

Abstract for the German-Israeli Dermatology Society meeting 14/06/22

Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on skin cancer screening. Results of a large dermatology practice in Bavaria`s largest county by area

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The advantages and disadvantages of the German skin cancer screening, which was introduced in 2008, are regularly discussed. The topic of this analysis has been to evaluate and analyze whether missed skin cancer screenings during the COVID-19 pandemic have influenced tumor depths. Office data with 2146 skin cancer screenings from the second quarter of the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 were compared using one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) with Welch`s F test. There was a significant increase in the tumor thickness in squamous cell carcinoma and basal cell carcinoma, while there was only a tendency in thickness increase due to the small amount of data available for malignant melanoma. The results of the analysis emphasize the importance of the skin cancer screening as a method of early detection and reduction of mutilating operations and expensive immunotherapies by the prompt detection of malignant tumors.