

Excision margins don't impact melanoma recurrence, survival

April 12 2016



(HealthDay)—Wider excision margins in thick cutaneous melanoma

cases do not improve locoregional recurrence or melanoma-specific survival (MSS), according to research published online March 25 in *Head & Neck*.

Olivia Ruskin, M.B.B.S., from the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne, Australia, and colleagues reviewed the records of 108 patients (median age, 71.1 years) treated at a single site for head and neck melanoma between 2002 and 2012 (median follow-up, 40 months). The authors sought to assess the impact of excision margins and sentinel lymph node status on locoregional [recurrence](#) and MSS.

The researchers found that the median Breslow thickness was 6.0 mm and locoregional recurrence happened in 27 percent of cases. There was no significant reduction in recurrence with margins ≥ 2 cm ($P = 0.17$), and there was no survival improvement with increasing margins ($P = 0.58$). Of the 59 [patients](#) (55 percent) who underwent sentinel node biopsy, 27 percent were positive. Patients who were sentinel lymph node-negative had a trend toward longer survival ($P = 0.097$).

"Wider margins do not significantly improve locoregional recurrence or MSS," the authors write. "Sentinel lymph node involvement reflects a poor prognosis."

More information: [Abstract](#)
[Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

Copyright © 2016 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: Excision margins don't impact melanoma recurrence, survival (2016, April 12)
retrieved 19 April 2024 from
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2016-04-excision-margins-dont-impact-melanoma.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.