

CELEBRATE SUN AWARENESS WEEK BY LOOKING AFTER YOUR SKIN

May 9th-15th 2016 is the British Association of Dermatologists' Sun Awareness Week. Here are our top tips on staying safe in the sun...

- ✓ Protect your skin with clothing – don't forget to wear a hat that protects your face, neck and ears.
- ✓ Spend time in the shade between 11am and 3pm when it's sunny.
- ✓ When choosing a sunscreen look for a high protection SPF (SPF 30 or more to protect against harmful UVA).
- ✓ Apply plenty of sunscreen 15-30 minutes before going out in the sun and reapply every two hours.
- ✓ Be sure to reapply sunscreen after swimming and towel-drying.
- ✓ Keep babies and young children out of direct sunlight.



Image: Stocksnap Julia Caesar

Don't be one of these devastating facts.

- Seven people die from skin cancer every day in the UK.
- Over 100,000 new cases of all skin cancer diagnosed in the UK each year.
- Rates of malignant melanoma are rising faster than any other type of common cancer.
- On average, someone who dies from skin cancer typically loses 20 years of their life.
- At least two 15-34 year-olds are being diagnosed with malignant melanoma every day in the UK.

A guide to checking your skin by Dr Bav Shergill, Consultant Dermatologist & British Skin Foundation Trustee



"Most skin cancers can be cured if detected early. The best way to detect skin cancer is to check your skin regularly, about once a month. You should examine the skin all over your body, from top to toe. Ask a friend or member of your family to look at areas you can't see such as your scalp, ears and back. Look out for moles or patches of skin that are growing, changing shape, developing new colours, inflamed, bleeding, crusting, red around the edges, particularly itchy, or behaving unusually.

Remember, if in doubt, get it checked out straight away. We recommend that you tell your doctor about any changes to a mole or patch of skin. If your GP is concerned about your skin, make sure you see a Consultant Dermatologist - an expert in diagnosing skin cancer. Your doctor can refer you for free through the NHS."

Find out more about our skin cancer appeal here: www.ittakesseven.org.uk

For further information please contact:

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The British Association of Dermatologists will be releasing the results of a survey on the sun protection habits of the British public on May 9th. For further details contact the Sun Awareness Team at comms@bad.org.uk or 020 7391 6096.

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