



What to Expect in a Skin Cancer Screening Exam

First and foremost, it is important to understand how essential it is that you come in for an annual full skin exam. Your skin is the largest organ of your body. It protects your vital organs and creates a barrier to prevent bacteria and other foreign bodies from entering your system. Your skin can also have problems of its own. Over 3.5 million cases of skin cancer are diagnosed every year in the United States alone. Skin cancer is serious and can sometimes be life threatening. Catching skin cancer early is essential to having a positive outcome. Seeing your dermatologist for an annual full skin exam, can reduce your risk of skin cancer and other skin related issues.

When you visit DermacenterMD for a skin cancer screening exam, here is what you can expect. When you enter the exam room, you will be asked by the medical assistant to change into a gown. You can remove as much clothing as you feel comfortable with in order for the doctor or provider to exam your skin.

The exam generally begins with an evaluation of the hands, upper extremities, face, ears and neck. Then your chest and lower extremities are evaluated. After this you will be asked to stand and the back and back side of your legs and thighs can be evaluated. Even locations like the bottom of the feet will be looked at. The reason so many locations are evaluated is some are hard for you to see yourself and it is best for your dermatology provider to look at places hard for you to see yourself as cancer can occur anywhere on the body. The breast, buttock and groin can be examined if you allow as the dermatology provider is willing to look anywhere you have skin.

During the exam the dermatology provider is evaluating the skin for growths, lesions, moles and any suspect change. Any item suspected of skin cancer or melanoma would be discussed. If, during the exam anything unusual is found the next steps for treatment or monitoring will be discussed. At times growths or lesions are felt to be unusual enough a sample of the skin may be necessary. This is termed a biopsy. This simple process is done many times on the same day as the visit. At times a more involved removal may be necessary and it may be necessary to schedule a separate appointment for this.

An annual full-body skin exam by a dermatologist can ensure your skin stays healthy and can prevent poor health due to conditions that are easily treatable. Your annual skin exam may even save your life! Skin cancer can be serious if it is not caught early. Dr. Roger Moore is a board certified dermatologist and skin cancer expert. You are in good hands when you come in to see Dr. Moore and his staff at DermacenterMD. Call now to schedule a full-body skin cancer screening exam at 574-522-0265 today! No referral is necessary.

DermacenterMD

Dr. Roger Moore

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Source:

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