



*The Maryland State Medical Society*

**News: For Immediate Release**

Additional Information Contact:

Gene M. Ransom, CEO

Office: 410-539-0872 x 3305

**MEDCHI ENCOURAGES COMMENTS ON PROPOSED TANNING BED FORM  
“SINCE MAY IS MELANOMA/SKIN CANCER DETECTION AND  
PREVENTION MONTH ITS TIME TO RECONSIDER A BAN FOR MINORS”**

BALTIMORE, May 22, 2013 — The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has released stricter warning requirements and a new permission form for children who wish to tan. “MedChi applauds the Department’s work on this issue, but remains committed to a ban for tanning devices for minors. Children should not use tanning beds” explained MedChi CEO Gene Ransom. The information on the proposal from the Department can be found here:

[http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/OEHFP/EH/Shared%20Documents/Tanning%20Consent%20Form%202013\\_v11.pdf](http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/OEHFP/EH/Shared%20Documents/Tanning%20Consent%20Form%202013_v11.pdf). Please take the time to read and comment on the new regulations.

Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States. Ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun are the main cause of skin cancer. UV damage can also cause wrinkles and blotches or spots on your skin. These are just some of the reasons why MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, supports a ban and is proud to participate in Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month to help raise awareness of the risks of sun damage.

During the month of May, join MedChi in taking action to prevent skin cancer and reduce the risk of UV damage.

You can take steps today to protect your skin:

- Stay out of the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Use sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher.
- Cover up with long sleeves and a hat.
- Check your skin regularly for changes.

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. 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).