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Melanoma Guide – Patients and Relatives

List of questions for visiting the doctor.

C. Diagnosis: Stage 0 melanoma (in situ)

Dear readers,

The following are questions to ask when visiting a doctor if you have been diagnosed with stage 0 melanoma.

1. What is the difference between an in situ melanoma and an invasive melanoma?
2. Did the biopsy remove all the melanoma, or will I need another biopsy?
3. Does the treating surgeon have experience with melanoma patients if I need extensive excision of the melanoma?
4. Do you think that a second opinion regarding the biopsy needs to be sought to confirm the diagnosis before starting treatment?
5. Are there options other than surgery that would be suitable for treatment?
6. What is the probability that the melanoma has already spread to other parts of my body?
7. Will I need additional diagnostics to confirm the stage of melanoma?
8. What treatment plan do you suggest and why?
9. What is my prognosis if I follow this plan?
10. What kind of follow-up care will I need?
11. What is the probability that the cancer will reappear?

12. General questions for stage 0:

13. Have you inspected all moles and assessed my lymph nodes?
14. How often should I attend skin cancer screenings?
15. What preventive measures can I take to reduce the risk of second melanoma?
16. How do you assess the risk that other family members will also develop melanoma?