

Non-invasive technique may help detect skin and other cancers

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Researchers have developed a non-invasive technique that allows clinicians to accurately detect various forms of skin cancer.

The current clinical "gold standard" non-invasive technique, called dermoscopy, is a highly subjective method. But by using what's called Raman spectroscopy, investigators found that [malignant melanoma](#) could be detected with an accuracy of 91% and non-melanoma skin cancers could be detected with accuracy between 73% and 85%.

"The non-invasive and label-free nature of Raman spectroscopy enables the application in various medical fields. The method could be applied through an endoscope in order to reach internal organs. Besides the detection of [skin cancer](#), applications to detect cancer of the urinary bladder, esophagus or cervix have been shown," said Dr. Johannes Schleusener, co-author of the *Experimental Dermatology* article.

More information: Schleusener, J., Gluszczynska, P., Reble, C., Gersonde, I., Helfmann, J., Fluhr, J. W., Lademann, J., Rówert-Huber, J., Patzelt, A. and Meinke, M. C. (2015), In vivo study for the discrimination of cancerous and normal skin using fibre probe-based Raman spectroscopy. *Experimental Dermatology*. DOI: [10.1111/exd.12768](https://doi.org/10.1111/exd.12768)

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