

Skin cancer



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[Teacher's There are several types of skin cancer and some are very dangerous and have a high mortality rate. The paper assesses the factors that are increasing the risk of development of skin cancer as these are preventable with the appropriate policy implementation. The paper also raises suggestions and measures that can be taken in addressing the problem.

Skin cancer

Introduction

Skin cancer is a health problem that is prevalent in society; however, the community has very limited knowledge on the matter. Many individuals have received education related to the dangers of skin cancer, however, it still continues to increase at a rapid rate and this has raised concern among health care professionals and the community. Skin cancer is a term used to defined carcinomas which rise from the skin and can invade different parts of the body. These include squamous cell cancer, melanoma and basal cell cancer. A culmination of factors have led to an increase in the prevalence of skin cancer and these include damage to the ozone layer by industrial activity and the new methods that have been created for tanning such as tanning salons or even spending excessive amounts of time under the sun (Zhang et al., 1588-1593). There should be studies that are aimed towards the regulation of events that are damaging to the ozone layer and the different methods that are used to improving tanning in the community to ensure that these methods are either eliminated or minimized.

Problem

Tanning has become a summer fashion and many people use tanning salons which predisposes them to many types of skin cancer. However, many

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studies have found that spending long hours under these lamps predisposes individuals to squamous cell cancer which is one of the deadliest forms of skin cancer.

Background

Tanning beds are machines that utilize 3% UVB and 97% UVA to artificially produce sun tans for cosmetic purposes (Dore et al., 30-37). There are many different variants of these machines and can also be in the form of high pressure beds. The cultural history of tanning is something that has changed throughout the years and in the early 1900s when the benefits of sunlight were documented, sun bathing came back into fashion and was considered an upper class activity (Dore et al., 30-37). It was further popularized by Coco Chanel in the 1920s after a vacation. Tanning beds entered the American community in 1979. However, the World Health Organization and other health institutions have labeled these beds a health risk and have included it among other dangerous radiation substances such as plutonium. According to the IARC, there are increased risks for individuals who utilize these beds before the age of 30 years who are predisposed to developing melanoma which is one of the most dangerous forms of skin cancer. The cancer is responsible for the death of approximately 8 700 individuals in the United States every year (Zook et al., 95-106).

Analyses

The dangers of tanning machines clearly show the need for more efficient regulation. There should be more control regulating the use of these devices especially among the youths who are more vulnerable to developing melanoma. According to studies, there were approximately thirty seven percent of white females who utilized this service and 11% percent of the

males who used the beds were between the ages of thirteen and nineteen (Zook et al., 95-106). Melanoma was found to be more dangerous to individuals who are below 30 years being 1.5 times likely to develop than basal cell carcinoma and 2.5 times likely to develop than squamous cell carcinoma (Zook et al., 95-106).

Conclusion

Skin cancer is a problem in the community and the different forms of human activity and fashion such as tanning have contributed to this problem. There should be more efforts that are dedicated towards addressing this issue as many people, especially young people, are being exposed to this radiation leading to deadly forms of skin cancer.

Works Cited

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