

PRESS RELEASE

52nd Congress of the Spanish Academy of Dermatology and Venereology

The AEDV National Melanoma Registry, key to improving understanding, prevention and treatment of a disease that kills 1,000 people a year in Spain

- Compilation of clinical data makes it possible to analyse the characteristics and progression of melanoma in the country, monitor patients' outcomes and assess the safety and efficacy of applied treatments
- Incidence of melanoma in Spain continues to rise, and now stands at over 9,400 cases a year, most of whom are women
- Immunotherapy in melanoma with lymph node metastasis has been found to improve patient survival

8 May 2025 - The National Melanoma Registry of the Spanish Dermatology and Venereology Academy (AEDV) aims to foster research into melanoma diseases as it promotes multicentre studies and collaborations among professionals, thereby boosting dermatology research and helping advance the understanding and treatment of melanoma.

It needs to be borne in mind that the incidence of melanoma in Spain continues to rise. According to figures on the incidence of cancer in Spain provided by the Spanish Network of Cancer Registries (REDECAN)¹, it is estimated that 9,400 new cases will be diagnosed in 2025, with an incidence rate of 15 cases per 100,000 people a year. Of these, 5,072 will be women and 4,336 men. By age group, most cases will be among people aged over 65 (4,169 cases), followed by those between 45 and 60 (3,757) and finally, those under 44 (1,482). The disease causes 1,000 deaths a year in Spain.

The main objectives of the Melanoma Registry are to describe the epidemiology of cutaneous melanoma in Spain, improve characterisation of risk factors for the disease (both individual and those related to variability in healthcare) and assess their relation to prognosis. More information at [this link](#).

"In preventing melanoma, the AEDV stresses the importance of avoiding sunburn and excessive exposure to the sun, especially in children and young people, and mainly during the middle of the day. Use of adequate clothing, sunglasses and sunscreen, and avoiding

¹ [Figures on the incidence of cancer in Spain](#) from the Spanish Network of Cancer Registries (REDECAN)

tanning booths are recommended", asserts Dr. Onofre Sanmartín, head of the Dermatology Department at the Instituto Valenciano de Oncología Foundation (IVO).

Early detection of melanoma is essential to improving survival and reducing treatment-associated morbidity. Regular self-examination of the skin is encouraged, followed by a visit to a dermatologist for suspicious lesions or ones that have changed.

According to **Dr. Rafael Botella**, head of the Dermatology Department at La Fe University Hospital in Valencia and executive president of the 52nd Congress of the Valencian Section of the AEDV, it is also important to bear in mind new treatments which focus on the use of neoadjuvant therapies for immunotherapy in melanoma and cutaneous squamous-cell carcinoma, and hedgehog pathway inhibitors for basal cell carcinoma. "By neoadjuvant therapy we mean the administration of drugs to patients with tumours before surgery. This can lead to the complete or partial disappearance of the tumours, thereby simplifying surgery or making it unnecessary. In addition, neoadjuvant therapy in the case of melanoma with lymph node metastasis has been shown to improve patient survival", assures Dr. Botella.

About AEDV

The Spanish Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (AEDV), an organisation founded 100 years ago, provides a meeting point for Spanish dermatologists, almost all of whom are members (97%). The AEDV aims to promote the study of the skin and its diseases to the benefit of patients.

Visit the website of the 52nd Congress of the AEDV at [this link](#)

For more information

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