

# Patient information from BMJ

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## Melanoma: questions to ask your doctor

**If you're worried that one of your moles may be skin cancer, you should see your doctor as soon as you can.**

Here are some questions you might want to ask:

- Could my mole be a melanoma?
- Will I have surgery to remove part of the mole to check whether it is cancer or will I need to have all of it removed?
- How advanced is my cancer (if you have melanoma)? What stage is it?
- What treatment do you recommend?
- What are the risks of treatment?
- Do people in my family have a raised risk of getting melanoma?
- What can I do to protect myself from another melanoma?
- What do you think is likely to happen to me?

And here are some questions your doctor may ask you:

- Has anyone in your family ever had a melanoma?
- Have you ever had any type of skin cancer?
- Did you have bad sunburn when you were a child?
- Have any of your moles changed their colour, shape, size, or texture?

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