

Types of Melanoma

Superficial Spreading Melanoma

This is the most common form of melanoma. Between 70%-80% of melanomas are of this variety, often resembling irregular moles. These melanomas will usually initially grow across the surface of the skin, and are not at risk of spreading and invading other parts of the body until they begin to grow down into deeper layers of the skin. The most common places for these are on the trunk for men and on the legs for women.





Clinical Image

Dermoscopic Image

Nodular Melanoma

This form of melanoma grows quickly, and begins growing deep into the layers of the skin sooner than other melanomas. Nodular melanomas often look like black, or very dark brown bumps or raised spots on the skin. These are often found in the middle-aged population on the chest or back.





Clinical Image

Dermoscopic Image

Lentigo Malignant Melanoma

This melanoma is similar to superficial spreading melanoma, often remaining on the surface of the skin. It normally develops on sun-exposed areas of the skin, thus it is found on the nose and cheeks, and it is more commonly found in outdoor workers and in older people with sun-damaged skin. Of the 4 types, it is the least likely to become invasive and metastasize.





Clinical Image

Dermoscopic Image

Acral Lentigious Melanoma

This form of melanoma appears under fingernails, on the palms of the hand or soles of the feet. It begins as a slowly-enlarging, discoloured patch of skin that initially grows superficially, but can grow deep into the skin's layers and become invasive faster than SSM or LMM forms of melanoma. Acral lentigioius melanoma is more common in darkerskinned people, and is often overlooked.





Clinical Image

Dermoscopic Image

^{*}Check out our online version plus more content on types of skin cancer at https://molescope.com/melanoma/#definition