

The Top 10 Melanoma Facts

A TweeNote

- 1** #Melanoma is a malignancy of melanocytes which occur in the skin but also in other non-sun exposed sites. 1 in 50 people will be affected
- 2** #Melanoma causes 1 death per 8.3 diagnoses. It's the world's fastest growing cancer epidemic, increasing at 3% per year #notwinning
- 3** >50% #Melanomas arise in normal skin, the rest from changed moles. Screening is the only significant change in 30 years #molemapping
- 4** Personal & family history of #Melanoma beats all other risk factors by 100X. Preventing sunburn is the only modifiable factor #sunblock
- 5** #Melanoma prognosis related to Breslow depth, ulceration & metastasis. Molecular markers are p53, c-Myc, Ki-67, HMB-45 & Akt
- 6** #Melanoma survival relates to stage. S0 has 100% 5YS, SI has 97%, SII has 81%, SIII has 40% and SIV has 15%. Early = curable, Late = fatal
- 7** Surgical margins for #Melanoma: 5mm for in situ, 10mm for <1mm depth invasion & 20mm for >1mm depth. All margins are peripheral, not deep
- 8** CT/PET scan has revolutionised the hunt for metastasis in T2/T3/T4, but clinically N0. SNLB is a standard of care for stage Ib and up
- 9** Interferon adjuvant therapy is used for stage II and III. Ipilimumab and Vemurafenib are the category 1 choices for advanced #Melanoma
- 10** Radiation in #Melanoma considered for brain mets, palliative symptomatic mets, nodal basin control or neurotropic primary tumours