

Dr Linda van Deventer – Dermatologist

Mole screening

- Regular mole screening is important for detection of melanoma, which is the most common reason for death from skin cancer.
- Your dermatologist will use clinical and digital dermatoscopic imaging (mole mapping) to aid in the diagnosis of melanoma.
- Moles that remain suspicious for melanoma are excised for histopathology (diagnostic biopsy). A partial biopsy is not recommended, as it may miss an area of cancerous change.

When to be concerned about a mole > Contact your dermatologist – info@skindr.co.za | www.skindr.co.za

If you have any doubt about your moles, consult your dermatologist, especially if any of the following is true:

- A mole changes size, shape, structure or colour
- A new mole develops in adult life (> 40 years)
- It appears different from the person's other moles (a so-called ugly duckling)
- It has ABCD characteristics (Asymmetry, Border irregularity, Colour variation, Diameter > 6 mm)
- It is bleeding, crusted or itchy.
- You have many moles
- You have a family history of skin cancer

