

Suspected Skin Cancer Guidance

Which skin patients are appropriate for a 'Fast-Track' referral? (To be seen within 2 weeks)

Suspected diagnosis:

Melanoma, Squamous Cell Carcinoma or Rare Skin Cancer
See table 1 for features of these lesions

Fast Track Referral

Is the lesion on a special site?

Yes

No

On the Vermillion (pink of lips)
Refer using the *Suspected Maxillo-facial Cancer* form

Refer using the *Suspected Skin Cancer* form

Anus
Refer using the *Suspected Colorectal Cancer* form

Penis
Refer using the *Suspected Urological Cancer* form

Vulva
Refer using the *Suspected Gynaecological Cancer* form

Basal Cell Carcinoma, Bowen's Disease or Actinic Keratosis

Routine Referral

Basal Cell Carcinoma

Follow the [Basal Cell Carcinoma pathway](#)

Low risk: treat in primary care

High risk: submit as routine via RSS, selecting the Basal Cell Carcinoma clinic type

Bowen's Disease

Follow the [Bowen's Disease pathway](#)

If no response to primary care treatment submit as routine via RSS


Actinic Keratosis

Follow the [Actinic Keratosis pathway](#)

Grade 1: treat in primary care

Grade 2 and 3: submit as routine via RSS

Table 1 – Features of Melanomas and Squamous Cell Carcinomas

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Melanoma</p>	<p>Score of 3+ from this 7-point weighted checklist</p> <p>Major features of lesion (scoring 2 points each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in size • Irregular shape • Irregular colour <p>Minor features of lesion (scoring 1 point each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Largest diameter 7mm or more • Inflammation • Oozing • Change in sensation 	<p>Remember: Melanomas may look like a pyogenic granuloma</p>  <p>Photograph taken from http://www.pcds.org.uk/clinical-guidance/pyogenic-granuloma#</p>
	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Squamous Cell Carcinoma (SCC)</p>	<p>Possible Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing in size • Non-healing ulcer • Commonly on face, scalp, back of hand • Induration on palpation • Hard/keratotic surface • Easy bleeding/friable nodule • Occurring in immunosuppressed patient