



*The Maryland State Medical Society*

**News: For Immediate Release**

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## **MAY IS MELANOMA/SKIN CANCER DETECTION & PREVENTION MONTH**

BALTIMORE, May 5, 2023 - Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States. Current estimates are that one in five Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime. Research estimates that nonmelanoma skin cancer (NMSC), including basal cell carcinoma (BCC) and squamous cell carcinoma (SCC), affects more than 3 million Americans a year. The main cause of skin cancer is UV radiation from the sun, which also causes skin damage including wrinkles, age spots, broken capillaries, and blotches.

MedChi has always been a big proponent of increasing awareness about the dangers of melanoma and the importance of skin cancer detection. Moreover, in 2019 MedChi was instrumental in getting legislation passed in Maryland that blocked the use of tanning booths and tanning beds to minors.

Skin cancer is curable if it is found early. There are simple steps people can take to help protect their skin: stay out of the sun as much as possible during peak times (between 10 AM and 4 PM); avoid tanning beds; wear sun-protective clothing, sunglasses, and a hat; generously apply sunscreen of SPF30 or higher; monitor skin regularly for any changes.

This May the *Maryland Dermatologic Society*, organized and managed by MedChi, will be hosting the *Atlantic Dermatological 100th Annual Conference* in Baltimore from May 12 - 14th. The *Atlantic Dermatological Conference* will consist of scientific sessions, a keynote address, patient case discussions and posters. Registration is still open and can be accessed [here](#).

### About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. Formed in 1799, it is still the largest physician organization in Maryland today. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit [www.medchi.org](http://www.medchi.org).