

Melanoma Facts

Melanoma is the most serious and lethal form of skin cancer:

- Melanoma accounts for 79% of all skin cancer deaths;
- The mortality rate has increased by 44% since 1973;
- One person dies every hour from melanoma in the U.S.

Melanoma affects people of all ages and genders:

- The incidence rate of melanoma in men is greater than any other type of cancer;
- Melanoma is the most common cancer for women ages 25-29 and the second most common for ages 30-34.

Melanoma will strike approximately 1 in 75 U.S. citizens:

- There are approximately 53,000 new melanoma cases each year;
- 480,000 U.S. citizens are estimated to have this disease.

Melanoma spreads to other places on the skin and to the lymph nodes, lungs, liver, brain or bones:

- Early detection and treatment are key to survival;
- The chance of recurrence warrants regular follow-up exams for melanoma patients.

Why Be Involved?

In spite of these frightening facts, Melanoma ONLY receives 10% of the funding provided to other cancer research.

Melanoma could strike you or someone close to you. Without greater understanding, outreach and research we all stand to lose those most precious to us and those we've never had the good fortune to meet.

Melanoma treatment and follow-up could save lives. As sure as the sun rises each day to nourish our lives, so too rises the danger of its harmful rays to us all. Without comprehensive awareness and education programs, the incidence of melanoma will continue to rise.

Continue with Joanna's "Celebration of Life". Make an enduring impact upon countless lives today and for generations to come by supporting our Foundation.

"Celebration of Life" Citation

"Be it known: that on behalf of the citizens of this state, in recognition of the memory of an exceptional woman whose loving and generous spirit endeared her to all...in tribute to the beautiful way she enriched the lives of her family and friends; and as our citizens join in offering our sincere condolences and great respect as we reflect on the life accomplishments of a woman who truly made a positive difference in the lives of all who had the privilege of sharing her wisdom, love and friendship, we are pleased to confer upon you this Governor's Citation."



The Joanna M. Nicolay Melanoma Foundation

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