

EDITORIAL

Skin cancer special issue in Skin Health and Disease

Skin cancer is a major health issue since it is the most common cancer worldwide and its incidence is rising year after year.^{1–4} Although most skin cancers are non-lethal, they lead to significant morbidity and high treatment costs. Therefore, primary prevention strategies, such as sun prevention, or secondary prevention strategies, including early detection using dermoscopy or reflectance confocal microscopy, are crucial.^{1,5–7}

In addition, certain skin cancers, including melanoma, squamous cell carcinoma or Merkel cell carcinoma can be very aggressive and result in significant mortality.^{8,9} This has been especially significant during the COVID-19 pandemic where mortality rates related to skin cancers have increased, potentially due to delayed detection resulting in more advanced tumours.¹⁰ Hence, it is crucial to ensure skin cancer screening and surveillance in order to improve detection and treatment.

In this special issue of *Skin Health and Disease* we aimed to highlight the complexity of skin cancers by publishing a wide array of manuscripts covering different aspects related to skin cancers, ranging from primary prevention strategies related to sun education,¹¹ genetics,¹² and epidemiology^{13–16} to surgical^{17,18} and non-surgical^{19–21} treatments. From these papers, we would like to highlight some hot topics such as the paper from Borg et al¹⁷ evaluating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the surgical management of skin cancers on the head and neck area in elderly patients. Another relevant paper evaluates the impact of 3D total photography, a novel system developed to screen populations at high risk for skin cancer, in terms of skin cancers excised and the histopathology outcomes.¹⁸ We have left some room for non-invasive skin imaging such as reflectance confocal microscopy which has been used by Han et al²⁰ to monitor the treatment of lentiginous melanoma with imiquimod.

Additionally, we did not forget to include studies describing rare tumours or rare associations such as cutaneous metastatic endometrial carcinoma,²² a comprehensive review of malignant chondroid syringoma,¹⁴ or a systematic review about the association between melanoma and genital lichen sclerosis.¹³ We

believe that a better knowledge of infrequent skin cancers is of utmost importance in order to improve the understanding and management of such tumours.

We also aimed to advance understanding of how skin cancer presents in different ethnicities with a manuscript comparing the melanoma outcomes in black versus white patients.¹⁶ Although most skin cancers are rare in non-white populations, most studies to date have focussed on white populations resulting in a knowledge bias that is essential to address.

Due to its high incidence and large heterogeneity in terms of clinical presentation and management, skin cancer continues to be a trending topic. In the last years, this has resulted in an improved understanding of the genetic pathways of skin tumours, the development of efficacious medical treatments such as immunotherapy and targeted therapies, and the advent of novel treatment strategies such as neoadjuvant approaches. We hope this issue will reflect this exciting time in skin cancer research and encourage more research to improve patient outcomes.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Not applicable.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Oriol Yélamos is an Associate Editor of SHD. Oriol Yélamos has received consultancy honoraria from Almirall, Bioderma, Isispharma Kiowa Kirin and Leo Pharma, and speakers' honoraria from Almirall, BMS, Isispharma, Janssen-Cilag, La Roche Posay, Leo Pharma, MSD and Pierre Fabre. SG is an Associate Editor of SHD. Shamir Geller has received speakers' honoraria from Takeda and Rafa. Selin Tokez is an Associate Editor of SHD.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Oriol Yélamos: Writing – original draft (lead); Writing – review & editing (lead). **Shamir Geller:** Writing – original draft (supporting); Writing – review & editing (supporting). **Selin Tokez:** Writing – original draft (supporting); Writing – review & editing (supporting).

This is an open access article under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

© 2023 The Authors. Skin Health and Disease published by John Wiley & Sons Ltd on behalf of British Association of Dermatologists.

FUNDING INFORMATION

This editorial received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Oriol Yélamos^{1,2}
Shamir Geller^{3,4}
Selin Tokez⁵

¹*Dermatology Department, Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain*

²*Institut d'Investigació Biomèdica Sant Pau (IIB SANT PAU), Barcelona, Spain*

³*Department of Medicine, Dermatology Service, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York, USA*

⁴*Department of Dermatology, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel*

⁵*Department of Dermatology, Erasmus Medical Center Cancer Institute, University Medical Center Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands*

Correspondence

Oriol Yélamos.

Email: oyelamos@gmail.com

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

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

ETHICS STATEMENT

Not applicable.

REFERENCES

- Perez M, Abisaad JA, Rojas KD, Marchetti MA, Jaimes N. Skin cancer: primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention. Part I. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 2022;87(2):255–68. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaad.2021.12.066>
- Podlipnik S, Carrera C, Boada A, Richarz N, Marcoval J, Ferreres J, et al. Incidence of melanoma in Catalonia, Spain, is rapidly increasing in the elderly population. A multicentric cohort study. *J Clin Med.* 2020;9(11):3396. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jcm9113396>
- Lomas A, Leonardi-Bee J, Bath-Hextall F. A systematic review of worldwide incidence of nonmelanoma skin cancer. *Br J Dermatol.* 2012;166(5):1069–80. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2133.2012.10830.x>
- Tokez S, Hollestein L, Louwman M, Nijsten T, Wakkee M. Incidence of multiple vs first cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma on a nationwide scale and estimation of future incidences of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma. *JAMA Dermatol* 2020; 156(12): 1300–6, <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamadermatol.2020.3677>
- Rojas KD, Perez ME, Marchetti MA, Nichols AJ, Penedo FJ, Jaimes N. Skin cancer: primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention. Part II. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 2022;87(2):271–88. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaad.2022.01.053>
- Yélamos O, Braun R, Liopyris K, Wolner ZJ, Kerl K, Gerami P, et al. Usefulness of dermoscopy/dermatoscopy to improve the clinical and histopathologic diagnosis of skin cancers. *J Am Acad Dermatol* 2019; 80(2): 365–77, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaad.2018.07.072>
- Pérez-Anker J, Ribero S, Yélamos O, Garcia-Herrera A, Alos L, Alejo B, et al. Basal cell carcinoma characterization using fusion ex vivo confocal microscopy: a promising change in conventional skin histopathology. *Br J Dermatol.* 2020;182(2):468–76. <https://doi.org/10.1111/bjd.18239>
- Tokez S, Wakkee M, Kan W, Venables ZC, Mooyaart AL, Louwman M, et al. Cumulative incidence and disease-specific survival of metastatic cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma: a nationwide cancer registry study. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 2022; 86(2):331–8. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaad.2021.09.067>
- Karia PS, Han J, Schmultz CD. Cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma: estimated incidence of disease, nodal metastasis, and deaths from disease in the United States, 2012. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 2013;68(6):957–66. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaad.2012.11.037>
- Tejera-Vaquero A, Paradela S, Toll A, Santos-Juanes J, Jaka A, Lopez A, et al. Effects of COVID-19 lockdown on tumour burden of melanoma and cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma. *Acta Derm Venereol.* 2021;101(8):adv00525. <https://doi.org/10.2340/00015555-3890>
- Peconi J, Fegan G, Abbott R. Sun safety education in a maritime climate. *Skin Health Dis.* 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.137>
- Turner LD, Zarkovic A, Lee Siew Hua J, Chan W, Ogra S, Brettell D, et al. Does the histopathological subtype of primary basal cell carcinoma predict the subtype of secondary tumours? What role do genetic mutations play? *Skin Health Dis.* 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.123>
- Sim SJY, Dear K, Mastoraki E, James M, Haider A, Ellery P, et al. Genital lichen sclerosis and melanoma; A systematic review. *Skin Health Dis.* 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.198>
- Zufall AG, Mark EJ, Gru AA. Malignant chondroid syringoma - a systemic review. *Skin Health Dis.* 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.144>
- Win Myint TT, Selak V, Elwood M. The risk of subsequent invasive melanoma after a primary in situ or invasive melanoma in a high incidence country (New Zealand). *Skin Health Dis;* 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.116>
- Edmonds N, Miller B, Saavedra A. Retrospective chart review of melanoma outcomes in non-hispanic black patients and case-matched non-hispanic white patients. *Skin Health Dis.* 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.204>
- Borg T.-M, Eisold J, Miyanjo M, Pappa E. The effect of COVID-19 on surgical management of skin cancers of the head, face and neck in elderly patients. *Skin Health Dis.* 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.XXX>
- Soyer HP, O'Hara M, Silva CV, Horsham C, Jayasinghe D, Sanjida S, et al. Skin cancer excisions and histopathology outcomes when following a contemporary population-based cohort longitudinally with 3D total-body photography. *Skin Health Dis.* 2023; <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.216>
- Velin M, Cardot-Leccia N, Cathelineau A.-C, Duteil L, Queille-Roussel C, Passeron T, et al. Efficacy and safety of 0.05% ingenol mebutate in the treatment of basal cell carcinoma: a prospective study. *Skin Health Dis;* 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.150>
- Han J, Tai H, Poplasky D, Young J, Revankar R, Baek P, et al. Management of lentiginous melanoma with imiquimod assessed by reflectance confocal microscopy. *Skin Health Dis.* 2023; <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.212>
- Escalante L, Granizo-Rubio J, Ortiz-Prado E, Pinos-León V, Maldonado A, Chandler D. Successful treatment of mucosal neuromas by radiofrequency ablation in a patient with Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 2B. *Skin Health Dis;* 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.146>
- Niebel D, Kranert P, Berneburg M, Drexler K, Eichborn MI, Braess J, et al. Indurated erythema of abdominal skin: an unusual presentation of metastatic endometrial carcinoma. Case report with literature review. *Skin Health Dis.* 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ski2.136>