

## ACCREDITED SKIN CANCER DOCTOR: SCOPE OF PRACTICE

The Skin Cancer College Australasia (SCCA) awards Accredited Skin Cancer Doctor status to doctors who have completed significant additional study, passed rigorous assessment and have proven skills in the diagnosis, treatment and management of skin cancer.

Doctors holding Accredited Skin Cancer Doctor status are able to:

1. Obtain a patient history and perform a comprehensive skin examination of the patient, utilising dermoscopy as a diagnostic aid, to identify lesions which may be skin cancer.
2. Undertake further surgical diagnostic procedures such as biopsy and excision of skin lesions as required.
3. Advise patients of the treatment modalities, both surgical and non-surgical, which are recommended for the various forms of skin cancer.
4. Repair surgical wound defects resulting from skin lesion excision. This will vary from practitioner to practitioner according to their knowledge, experience and training. At a minimum standard they are able to repair elliptical defects amenable to direct linear closure on most areas of the body. Fellows of the College and some more experienced Accredited Skin Cancer Doctors are able to undertake complex closures using flap and graft surgical techniques.
5. Develop individual patient management plans including education and prevention strategies and undertake follow-up of skin cancer patients.

NOTE: All SCCA clinical education places the highest priority on achieving the best patient outcome. SCCA Accredited Skin Cancer Doctors are instructed to acknowledge their limits and not undertake surgical procedures unless they are fully confident of achieving a favourable outcome for the patient with priority as follows: 1) clearance of cancer; 2) preservation of function; and 3) optimum cosmetic result. Accredited Skin Cancer Doctors are not expected to manage all skin cancers. More difficult malignancies will frequently be referred to SCCA Fellows or Fellows of other learned Colleges.

## HOW TO BECOME AN ACCREDITED SKIN CANCER DOCTOR



Accredited Skin Cancer Doctor status is awarded to current SCCA members who are:

- a) Fellows of the College, or
- b) hold both SCCA Certificate qualifications (Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine / Certificate of Dermoscopy), plus the SCCA Advanced Clinical Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine & Surgery and the SCCA Advanced Clinical Certificate of Dermoscopy, or
- c) hold a Master of Medicine (Skin Cancer)