

## Melanoma Diagnosis

Early signs of melanoma are described by the ABCDE mnemonic: Asymmetry, Border, Color, Diameter and Evolution over time. These tumors can be evaluated with S-100 and LDH to monitor progression and prognosis. Treatment includes wide local excision and adjuvant therapy.



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### Signs

#### ABCDE Mnemonic

##### [ABCDE Checklist](#)

Early signs of melanoma are described by the ABCDE mnemonic: Asymmetry, Border, Color, Diameter and Evolution over time.

#### Asymmetry

##### [Asymmetrical Melon](#)

A lesion which is asymmetric may be a sign of melanoma.

#### Border irregularity

##### [Irregular B-Border](#)

Borders which are irregular can also be hints that a lesion may be melanoma.

#### Color variation

##### [Different Colored Melon](#)

Color variability in lesions may increase suspicion of melanoma.

#### Diameter > 6mm

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Melanoma often shows a diameter greater than 6mm.

#### Evolution over time

##### [Evolved Melon](#)

Melanoma lesions evolve over time and change shape, color and border rapidly.

### Diagnosis

#### S-100 Tumor Marker

##### [S100 Sign](#)

S-100 protein family are useful as markers for certain tumors and epidermal differentiation. It can be found in melanomas, and used to track melanocyte differentiation.

## LDH (Lactate Dehydrogenase) Screens for Metastasis

[Lactate Dehydrogenase Screen Metastasis](#)

Lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) levels are proven to be an accurate predictor of prognosis and response to some treatments.

### Treatment

#### Wide Local Excision

[Wide-Cutting Excision](#)

Primary treatment for melanomas is excision with wide margins. This is particularly helpful when these melanomas are in their radial growth phase.

#### Adjuvant Therapy

[Adjuvant Therapy](#)

Adjuvant therapy with BRAF kinase inhibitors is helpful in treating metastatic or unresectable melanomas.