

# Colorado Cancer Coalition Priorities: 2016-2018

## Option 4 of 10: **Screening & Early Detection: Skin Cancer**

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Goal 5: Increased high-quality cancer screening and early detection rates.

Objective 5.3: Increase early detection rates of non-screenable cancers.

Focus Area: Melanomas

### → **Strategies**

- Increase awareness of the symptoms of non- screenable cancers among health care providers and individuals.
- Educate medical and health care students via structured programs about symptoms, risk factors, early detection, genetic counseling and genetic testing for non-screenable cancer types.
- Support research studies, including randomized control trials, to investigate new and innovative cancer screening tests.

### → **Measures**

	Data Source	Baseline	2020 Target
Melanomas (less than or equal to 1.00 mm Breslow depth or in situ)	2010-12 CCCR	76%	82%

### → **What we know about the problem**

General Facts about Melanoma:

- **Of the seven most common cancers in the US, melanoma is the only one whose incidence is increasing.**
- One person dies of melanoma every hour (every 57 minutes).
- Melanoma is the most common form of cancer for young adults 25-29 years old and the second most common form of cancer for young people 15-29 years old.
- The vast majority of mutations found in melanoma are caused by ultraviolet radiation.

Colorado Specific Background Information:

- Age-adjusted **Incidence** of Melanoma of the Skin, Colorado, 2014: **20.5 cases per 100,000** in the population
- Age-adjusted **Mortality** Rates from Melanoma of the Skin, Colorado, 2014: **3.0 deaths per 100,000** in the population

Challenges to Data Collection by 2010-12 CCCR:

- Missed Melanoma patients
- Any data not reported

Benefits to Using the 2010-12 CCCR Data Source:

- This measure captures Melanoma patients who have been diagnosed at their earliest stage (in situ).

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- **Why should CCC members prioritize this area of work?**

Prioritization factors	Considerations	Notes
Likelihood of Population Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If melanoma cases are captured at an early stage, treatment is highly effective and can be curative.</li> </ul>	
Evidence of Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are a number of evidence based strategies to support sun safety behaviors, in addition to medical guidelines and research to better detect melanoma cases.</li> <li>• The “ABCDEs” of Melanoma can be easily taught and adequate training can help medical and health care students capture a wider net of at-risk patients.</li> <li>• Numerous on-going studies are trying to determine ways to detect those at risk for Melanoma, so that they can be closely monitored. For example, genetic testing and the use of mole-mapping are being explored.</li> </ul>	
Established Need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data supports the need for early detection of Melanoma, as known risk factors have been identified.</li> <li>• Healthy People 2020: Under the “Cancer” objective, UV exposure is recognized as a risk factor that can be reduced to decrease the rate of preventable cancer.</li> </ul>	
Measurability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Colorado Central Cancer Registry tracks incidence and staging of cancer cases occurring in the state. Incidence rate data is generally 2 years behind, ie. 2014 incidence rates will be available in 2016.</li> <li>• Breslow’s depth, a measure of how deeply Melanoma has invaded, is easily measurable in tumor biopsies and is indicative of prognosis.</li> </ul>	
Collective Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are skin cancer-focused groups, including the CCC’s skin cancer task force, in and outside of Colorado who are actively working towards reducing melanomas.</li> <li>• A clear message and widespread recognition of the problem is needed though, and something the CCC could provide space for multiple entities to come together to determine.</li> </ul>	
Identified Gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research is needed on devices and new screening tools for the detection of Melanoma in at risk individuals.</li> </ul>	

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Opportunities for Leveraging partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collaboration is key in meeting this objective, in particular related to education of current and future healthcare providers. This can ensure awareness of the necessity for early screening and detection of Melanomas, including knowledge of screening methods.</li></ul>	
Political/ community support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community support for this objective is high. Due to the high incidence of Melanoma in the state of Colorado, many people have had a personal history of the cancer, or know someone who has been affected by it. As such, there is an active base involved in fundraising events and programs to increase awareness.</li><li>• The FDA has recently proposed regulations to ban UV tanning for those under the age of 18. There has been an outpouring of support for this regulation by members of Colorado's cancer community.</li></ul>	

**Would you or your organization commit to helping with this priority?**