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Basics of Confocal Microscopy and the Complexity of Diagnosing Skin Tumors: New Imaging Tools in Clinical Practice, Diagnostic Workflows, Cost-Estimate, and New Trends.

Que SK, Grant-Kels JM, Longo C, Pellacani G. *Dermatol Clin.* 2016 Oct;34(4):367-375. doi: 10.1016/j.det.2016.05.001.

ABSTRACT

The use of reflectance confocal microscopy (RCM) and other noninvasive imaging devices can potentially streamline clinical care, leading to more precise and efficient management of skin cancer. This article explores the potential role of RCM in cutaneous oncology, as an adjunct to more established techniques of detecting and monitoring for skin cancer, such as dermoscopy and total body photography. Discussed are current barriers to the adoption of RCM, diagnostic workflows and standards of care in the United States and Europe, and medicolegal issues. The potential role of RCM and other similar technological innovations in the enhancement of dermatologic care is evaluated. Copyright © 2016 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. KEYWORDS: Confocal microscopy; Cost-estimates; Medicolegal issues; Melanoma; Nonmelanoma skin cancer; Standard of care PMID:27692444 DOI:10.1016/j.det.2016.05.001