



DERME IMAGE – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What is mole mapping?

Mole mapping is a specialized procedure that uses polarized photography and dermoscopy to document and monitor skin lesions over time to help detect melanoma and other skin cancers at an early stage.

2. Do I need a medical referral to book an appointment?

No. A medical referral is not required to book an appointment. Patients may self-refer for mole mapping or individual lesion assessments.

Following examination and review of the images by our dermatologist, a report and recommendations will be provided to the patient and, with the patient's consent, may also be shared with their family physician, dermatologist, or other healthcare provider for appropriate follow-up.

3. How long does the mole mapping procedure take?

- **Full-body mole mapping in one visit:** Includes clinical and dermoscopic imaging and may take up to **45 minutes**.
- **Full-body mole mapping in two visits:** Includes two separate appointments, one for total-body imaging and one for dermoscopic imaging. Each appointment lasts approximately **30 minutes**.

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4. Will I receive my results immediately?

No. All images are reviewed by a dermatologist. You will be contacted within the days following your examination, and your results and recommendations will be communicated to you.

5. What should I wear to my appointment?

Please wear loose-fitting clothing and avoid makeup, lotions, self-tanners, and nail polish. A gown will be provided for the imaging session.

6. Is mole mapping covered by insurance?

Coverage depends on your insurance provider and policy. Many insurers reimburse this expense through a health spending account. Please check directly with your insurance provider.

7. Will biopsies be performed during the appointment?

No. No biopsies or treatments are performed during the appointment. If a lesion is considered concerning after review, a recommendation for further assessment or biopsy may be made.

8. What should I do if a mole changes after my appointment?

Please contact our clinic to schedule a follow-up appointment. You do not need to wait until your annual examination if you notice a new lesion or a change in an existing lesion.

9. How often should mole mapping be repeated?

The recommended frequency varies depending on the individual patient and the dermatologist's recommendations. However, follow-up intervals generally range from **4 to 12 months**.

10. How will I receive my results?

A detailed report will be provided to you. With your consent, the report may also be sent to your family physician, dermatologist, or other healthcare provider.

11. Do I need to remove my nail polish before my appointment?

Yes. Please remove all nail polish from both fingernails and toenails before your appointment. We also ask that you avoid wearing makeup to allow for optimal assessment.

12. Is mole mapping safe?

Yes. Mole mapping is a non-invasive and completely safe procedure. No radiation is used.

13. May I bring someone with me to my appointment?

You may bring someone with you; however, only the patient is permitted in the examination room.

14. What if I have tattoos?

Tattoos may interfere with optimal imaging. A skin lesion located within a tattoo may be more difficult to detect or monitor.

15. Do you accept children?

Mole mapping is available for patients aged **16 years and older**.

16. What happens if a suspicious lesion is detected?

If a concerning lesion is identified, we will guide you regarding the next steps, which may include closer monitoring, additional assessment, or referral for biopsy.

17. Can I request evaluation of a specific mole or lesion?

Yes. Although full-body mole mapping is recommended for comprehensive assessment, individual lesion assessments are also available.