



Calibri (Body) 11

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Editor ...

Specific Purpose: With the rising umber of reported cases of skin cancers, using sunscreen and taking precautions with sun exposure is critically important.

I. Skin cancer (basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, and melanoma) is a major problem for Americans.

A. According to a February, 2011 article in ***Annals of Internal Medicine***, "Behavioral Counseling to Prevent Skin Cancer: A Systematic Review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force," two million cases of non-melanoma skin cancer are diagnosed each year.

B. Melanoma is the least common type of skin cancer, but the deadliest, accounting for 75% of skin cancer deaths.

C. The July, 2011 ***Consumer Reports on Health*** article, "Is It a Mole or Melanoma," it is stated that the mortality rate is much higher for people with darker skin.

II. The cause of this epidemic level of skin cancer is a lack of sun protection.

A. In the January, 2011 ***Environmental Health*** article, "Radiation and cancer risk," it states that a long-term rise of temperature by 2-degrees C., could increase the carcinogenic effectiveness of solar UV rays by 10%.

B. In the June, 2011 ***New York Times*** article, "Explaining Sunscreen and the New Rules," it is reported that a history of sunburn is a major risk factor for this cancer; five sunburns per decade raise the risk by about threefold. There is no such thing as a "safe" tan.