

Understanding cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma

Cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, or CSCC, is a type of skin cancer

CSCC is the second most common type of skin cancer. It may appear anywhere on the skin but usually affects areas that are frequently exposed to the sun.

About **700,000*** people in the US are diagnosed each year.

Men are **3x** more likely than women to get CSCC.

People age 65 and over are more likely to get CSCC.

* As of 2012.

Risk factors for CSCC

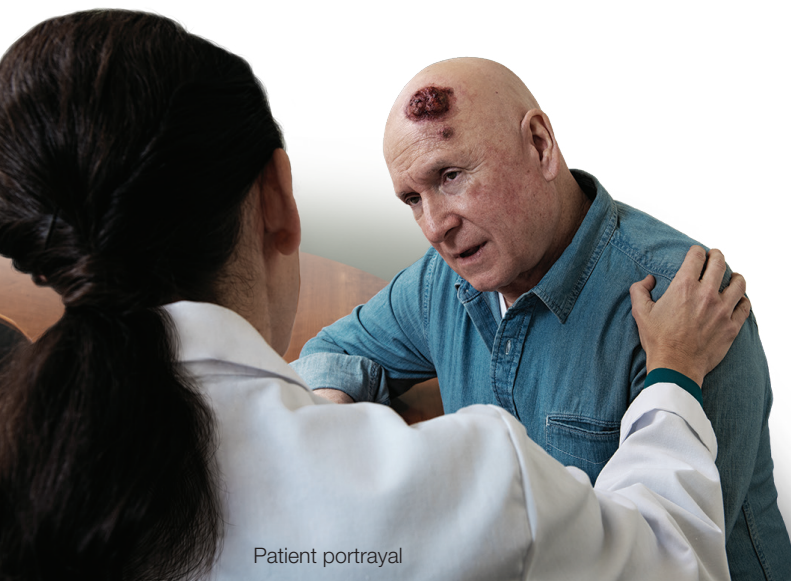
- Exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun and tanning beds
- Fair or light skin
- An immune system that is weakened or not working (some causes for this are bone marrow or stem cell transplants, organ transplants, and diseases like HIV/AIDS, leukemia, or lymphoma)



Risk factors increase the chance of getting this cancer.

What you can do after being diagnosed with CSCC

- Make sun avoidance a top priority—be careful and use sun protection when outside.
- Complete monthly self-exams of your skin—request help from a caregiver if needed.
- Keep regularly scheduled follow-up appointments.
- Ask your doctor about what may put you at greater risk for disease progression.

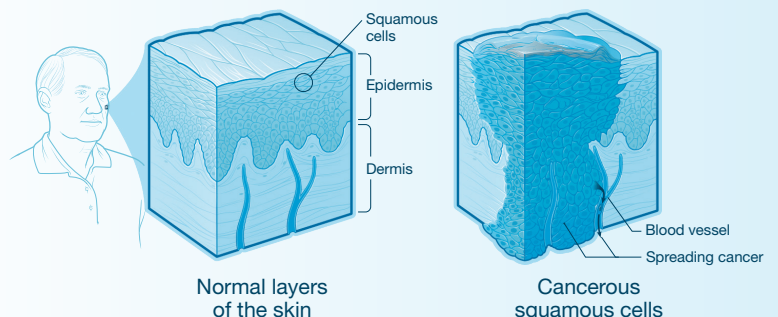


Patient portrayal

What is advanced CSCC?

CSCC may spread to other parts of the body.

- When CSCC invades deeper layers of the skin and spreads into surrounding tissues, it is called **locally advanced CSCC**.
- When CSCC spreads into the lymph nodes or into more distant tissues or organs, it is called **metastatic CSCC**.



Advanced CSCC resources

Tips for patients with advanced CSCC



Get to know your treatment team

Doctors involved in treating advanced CSCC may include dermatologists, surgeons, radiation oncologists, and medical oncologists.



Get a second opinion

Don't worry about offending your doctor. Second opinions are common with advanced cancers.



Ask questions

Ask your doctor about all possible treatment options. Nurses are also a great information resource.



Treat yourself right

Take time to rest and focus on your health. Follow your doctor's advice and stick to the plan.



Finding support

A cancer diagnosis can cause stress and worry. Many resources are available to people affected by cancer. Here are some you may find helpful.

Resources

American Academy of Dermatology (AAD)

aad.org

Educates on skin cancers and skin care; assists in finding a dermatologist.

American Cancer Society (ACS)

cancer.org

Funds and conducts research, shares expert information, supports patients, and promotes cancer prevention.

CancerCare

cancercares.org

CancerCare is the leading national organization providing free, professional support services and information to help people manage the emotional, practical and financial challenges of cancer. Programs and services include counseling and support groups over the phone, online and in-person, educational workshops, publications and financial and co-payment assistance.

Cancer.Net

cancer.net

Oncologist-approved information to help patients make informed healthcare decisions.

Cancer Research Institute

cancerresearch.org

Funds innovative immunotherapy research to save more lives and cure all cancers.

Cancer Support Community

cancersupportcommunity.org

As the largest professionally led non-profit network of cancer support worldwide, CSC delivers services free of charge to patients and families - through 170 locations including our Gilda's Club affiliates and health care partnerships, our Cancer Support Helpline, and a fully integrated digital community.

National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®)*

nccn.org/patients

Devoted to patient care, research, and education; The NCCN Foundation secures funding for the NCCN Guidelines for Patients®.

Skin Cancer Foundation

SkinCancer.org

Information on prevention, early detection, and treatment.

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