

facts about: *Skin Cancer*

Illinois

References

1. This statement is widely accepted, including by the American Cancer Society (ACS), National Cancer Institute, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).³⁻⁵
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26. Randomized trials are required to provide conclusive evidence that melanoma screening saves lives. In the absence of such trials, however, it is well-accepted that finding melanoma early (at less than 1 mm) is associated with five-year survival rates ranging from 95% to 100% and that a combination of education, awareness, skin self-examination, and physician examination have all been instrumental in the shift toward earlier detected lesions.²⁷⁻³⁰ Most recently, a large surveillance program was associated with a steady and sustainable reduction in the incidence of thick melanoma resulting in a statistically significant decrease in mortality that persisted for at least three years.³¹ Modeling studies have found that one-time melanoma screening of the general population older than 50 years is cost-effective compared with other cancer screening tests.³²

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40. Data collected through student self-reporting forms the basis for this evaluation of the SunWise Program. Verbal reports are used most frequently in sun protection studies; for example, 76 of 81 skin cancer prevention studies cited in the CDC’s Guide to Community Services evidence review relied on verbal reports.³⁹
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