

# UVM Health DERMATOLOGY Referral Guidance

Our goal is to prioritize patients with the most medically urgent dermatologic needs. **At this time we are not scheduling for the following conditions:** *low risk skin cancer screening (patients with no prior skin cancers and no worrisome lesions on exam), skin tags, uncomplicated warts, molluscum, tinea, keratosis pilaris, onychomycosis, seborrheic keratoses, or corns.*

## Please include in all ADULT DERMATOLOGY referrals:

1. Special needs (interpreter, Hoyer etc)
2. Medical Urgency Level
3. Provide a provisional diagnosis
4. Reason for Referral

## Medical Referral Urgency Levels

### Emergent (within 1 week):

- For immediate attention (blistering rashes, BSA > 90%, fever, pain, lymphadenopathy, or obvious high-risk skin cancers needing biopsy): *Please page the on-call nurse at (802) 847-1000, pager 4946 during business hours.*

### Urgent (within 6 weeks):

- Medically concerning but not immediately life-threatening.

### Next Available Appointment:

- Routine dermatologic concerns that do not require expedited care.

**Note:** Unless the Urgency Level is explained in the Reason for Referral, we will not be able to triage your referral. This may cause delays in scheduling.

## PHOTOS:

We appreciate clear, in-focus COLOR photos from multiple distances—far, medium, and close-up. Photos are helpful but do not replace a physical exam description. If your EHR is not set up for direct messaging, images transmit as low-quality black and white. Contact your EHR vendor for help setting up direct messaging.

## Single Lesion Suspicious for Skin Cancer

*Please refer all patients with a specific lesion that you think might be a skin cancer. We prioritize these referrals.*

- Document:
  - location of lesion.
  - Your level of concern (e.g. Low/Med/High)
- Specify the suspected type of skin cancer (e.g., basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, melanoma, metastasis, recurrence, or other).
- Note tumor risk factors such as diameter greater than 2 cm, rapid growth, bleeding, black color, ulceration, pain or itching.

**Note:** Biopsy-proven skin cancers should be referred to Mohs/Derm Surg

## Full Body Skin Cancer Screening

*Routine full body skin exams are **not recommended** for the general population per USPSTF guidelines.*

*Please refer all patients with a personal history of skin cancer.*

*We are expediting very high risk referrals:*

- History of invasive melanoma, very high-risk squamous cell carcinoma, Merkel cell carcinoma, or metastatic skin cancer.
- Personal history of six or more skin cancers.
- Genetic pathogenic variant.
- Organ transplant recipient.

**Note:** Unless otherwise indicated, these are assumed NOT to have a *specific* lesion concerning for skin cancer.

## Rashes, Hair, And Nail Disorders

- Provide location of condition.
- Indicate the duration of symptoms.
- Describe symptom type and severity itching, burning, pain, or disfigurement (e.g. Mild/Mod/Severe)
- Include any treatments that have already been attempted.

## Cosmetic Dermatology Consults

- We offer cosmetic neuromodulator injections (Botox/Xeomin) and dermal filler injections.
- Cosmetic consultation fees may apply.

**Note:** We do not provide treatment for dark under-eye circles, chemical peels, CO<sub>2</sub> resurfacing, sclerotherapy.