



# Melanoma News

# News & Events - Melanoma survivors Ireland

Welcome to the new edition of melanoma news I would like to welcome all our new members to the survivors page over the last few weeks, please feel free to post new comments or get involved with the threads. Over the past week or so we have started a petition to get sunbeds banned here in Ireland, I know it is a long shot but by doing this it should help raise awareness of the dangers of sunbed use. The majority of the signatures so far have been melanoma survivors so a big thank you to all who have signed. Just before Christmas we added a new page to the website (Forum & Support) its a really good place to get our opinions and feelings across to people who are not on Facebook, to add a comment or a new topic just sign in and add your first name, you will be asked for your e-mail address but this is only to stop spammers. So far the page has had over 8000 views so people are interested in what we have to say.

We would like to thank everybody who has supported us by sending news reports so we can share the information with other melanoma patients and survivors

We wish all our survivors a happy and healthy new year!

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**It's a no brainer as far as I'm concerned, sunbeds do nothing but harm.** "A close friend had a melanoma caused from sunbeds"

Banning sunbeds will protect people, especially those under 35 years, from the risk of developing melanoma. "I got skin cancer aged 26... no doubt sunbed use contributed to this"

**"I have stage 3 melanoma, was diagnosed at 33 years old & wouldn't wish it on anyone. Get these death traps banned"** "We need to reduce the rate of melanoma in this country. Our young men and women need to be informed that melanoma kills, it is easy to get a tan from a bottle and not these beds"

"I was a user of sunbeds back in the early 90s which has led to me having a malignant melanoma" **"I am signing this as a melanoma survivor. Sun beds are as dangerous as a loaded gun"** "Lost someone to melanoma"

**"Any reduction in the incidence of melanoma will have a substantial impact on the health system with its associated costs. Prevention is better than cure and it saves lives"** "Cutting out sunbed use is easier than cutting out melanoma"

 **"I've seen first hand the disastrous consequences of overexposure and wouldn't wish those consequences on my worst enemy"**

My kids saw their brother die so the 'get cancer' message upsets them'- Mum criticises controversial cancer ad

A grieving mum who lost her young son to cancer has criticised the new Irish Cancer Society's 'get cancer' ad, calling for it to be removed from TV.

[Independent.ie](http://Independent.ie)

Patient Selection in Melanoma: Immunotherapy vs Targeted Therapy

**Robert H.I. Andtbacka, MD, CM:** What about the other factor then? Many of these patients, if they're 50 years old and they're working, are coming in for infusions every 2 weeks or every 3 weeks—depending on how you do that—versus taking a pill at home. Does that impact on your decision to have one treatment versus the other in terms of practical reasons, Mike?

[Read more or watch video](#)

# News melanoma survivors Ireland

[Onclive.com](#)

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Tumour immunology and immunotherapy

This animation created by Nature Reviews Cancer and Nature Reviews Immunology illustrates how tumour cells are sensed and destroyed by cells of the immune system and how tumours can evolve to evade immune-mediated elimination. Scientists are developing new immunotherapies that help the immune system to ‘fight back’ – the animation explains how these exciting new drugs work.

[Youtube](#)

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Long-term survival and clinical benefit from adoptive T-cell transfer in stage IV melanoma

The presence of tumor-infiltrating immune cells is associated with longer survival and a better response to immunotherapy in early stage melanoma, but a comprehensive study of the *in situ* immune microenvironment in stage IV melanoma has not been performed. We investigated the combined influence of a series of immune factors on survival and response to adoptive cell transfer

[cancerimmunoroles](#)

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Best of Oncology what's new

This is a very interesting video

[oncologyeducation](#)

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I'm 26 and was diagnosed with skin cancer. Here's why it didn't have to happen

But I knew why. This was my fault.

“I was a stupid teenager who tanned a lot,” I told him.

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I got skin cancer because I didn't think being a fair-skinned redhead was good enough. I wasn't confident in my natural skin, so I crawled into a tanning bed to cook my pale skin brown.

I got skin cancer because I listened to the messages from advertising and women's magazines that told me I needed "that healthy glow" to be considered beautiful.

I got skin cancer because in high school all the "popular" girls hit the tanning beds hard before every dance — three times each school year in Kansas. And in college, most of the girls in my sorority tanned regularly, especially before date parties — basically all of the time.

[Read full story here here](#)

[miamiherald](#)

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'My kids saw their brother die so the 'get cancer' message upsets them'- Mum criticises controversial cancer ad

A grieving mum who lost her young son to cancer has criticised the new Irish Cancer Society's 'get cancer' ad, calling for it to be removed from TV

Dolores Grace, from Co Meath lost her 20-year-old son Elliot to cancer, five months after he received the shocking diagnosis.

In an open letter Dolores said she's writing to the Irish Cancer Society "to urge you to rethink your current advertising campaign".

[Read more](#)

[Independent.ie](#)

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In part one, Kylie spoke to patients and the specialist team who are now warning getting burnt as a child can increase your risk of getting skin cancer by 80%.

[itv News](#)

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Skin Cancer

Many strides in the fight against skin cancer were made in 2016. These developments included progress in research, awareness and prevention. These are the top 5 skin cancer articles of 2016 from *Dermatology Times*.

Skin bacteria may fuel cancer cell progression A study reveals that toxin-producing bacteria like staphylococcus may fuel CTCL; therefore, antibacterial treatment may slow disease progression. Findings could one day change how you treat patients.

[Read more](#)

[dermatologytimes](#)

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Treatment options for stage III melanoma patients

**Description:** James Larkin, MD, PhD, of the Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK, explains the treatment options available for patients with stage III melanoma, which means that the disease has been cured with surgery but there is a risk of it coming back. According to Dr Larkin, treatment options are limited and usually participation in clinical trials is the recommended option for such patients. Last year, there was a trial comparing nivolumab and ipilimumab (IPI), and now there is a trial involving the use of pembrolizumab (PEMBRO) as a treatment option. For patients with stage III melanoma that cannot be removed using surgical means, there are several different treatment options (the use of drugs, for instance), but each patient is usually considered on an individualized basis. Recorded at the American Society of Oncology (ASCO) 2016 Annual Meeting held in Chicago, IL.

[Video](#)

[oncologytube.com](#)

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## Treating Melanoma Through Clinical Trials

Clinical trials are often viewed as the best treatment option for a late-stage (Stage III or Stage IV) melanoma patient, so it is important that you learn about them as a treatment option to help make an informed treatment decision.

[Melanoma.org](#)

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## Exploring advancements in viral immunotherapies and vaccines in the melanoma field

The Future Science Group (FSG) published journal, *Melanoma Management*, has released a special issue highlighting the advancements made in viral immunotherapies and vaccines in the melanoma field.

[EUREKALERT](#)

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## Our ban the beds 2017 Campaign

Sunbeds are UV-emitting tanning devices and are classified “*carcinogenic to humans*”

They cause skin cancer when used exactly as intended.

It's time to follow the Australian lead and ban them completely in Ireland.

Please sign the petition

[Sign the petition](#)

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## Grieving daughter posts tragic photograph of terminally ill mum to raise awareness of deadly skin cancer

Laura Bhasker, 22, from Mulhuddart in Dublin is appealing to others not to take risks in the sunshine – or face leaving their loved ones on their own next Christmas

[Mirror.co.uk](#)

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## Four Cancer-Killing Viruses To Watch In 2017

Cancer-killing viruses are specially engineered versions of naturally occurring viruses that are programmed to home in on cancer cells and kill them without harming normal tissues. This is a branch of immuno-oncology that has been overshadowed by more fruitful endeavors, such as the immune checkpoint inhibitors Opdivo (nivolumab) from Bristol-Myers Squibb [BMY -0.47%](#) and Keytruda (pembrolizumab) from Merck, both of which are now certified cancer blockbusters. But several companies are developing cancer-killing viruses, known in the scientific community as “oncolytic” viruses, and some of those efforts are starting to show promise.

[Read more](#)

[forbes.com](#)

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## U.S. Melanoma Rate Is Rising

1 in every 54 Americans will develop invasive form of the skin cancer in their lifetime

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21, 2016 (HealthDay News) — More Americans are developing the potentially deadly skin cancer known as melanoma than in the past, new research shows.

[Webmd.com](#)

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## Melanoma in Ireland Information Booklet

[melanoma in Ireland](#)

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## E magazine 11-18th News

[Melanoma News](#)

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To see different types of melanoma just click on the link

[types of melanoma](#)

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The Current Understanding of Biomarkers in Melanoma

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[Melanoma.org](https://www.melanoma.org)

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[EUREKALERT](#)

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Managing Immunotherapy Side Effects in Melanoma: Quick Intervention Is Key

Although immunotherapies have been an enormous advance for the treatment of many cancers, they come with their own set of toxicities. Patients should learn how to watch for these side effects and be ready to discuss them with oncology nursing professionals, who will know how to help.

[Curetoday.com](https://www.curetoday.com)

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Risk of men developing cancer plateaus

A new report says the chances of men being diagnosed with cancer, which had been rising steadily since 1994, may have plateaued.

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The [National Cancer Registry annual report](#) says that rates for the top three cancers in men – prostate, colorectal (bowel) and lung – are now declining, or static.

However, the report says this was balanced against steady increases in the incidence of lymphomas and melanoma of the skin.

## RTE NEWS

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Not every melanoma is black

West Australian nurse Amanda Whittle never imagined a small pink mark on her upper arm was anything to be concerned about. The spot didn't resemble anything she knew about skin cancers. It wasn't black or raised, hadn't grown from a mole or freckle and she couldn't remember it changing shape, size or colour.

## Melanoma Institute Australia

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The Genetics of Melanoma

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How Melanoma Develops

Melanoma develops in a manner similar to other cancer types. A cell's DNA genes, which control cell division and reproduction, become damaged. The damaged genes cause the cell to divide and grow without control or order, eventually becoming a malignant tumor.

In the case of melanoma, the damage to the DNA is usually caused by overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation, and the affected cells are melanocytes, which produce the pigment melanin. The first tumor that develops is usually located in the skin. If not caught, melanoma will grow and spread along the epidermis before penetrating deeper layers of the skin and eventually coming into contact with lymph and blood vessels.

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[Read more](#)

[Aim at Melanoma](#)

Questions to ask your doctor – Ocular Melanoma

[Melanoma.org](#)

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Good news for melanoma patients here in Ireland

New clinical trial announced for patients with Malignant Melanoma

Cork Cancer Research Centre (CCRC), which is based at University College Cork, has announced the launch of a new clinical trial for the treatment of malignant melanoma, which aims to significantly improve outcomes for patients with this form of skin cancer.

In Ireland there are approximately 630 new cases of melanoma diagnosed each year with 110 people losing their lives to the disease annually. Melanoma mortality is increasing very rapidly with the number of deaths per annum expected to reach 150 by 2020.

The new treatment being investigated involves a combination of Ipilimumab (“Ipi”, tradename Yervoy), a Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) drug, and tumour Electroporation, which is pioneered at CCRC. It aims to open up cancer cells with electrical pulses to facilitate the immunotherapy treatment to be even more effective, enabling the patient’s immune system to respond against the cancer. The study is supported by UCC, BMS and Breakthrough Cancer Research.

**Doctors with patients who may be suitable for this trial should refer them to Dr Power of the Oncology Clinical Trials Unit in Cork University Hospital or Dr Declan Soden of the Cork Cancer Research Centre in University College Cork. Patients can contact Dr Power through his PA at 021 492 2893.**

[Read more](#)

[breakthroughcancerresearch.ie](#)

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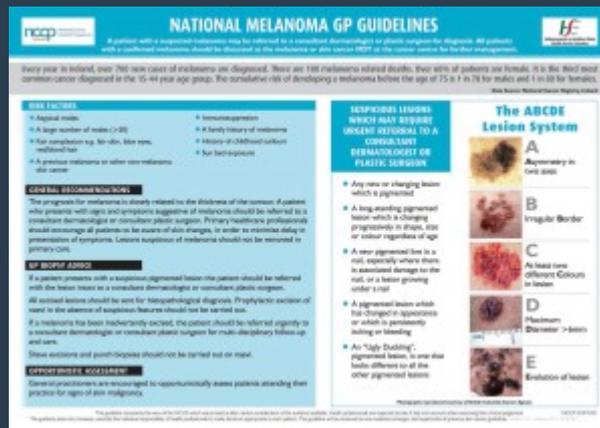
Just diagnosed with melanoma?

If you're reading this, you or someone you know has undergone a biopsy or other tests in which the diagnosis of melanoma has been confirmed. First, know that you are not alone. Second, arm yourself with information and resources.

Understanding Your Melanoma Diagnosis

Knowing and understanding your melanoma diagnosis is of the utmost importance, as it helps determine your treatment plan. Learn more about each stage by following the link below.

[Melanoma.org](http://Melanoma.org)



<http://www.hse.ie>

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