

Pan-London Suspected Skin Cancer Referral Guide

Referral Criteria (for non-urgent referral, see next page)

Melanoma

- Skin lesion suggesting **nodular melanoma**
- **Dermoscopic** appearances suggest melanoma
- Proven melanoma on **histology**
- Suspicious pigmented skin lesion with a **weighted 7-point checklist score of 3 or more**. See Below:

Major Features of the lesions (scoring 2 points each):

- Change in size
- Irregular shape
- Irregular colour

Minor Features of the lesions (scoring 1 point each):

- Largest diameter 7 mm or more
- Oozing
- Inflammation
- Change in sensation

Squamous Cell Carcinoma

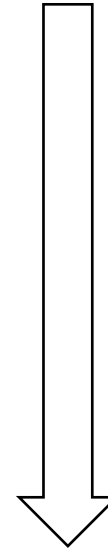
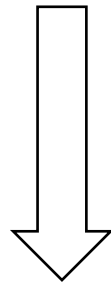
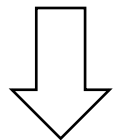
- Proven squamous cell carcinoma on histology
- Patients with a skin lesion that raises the suspicion of squamous cell carcinoma.

SCC are commonly on the face, scalp or back of hand and often larger than 1cm in diameter. These can present with the following features:

- Pain/tenderness
- Crusting non-healing lesion with induration
- Documented expansion over 8 weeks

Basal Cell Carcinoma

- Patients with a rapidly growing skin lesion on the eyelid, lip margin or nose or where a delay may have a significant impact. (This is not the same as the T-zone)
- Diagnosis in doubt - possible SCC or baso-squamous lesion



SUSPECTED SKIN CANCER REFERRAL

Teledermatology

Where available and clinically appropriate, GPs should arrange for teledermatology prior to referral.

Refer routinely including via teledermatology if available:

- Suspected basal cell carcinoma on sites other than eyelid, lip margin or nose
- Actinic Keratoses and Bowen's Multiple lesions and skin checks.

SEE RESOURCE LINKS BELOW

Risk Factors

Photo-damaged skin, Previous skin cancer, Family history, Organ transplant or Immunosuppressive therapy

RESOURCES

1. Suspected cancer: recognition and referral NICE guidelines NG12 (Feb 2021) <https://cks.nice.org.uk/topics/skin-cancers-recognition-referral/management/referral-for-suspected-skin-cancer/>
2. Improving outcomes for people with skin tumours including melanoma (update). The management of low-risk basal cell carcinomas in the community 2010 <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/csg8/resources/improving-outcomes-for-people-with-skin-tumours-including-melanoma-2010-partial-update-773380189>
3. BMJ Learning Common skin tumours: a guide to diagnosis <https://learning.bmj.com/learning/search-result.html?moduleId=5003264>