



PRESS RELEASE

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Skin Cancer Screening Day

This coming Saturday the 25th April the Gibraltar Health Authority will be holding an open access skin cancer screening day.

Following on from the very positive public response to last year's first screening day, this event will now form part of the GHA's annual Sun Awareness campaign. Skin cancer screening days are held in different countries on an annual basis, and this initiative was approved by the Minister for Health to help raise awareness of skin cancer due to sun exposure.

In Gibraltar we already have a substantial number of skin cancers that are managed by the dermatology department and the surgeons in the hospital and it is imperative that we do all we can to reduce future incidences.

The screening day provides a unique opportunity for the public to have any notable skin changes checked out by the Dermatology team, with both of our visiting consultant dermatologists available for confirmation of diagnostics on the day. It also serves as a platform to increase public education since the importance of protecting ourselves from sun exposure cannot be over emphasized.

On Saturday 25th of April concerned members of the public should come to the Primary Care Centre via the main entrance between 9am and 11.00am and 2pm and 4.00pm. No appointment is required.



Commenting on the event, Dr John Cortes said, "Once again the GHA is concentrating efforts on health promotion and early detection of ill health, and we will be seeing this approach increasingly. Our excellent dermatology team will be boosted by UK specialists once again and provide an opportunity for the whole community to walk in and gain peace of mind or rapid action if necessary. We all enjoy our sunny Gibraltar, but it does expose us to the damaging effect of the sun's radiation."

This initiative is aimed at looking at significant skin changes which could indicate skin cancer. It is not for examination of chronic skin conditions. Patient information leaflets and posters with graphic examples of lesions of concern are now available in all waiting areas in the Primary Care Centre.