

Types of Malignant Melanoma



PLAY PICMONIC

Superficial Spreading

Super-fish Spreading

This type of melanoma spreads mostly radially within the epidermis and superficial dermis. It is the most common type of melanoma and has the best prognosis.

Most Common Cause of Melanoma

#1 Foam-finger

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Nodular

Nob

This type of melanoma is characterized by early and aggressive vertical growth and often never has a radial growth phase. Because these tumors arise suddenly, often in places where there has never been a mole before, it commonly is caught in later stages, so prognosis is poor.

Aggressive and Rapidly Arising

Aggressive Rapid-rabbit

This type of melanoma is characterized by early and aggressive vertical growth and often never has a radial growth phase. Because these tumors arise suddenly, often in places where there has never been a mole before, it isn't diagnosed until later stages, making prognosis poor.

Acral-Lentiginous

Acorn-Lion-tiger

This type of melanoma often occurs in areas that are not exposed to sunlight, such as the palms of the hands, soles of the feet, mucous membranes, and nails. It is most commonly seen in darker-skinned individuals, African Americans, Asians, and males.

Males

Male Sex-symbol

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Asians and African Americans

Asian and African American

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Lentigo Maligna

Lion-tiger Malignant-man

Lentigo maligna is considered melanoma in situ. Prognosis is generally good, as growth is mainly radial. It typically has irregular borders, so moles resemble geographic shapes. These moles typically arise in sun-exposed areas.

Geographic Shape

[Geographic Shapes](#)

Lentigo maligna is considered melanoma in situ. Prognosis is generally good, as growth is mainly radial. It typically has irregular borders, so moles resemble geographic shapes similar to islets and peninsulas. These moles typically arise in sun-exposed areas.

Sun Exposed Areas

[Sun](#)

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