## Dermoscopy - The Skin Cancer Centre

Whenever we can gather more information to aid us in making a decision, we should do so. This seems logical right?

**Dermoscopy** - Ever heard the word? Dermoscopy is the practice of *systematically screening* high risk areas of patients for skin cancer with a handheld scope. These



scopes come in various shapes and sizes, but fundamentally they allow Dermatologists or Doctors to view the skin up to 10x more than the naked eye.

**Does your dermatologist** implement the use of Dermoscopy? Do they use a handheld scope to scan high risk areas of your body, like the ears, nose, and lips? Does your dermatologist actively look for cancers that are developing in their EARLIEST stages?

If you answered **NO** to any of the above, it's time to do a little more research and have a few conversations. Because the truth is that skin cancer cannot be spotted at its <u>earliest</u> <u>stages</u> with the naked eye.

Dr. DeAngelis' use of Dermoscopy aids significantly in the early detection of skin cancer. Not only does it magnify the objects in view by ten, but the special optics and LED lights also allow the examiner to see through the surface layers of the skin into the upper layers of the dermis. It is within these layers of the skin where abnormalities can be appreciated that are unable to be seen with the unaided eye or even with a typical magnifying glass.

Dermoscopy goes by many different names; Skin Surface Microscopy, Incident Light Microscopy, Dermatoscopy, or even Epiluminescence Microscopy.

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