

Welcome to the sixteenth edition of the QSKIN News

How time flies! It is a great pleasure to bring you the 16th update from the QSkin Team. You are one of the many Australians who has generously given your time and energy to assist our research into cancers of the skin and other health conditions. With your help, the QSkin Study has grown into the world's largest ongoing study of skin cancer. This 16th issue of QSkin news includes an update on study activities over the past 12 months, including information about our recent survey, the arrival of new students, and a quick summary of our latest scientific papers. We hope that you enjoy the read. As ever, we welcome your comments and feedback.



Professor David Whiteman and Associate Professor Catherine Olsen for the QSkin Team



QIMR Berghofer
Medical Research Institute

QSkin 2022 follow-up survey

Commencing in September last year, we invited all members of the original QSkin cohort (more than 40,000 people who were first recruited back in 2011) to complete our 10-year follow-up survey. Over 13,500 of you completed the latest survey, which provides us with important information on risk factors for skin cancer and other health outcomes. We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone who completed the survey.

Take the 2022 QSkin COVID-19 survey

For those of you who completed the QSkin COVID-19 survey in 2020 or 2021, we recently sent an invitation to complete one final survey asking you about your experiences of COVID-19, and about any changes to your lifestyle as a result of the pandemic. If you have not yet completed the survey, there is still time – just click on your personal link contained in the email. We would be very grateful if you would consider completing the survey.

Your answers will help the global research effort to understand the impact of COVID-19 on people's health and wellbeing. (...and yet again, this COVID project shows how a big study like QSkin can be used to answer important questions about health and wellbeing that might seem far removed from skin cancer.)

Visiting student at QSkin



Maja Shalit

QSkin continues to attract scientists and students from around the world. In the second half of 2022, Maja Shalit, a medical student from Linköping University Hospital in Sweden, will join the team to conduct a short-term project to help understand how melanomas arise on different parts of the body. Specifically, Maja will review pathology reports and record whether the melanoma is associated with adjacent melanocytic nevi (or moles) and whether the reports mention the presence of sun damaged skin. Maja will then examine how these factors are associated with different sites such as the face and ears vs the arms or legs.

QSkin in the News: Global melanoma rate to increase by 50% by 2040

New research from an international team of researchers (including QSkin principal investigator Professor David Whiteman) suggests that new cases of melanoma are set to increase 50% globally by 2040, with a 68% increase in deaths. (For Australia, the news is better; new drugs that were approved about 8 years ago are having a dramatic effect on improving survival for people with late-stage melanoma.) The team analysed the global burden of melanoma and estimated that there were 325,000 new melanoma cases and 57,000 deaths from melanoma in 2020. Despite a recent stabilization of incidence rates in Australia, they remain the highest in the world, highlighting the need for sustained campaigns to stop skin cancer developing in the first place. Slip! Slop! Slap!

Source: Arnold M, Singh D, Laversanne M, et al. Global Burden of Cutaneous Melanoma in 2020 and Projections to 2040. *JAMA dermatology* 2022. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35353115/>



New QSkin scientific papers

Mortimore A, Pandeya N, Olsen CM, Whiteman DC. "Repeatability of repeatability": The stability of self-reported melanoma risk factors in two independent samples. *Aust N Z J Public Health*. 2021. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34473389/>

Dusingize JC, Law, MH, Pandeya N, Neale RE, Ong JS, MacGregor S, Whiteman DC, Olsen CM. Genetically determined cutaneous nevi and risk of cancer. *Int J Cancer*. 2022 Mar 15;150(6):961-968. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34778946/>

(new QSkin scientific papers continued)

Gordon LG, Leung W, Johns R, McNoe B, Lindsay D, Merollini KMD, Elliott TM, Neale RE, Olsen CM, Pandeya N, Whiteman DC. Estimated healthcare costs of melanoma and keratinocyte skin cancers in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand in 2021. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2022Mar 8;19(6):3178. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35328865/>

Olsen CM, Pandeya N, Green AC, Ragaini BS, Venn AJ, Whiteman DC. Keratinocyte cancer incidence in Australia: a review of population-based incidence trends and estimates of lifetime risk. *Public Health Res Pract*. 2022;32(1). <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35290995/>

New QSkin Genetics papers

Ingold N, Dusingize JC, Neale R, et al. Examining evidence for a causal association between telomere length and nevus count. *J Invest Dermatol*. 2021 Oct 14;S0022-202X(21)02332-0. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34656614/>

Liyanage U, MacGregor S, Bishop T, et al. Multi-trait genetic analysis of skin cancer and related traits identifies auto-immune loci associated with cutaneous melanoma. *J Invest Dermatol*. 2021 Nov 20;S0022-202X(21)02513-6. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34813871/>



Feedback?

If you have any comments or updated information (e.g. change of address), please contact us:



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