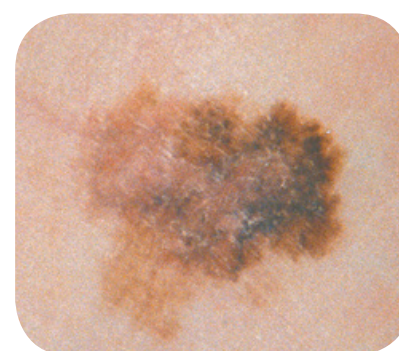


- Appears as a thickened, red scaly spot that may bleed easily.
- May form an ulcer or non-healing sore.
- Grows over a period of months on sun exposed areas.
- If untreated can spread to other parts of body.

Melanoma

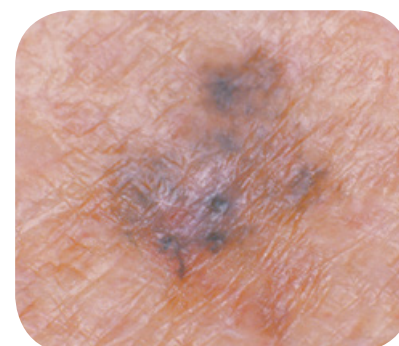
- If untreated can spread to other parts of the body and may cause death.
- Grows quickly over weeks to months.
- Can grow anywhere on the body, not just skin exposed to the sun.

Use the ABCDE of melanoma detection to check skin spots for:



Asymmetry

If the spot or lesion is divided in half, the two halves are not a mirror image.



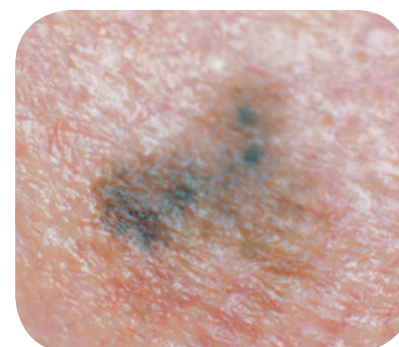
Border

A spot or lesion with a spreading or irregular edge.



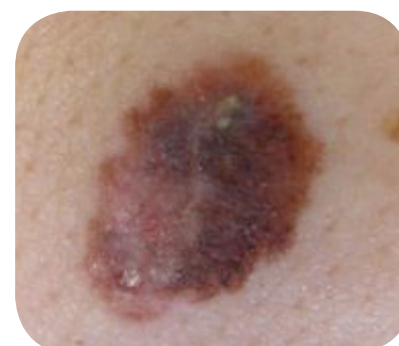
Colour

A spot or lesion with a number of different colours through it.



Diameter

The spot or lesion is usually greater than 6 mm across.



Evolving

The spot or lesion changes over time.

Remember – show your doctor if you notice anything unusual.

For more information call Cancer Council WA
on 13 11 20 or visit www.cancerwa.asn.au