Palmerston Mole Scan Clinic

Mole Scanning Saves Lives

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HOW OFTEN SHOULD DIGITAL MOLE MAPPING BE PERFORMED?

Digital mole mapping should be performed every 6- 12 months if you are not at high risk for melanoma. If you are at high risk for melanoma, digital mole mapping should be done 4 months after your baseline session and then every 6 months thereafter or sooner if you notice changes.

DO YOU CHECK FOR ANY MOLES WHICH MAY BE FOUND BY OR BENEATH THE UNDERGARMENTS?

If you have moles that you would like mapped in areas covered by your undergarments, please discuss this with the nurse when you arrive for your appointment.

WHO WILL BE TAKING THE PHOTOGRAPHS AND WHO EXAMINES THEM?

A female technician will be taking the photographs at a distance from you. The photographs will be stored on an encrypted secure server. An expert dermoscopist will review your scans and will contact you within 24 hours if there are any atypical findings.

CAN I BRING SOMEONE WITH ME TO MY APPOINTMENT?

We ask that you please do not bring any children, however you are welcome to bring an adult chaperone.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN DURING THE APPOINTMENT?

You will undress to your level of comfort and be positioned in front of the FotoFinder camera. First, full body overview photographs will be taken. Second, a full body examination will be completed with a handheld device called a dermatoscope. Any moles that require magnification photography will be marked and will be photographed up-close with a handheld device.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY RESULTS ARE ABNORMAL?

Should you require any additional testing (for example, a biopsy) this will not be done during this visit. The dermatologist will review your photographs and analyze for any atypical moles or lesions. If there are any atypical lesions, you will be contacted within 24 hours.



ARE THERE ANY CONTRAINDICATIONS TO DIGITAL MOLE MAPPING?

You cannot have digital mole mapping performed when you have a rash, sunburn, or prominent tan lines as this can interfere with the detection software.

DO I STILL NEED TO GET FULL BODY SKIN EXAMS IF I DO DIGITAL MOLE MAPPING?

Digital mole mapping with FotoFinder is only an aid for your doctor. You will still need to get full body skin exams. Although the digital mole mapping is very helpful, the software may not detect all new or changing lesions. Full body skin exams are very important, and they are not replaced by digital mole mapping.

DO YOU CHCK FOR ANY MOLES BY THE UNDERGARMENTS?

If you have any moles that you would like mapped in areas covered by your undergarments, please discuss this with the medical assistant when you arrive for your appointment.