What Is Advanced Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer?

Main Types of Skin Cancer
- Basal cell carcinoma
- Melanoma
- Merkel cell cancer
- Squamous cell carcinoma

Advanced Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer Resources
- American Academy of Dermatology
- Cancer Support Community
- Skin Cancer Foundation

Advanced Skin Cancer Staging Considerations Include:
- The size of the tumor and whether it has spread deeply into the tissue.
- Whether the cancer has spread to nearby lymph nodes (stage III).
- If the cancer has spread beyond the lymph nodes to distant parts of the body (stage IV).

Current Treatment Approaches:
- Surgery
- Radiation
- Chemotherapy
- Immunotherapy
- Targeted Therapy

Treatment Considerations Include:
- A patient’s age and overall health.
- Existing medical conditions and comorbidities.
- Potential treatment side effects.
- A patient’s preference.

Glossary Terms

Basal Cell Carcinoma: A skin cancer that forms in the outer layer of the skin. It is the most common form of skin cancer and rarely spreads to other parts of the body.

Hedgehog Inhibitors: Drugs that target a protein in the hedgehog pathway.

Immunotherapy: Type of therapy that harnesses one’s own immune system to help the body fight cancer, infection, and other diseases.

Lymph Nodes: Small glands in the body that contain white blood cells (lymphocytes) that help fight infection and disease.

Melanoma: A rare form of skin cancer that develops in the melanocytes, which are skin cells that produce pigment. It is curable if detected early.

Squamous Cell Carcinoma: A skin cancer that forms in squamous cells, which are cells that form the surface of the skin. It is highly treatable but more likely to spread than basal cell carcinoma.

Targeted Therapy: Targets the cancer’s specific genes, proteins, or tissue.

MORE TOOLS FOR EMPOWERMENT
- Digitally Empowered™
- PEN-Powered Activity Guide
- Empowered Blog
- Empowered! Podcast

The Pro-Active ANMSC Toolkit is brought to you by the Patient Empowerment Network. Funding is provided by an unrestricted educational grant from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Sanofi.

question@powerfulpatients.org

@power4patients

PowerfulPatients.org