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Clinical Guidelines Network
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To whom it may concern

Thank you for providing The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) with an opportunity to comment on the clinical practice guidelines on the diagnosis and management of melanoma.

The RACGP believes that the process of development of the practice guidelines appears to be sound and the recommendations are appropriate.

It is noted that the Glasgow 7-point checklist (7PCL)¹ is not discussed as an alternative approach to assess possible melanoma. This is the only assessment tool that has been validated in primary care and its application tested in a primary care trial.² While the ABCD (and now EFG) criteria are useful, these have never been validated in primary care to support early diagnosis.

Further, in their current format, the clinical practice guidelines refer only to surgical interventions. The RACGP notes that it may be appropriate to develop an accompanying resource on chemotherapy and adjuvant therapies.

Yours sincerely

Dr Frank R Jones
President

References

1. Mackie RM (1989) Malignant melanoma: A guide to early diagnosis (Glasgow University Department of Dermatology, Glasgow).
2. Walter FM, Prevost AT, Vasconcelos J, et al. Using the 7-point checklist as a diagnostic aid for pigmented skin lesions in general practice: a diagnostic validation study. British Journal of General Practice 2013;63(610):e345-e53.