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Epidemiology of skin cancer in the mature patient

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Epidemiology of skin cancer in the mature patient

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Abstract

Epidermal cancers include keratinocyte cancer, melanocyte cancer and Merkel cell carcinoma. These cancers account for the vast majority of new cancer diagnosed in Australia, North America and Europe. Keratinocyte cancer is the most common epidermal cancer and accounts for 7 out of 8 new cancers diagnosed in Australia. Melanoma and Merkel cell carcinoma are less common than keratinocyte carcinoma but are more important causes of mortality in Australia. Keratinocyte cancer has also been demonstrated to be a marker of cancer-prone phenotype. Risk factors for epidermal cancer include intrinsic and environmental factors, in particular exposure to ultraviolet radiation and advanced age. Actinic keratosis has an approximate prevalence of 79% of men and 68% of women between the ages of 60 to 69 years, and has a low risk of malignant transformation into in squamous cell carcinoma. Basal cell carcinoma is the most common malignancy in Caucasians worldwide, with the incidence increasing by 2% per year in Australia. In 2010,

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