Skin Cancer Due to Sun Exposure Stats and Facts

FACTS

- 1. Exposure to natural and artificial ultraviolet light is a risk factor for all types of skin cancer, including melanoma, the deadliest form.
- 2. The majority of melanoma cases are attributable to UV exposure.
- 3. Increasing intermittent sun exposure in childhood and during one's lifetime is associated with an increased risk of squamous cell carcinoma, basal cell carcinoma and melanoma.
- 4. Research suggests that regular sunscreen use with an SPF of 15 or higher reduces melanoma risk.
- 5. Sunburns during childhood or adolescence can increase the odds of developing melanoma later in life.
- Exposure to tanning beds increases the risk of all skin cancers, including melanoma, especially in women 45 and younger.
- 7. Risk factors for all types of skin cancer include skin that burns easily; blond or red hair; a history of excessive sun exposure, including sunburns; tanning bed use; a weakened immune system; and a history of skin cancer.
- 8. People with more than 50 moles, atypical moles or large moles are at an increased risk of developing melanoma, as are those as are sun-sensitive individuals (e.g., those who sunburn easily, or have natural blond or red hair) and those with a personal or family history of melanoma.
- 9. Men and women with a history of nonmelanoma skin cancer are at a higher risk of developing melanoma than people without a nonmelanoma skin cancer history.
- 10. Women with a history of nonmelanoma skin cancer are at a higher risk of developing breast and lung cancers.

STATS

- 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer by the age of 70.
- More than 2 people die of skin cancer in the U.S. every hour.
- Having 5 or more sunburns doubles your risk for melanoma.
- When detected early, the 5-year survival rate for melanoma is 99 percent.
- It is estimated that approximately 9,500 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with skin cancer every day.
- More people are diagnosed with skin cancer each year in the U.S. than all other cancers combined.
- An estimated 1.8 million cases of SCC are diagnosed in the U.S. each year.
- The latest figures suggest that more than 15,000 people die of squamous cell carcinoma of the skin in the U.S. each year
 more than twice as many as from melanoma.
- More than 5,400 people worldwide die of nonmelanoma skin cancer every month.