



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

## TELEDERMATOLOGY AND E-REFERRAL GRADING FOR MELANOMA, A SUCCESSFUL MODEL OF CARE

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**Background:** Two specialists triage skin lesions at WDHB for management of suspected malignancy using an innovative e-referral system. E-referrals include demographics, description of lesion(s), biopsy results and/or attached photograph of suspected skin cancer(s). Specialists prioritise e-referrals and decide management.

**Method:** 929 lesions triaged with category “melanoma” were selected (2016). ‘Triage category’ selected was compared with ‘definitive diagnosis’. Each management plan was recorded as ‘correct’ or ‘incorrect’. We determined PPV and NNE. Of lesions referred to teledermoscopy, we recorded dermatologist’s opinion, correlating this with biopsy.

**Results:** 315 lesions were graded based on photographs/descriptions, diagnosing 120 melanomas with PPV of 38.1% and NNE of 2.6. 241 melanomas were biopsy proven prior to referral. Lesions not graded for excision were evaluated with teledermoscopy (373) of which 9.2% were found to be melanoma on diagnostic excision.

**Conclusion:** The e-referral system at WDHB has markedly improved successful predictive ability for picking up melanoma from previous benchmarks.

