

## **MELANOMA SURGERY IN AUSTRALIA**

Today, Dr Glen Foxtan, will be presenting on treating melanoma with Mohs micrographic surgery at the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD) Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) on the Gold Coast.

There is a lack of Australian data regarding the use of Mohs micrographic surgery (MMS) for melanoma in situ (MIS) and lentigo maligna (LM).

Dr Foxtan says: "Our study showed an Australian centres' experience with Mohs surgery. The study group comprised of 62 patients with 62 lesions of MIS and LM referred for treatment between 2015 and 2017. All melanomas were excised with MMS utilising melanoma-associated antigen recognised by T-cells (MART-1) immunostaining."

Follow up ranges were from three to thirty months with no reported recurrences or melanoma related deaths. Ninety three percent were primary lesions involving head and neck sites (88.7%). Fifty four percent of lesions were cleared with 3mm radial clinical margins, 67.7% with 6mm, 92% with 9mm and 100% with 12mm.

The mean clinical excision margin was 6.72mm. All lesions with a tumour diameter greater than 2.2 cm required a 9mm clinical margin for excision or greater. The mean clinical excision margin for recurrent tumours was 9mm.

Dr Foxtan says: "We can now provide the first Australian data on Mohs surgery for MIS/lentigo maligna. Our results are consistent with those previously published by authors outside of Australia."

Today is also the first time that there will be a Mohs scientists and technicians meeting at the ASM.

Chris Arnold from the Skin & Cancer Foundation Inc says: "Today establishes the first national special interest group for Mohs scientists and technicians to foster sharing of experience, professional development and the establishment of national standards. The day's program at the ASM will cover the establishment of the group, its role and governance. Technical sessions will include different Mohs laboratory techniques and discussions of artefacts from both from the Mohs surgeon and Mohs scientist/technician perspective. A melanoma Mohs immunohistochemistry protocol used in several locations dating back to 2014 will also be highlighted."

**ENDS**

### **Links to further information**

[Annual Scientific Meeting website](#)

[A-Z of Skin](#)

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For further information on the ACD, visit [www.dermcoll.edu.au](http://www.dermcoll.edu.au), or see our updates on [Facebook](#) or Twitter at [@DermatologyACD](#) #acdasm2018 or [Linkedin](#)



THE AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE  
OF DERMATOLOGISTS

### **About the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD):**

The ACD is the peak medical college accredited by the Australian Medical Council for the training and professional development of medical practitioners in the specialty of dermatology. They provide authoritative information about dermatology to Government, the media, other health professionals and the general public.

### **Media enquiries:**

For more information, images, or to arrange an interview with a dermatologist, please contact:

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