



Aussie blokes considerably underestimate their risk of skin cancer & most delay doctor visits: new findings

Less than one-in-three Aussie blokes (32 per cent) consider themselves at high risk of skin cancer, despite 82 per cent reporting at least one known risk factor, such as fair hair, skin that burns easily, or spending time outdoors each week.¹

Moreover, most men (61 per cent) have delayed a doctor visit despite their concern about a health issue,¹ with more than a quarter of full-time workers claiming to be too busy at work and unable to spare the time.¹

These survey findings from the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD) released today, Wednesday, June 6, 2018, aim to reinforce the importance of early skin cancer diagnosis, treatment and prevention among men for Australia's most common cancer.²

"Men are at higher risk of developing both non-melanoma and melanoma skin cancer than women,³ but are often more reluctant to visit a doctor to have their skin checked. Often it's not until they know someone who has been diagnosed with skin cancer, that they too, suddenly realise they could be at risk of the disease," said Dr Alex Varol, dermatologist and Fellow of the Australasian College of Dermatologists, Sydney.

To learn more about the ACD's survey findings and national public health campaign, tee up an interview today with:

EXPERTS

Dr Alexandra Varol

Fellow of the Australasian College of Dermatologists, **SYDNEY**

Dr David Francis

President-elect of the Australasian College of Dermatologists & Senior Lecturer at the University of QLD Medical School, **BRISBANE**

Prof David Whiteman

Deputy Director, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute & Fellow of the Australasian Academy of Health & Medical Sciences, **BRISBANE**

Dr Benjamin Carew

Fellow of the Australasian College of Dermatologists & Medical Educator at the University of QLD, **BRISBANE**

A/Prof Andrew Miller

President of the Australasian College of Dermatologists & Member of the AMA, **CANBERRA**

Dr Victoria Mar

Fellow of the Australasian College of Dermatologists, **MELBOURNE**

Dr Rachel Manifold

Fellow of the Australasian College of Dermatologists & Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists, **ADELAIDE**

Dr Rachael Foster

Fellow of the Australasian College of Dermatologists, **PERTH**

Dr Dev Tilakaratne

Fellow of the Australasian College of Dermatologists, **DARWIN**

Dr Philip Clarke

Senior Clinical Lecturer, University of Tasmania & Fellow of the Australasian College of General Practitioners, **LAUNCESTON**

AUSTRALIANS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED SKIN CANCER

Jeffrey, 59

Close call for father-to-two who was diagnosed with skin cancer after a chance meeting with a doctor, **SYDNEY**

Tony, 55

Father-to-three, IT company co-founder & keen surfer, who was first diagnosed with skin cancer in his 30s, **BRISBANE**

John, 59

Husband, father-to-three & General Manager diagnosed with a malignant melanoma by chance, **BRISBANE**

Ken, 82

Commonwealth Games medallist & grandfather-to-four who has battled skin cancer for 45 years, **GOLD COAST**

Chris, 53

Cycling enthusiast, passionate conservation volunteer & carer who contracted skin cancer at 35, **MELBOURNE**

Jim, 65

Grandfather-to-seven, & cricket enthusiast who was given two months to live after melanoma diagnosis, **MELBOURNE**

Alexandra, 48

Cancer survivor & business owner whose father died from skin cancer at age 77, **MELBOURNE**

Claude, 65

Horse racing enthusiast who battled melanoma for seven years, **ADELAIDE**

Ross, 70

Father-to-two grown up children, retired school principal, Rottnest volunteer guide & melanoma survivor, **PERTH**

Mike, 59

Married, father-of-three grown up children, HR & recruitment officer, who survived melanoma, **PERTH**

Bob, 68

Father-to-three, grandfather-to-three, chartered accountant & golfing enthusiast diagnosed with skin cancer, **DARWIN**

Martin, 68

Retired research fellow & DIY enthusiast who was diagnosed with melanoma, **LAUNCESTON**

Greg, 46

Father to twins, sales professional & sports enthusiast who was diagnosed with melanoma in May, **LAUNCESTON**

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References

1. Australasian College of Dermatologists Male Skin Cancer Survey. 2018.
2. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Skin cancer in Australia. Cat. no. CAN 96. Canberra, Australia: AIHW; 2016.
3. Cancer Council Australia. Types of cancer: Skin, Non-Melanoma. 2018. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org.au/about-cancer/types-of-cancer/skin-cancer/non-melanoma.html> [Last accessed June, 2018].

