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College of Nursing

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### Skin cancer: Be kind to the skin you are in

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# How can I prevent this?

- Seek the shade especially between 10 AM and 4 PM.
- Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen everyday (SPF 15 or higher).
- Do not sunburn and avoid UV tanning beds.
- Look at your skin or have a family member check for suspicious areas or moles.

True or False (see answers on back)

- 1. Use of the tanning bed increases your risk for skin cancer.
- 2. Unusual moles are NOT a sign of skin cancer.





When In The Sun...

Slip on a shirt!

Slop on sunscreen!

Slap on a hat!

Whap on the sunglassest

Answers: True; False

#### References

New Website to Help Cancer Survivors Manage Health. (n.d.). Retrieved October 27, 2016, from http://www.cancer.org/index

Skin Cancer Foundation. (n.d.). Retrieved October 27, 2016, from <a href="http://www.skincancer.org/">http://www.skincancer.org/</a>

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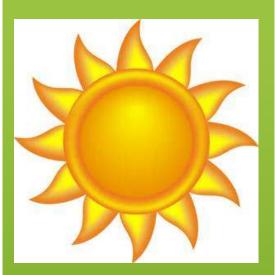
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Patient education brochure developed by Sara Beth Stevens

Reading level 5.5

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### Skin Cancer



### Be Kind to the Skin You Are In



## Did You Know?

- Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer.
- One out of five Americans will develop skin cancer in the course of a lifetime.
- The risk for a person developing melanoma doubles with the risk of five or more sunburns.
- The sun causes the majority of melanoma skin cancers.
- Each year there are more new cases of skin cancer than the incidence of breast cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, and colon cancer combined.
- Basal cell carcinoma is the most common form of skin cancer, however melanoma is related to the majority of deaths with one person dying every 52 minutes.



- Too much exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation (including tanning beds and lamps)
- You have pale skin, do not tan much, or have naturally blonde or red hair.
- You have had severe burns from UV rays.
- You have several moles or unusual moles.
- You or a family member has had a history of skin cancer.
- People who use tanning beds before the age of 35 increase their risk of producing skin cancer by 75%.

### Warning Signs

- Any change on your skin (skin color, mole growth, mole color change)
- Use the ABCDE rule: Asymmetry, Border irregularity, Color irregularity, Diameter greater than 6 mm (pencil eraser size), Evolving changing shape, size, or color
- A sore that does not heal and/or bleeds



