

## **THE EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT OF SKIN CANCER BY GENERAL PRACTITIONERS IN AUSTRALIA**

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Currently, Australia has limited training opportunities for generalist doctors in skin cancer medicine. This is despite the fact that general practitioners (GP's) have over one million patient encounters per year for skin cancers. There is a pressing need to promote evidence-based prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care by providing education, support and resources for GPs.

A mix of strategies have been employed by SunSmart Victoria to assist GPs to address skin cancer prevention and early detection including:

- § the development and rollout of a two hour melanoma workshop facilitated by dermatologists
- § the development of tailored resources for GPs and their patients to address skin cancer in general practice
- § training for international medical graduates and
- § the development of an online active learning module (ALM)

The program has reached almost 3000 health professionals including over 2400 enrolments in an online ALM. The presentation will demonstrate how targeted, evidence-based education programs can effectively upskill GPs in the early detection and treatment of skin cancer and ultraviolet radiation more broadly. Future challenges and opportunities will also be identified.

SunSmart provides support and resources for GPs aimed at assisting them when working with patients regarding skin cancer prevention and early detection.