

EDITORIAL

Skin cancer special edition

Skin cancer is an increasing challenge globally. Keratinocyte cancers (basal cell carcinoma -BCC and squamous cell carcinoma-cSCC) are the commonest cancers in white populations, with rates increasing worldwide.¹ On average, one in five people in England will develop one of these tumours in their lifetimes.¹ BCC and cSCC are both more common in males than females in England.¹ However, BCC and cSCC are both more common in females than males in England under the age of 50.¹ Melanoma is the 19th most common cancer internationally.² The incidence of melanoma has been increasing worldwide over the past 50 years, especially in white populations and people living nearer to the equator.² Australia and New Zealand have experienced the greatest incidence of melanoma, then North America, as well as the European countries, between 2013 and 2015.² The incidence rates of Merkel cell carcinoma (MCC), an aggressive cutaneous cancer, have tripled from 0.15 cases per 100,000 individuals in 1986 to 0.7 per 100,000 in 2013.³ MCC is three times more lethal than melanoma.³ Although much of the research into skin cancer is in white populations (skin types I and II), there is a growing realization of skin cancer problems in skin of colour,⁴ Considering all of this, the editorial team of SHD will launch a themed issue early next year on the subject of Cutaneous Oncology. I am extremely grateful to Ewan Langan (Berlin), Oriol Yelamos (Barcelona), Shamir Geller (Tel Aviv) and Selin Tokez (Rotterdam) for agreeing to be guest editors. If you wish to discuss a skin cancer submission with me, or with any of the guest editors, please email shd@bad.org.uk.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

George W. M. Millington: Writing – original draft (lead); Writing – review & editing (lead).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

George W. M. Millington is the Editor in Chief of Skin Health and Disease.

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DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no new data were created or analyzed in this study.

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