

WHAT IS DERMATOPATHOLOGY? (DER·MA·TO·PA·THOL·O·GY)

Specialized pathology of the skin.

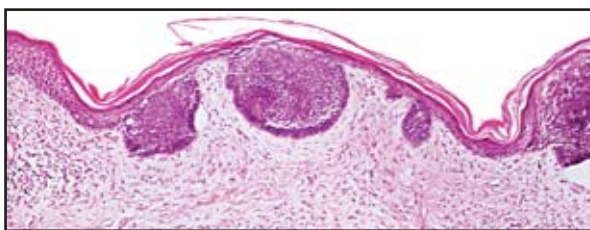
A dermatopathologist is a highly trained physician who specializes in diagnosing diseases of the skin under a microscope. The subspecialty of dermatopathology is a combination of both dermatology (the diagnosis and treatment of skin, hair and nail diseases) and pathology (microscopic identification of diseases).

SPECIALIZED PATHOLOGY OF THE SKIN

A dermatopathologist is often referred to as the Sherlock Holmes of skin because in order to make a definitive diagnosis, he or she must make microscopic observations regarding your skin tissue, as well as assess information received from your physician.

Because of this highly specialized pathology, a dermatopathologist should be the diagnostician of choice when your physician suspects various skin diseases. Dermatopathology cases may include melanoma and other skin cancers, as well as immunologic, infectious and pediatric diseases. Since a misdiagnosis of certain skin cancers can be fatal, it is imperative that you and your physician receive the most accurate and timely diagnosis.

Diagnosing your skin tissue is not another automated laboratory test. Dermatopathologists provide a personal, consultative service to your physician, which includes analyzing your medical information in conjunction with the observations through the microscope. The ultimate goal is to provide the best care for you, the patient.



Microscopic Skin Tissue

DETECTING MELANOMA

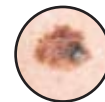
Every two months, inspect your entire body for any skin changes and routinely visit your physician for a complete skin examination. Early detection of melanoma can be lifesaving because this cancer may be curable in its early stages. Any irregularity in an existing or newly developed pigmented lesion could be a sign of melanoma and should be examined immediately by your physician. These irregularities may include asymmetry, an uneven border, color variations, diameter of more than 6mm, or significant changes to the lesion.

A
B
C
D
E



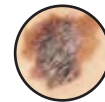
Asymmetry

One half does not match the other half



Border Irregularity

The edges are notched or ragged



Color

Varied shades of tan, black and brown



Diameter

Greater than 6 millimeters

6mm actual size—●

Evolving

New and/or significant change in size, shape, shade of color or symptoms of bleeding, itching and tenderness

PASSION FOR PATIENTS

Passion for Patients is the expression of who we are and delivering patient care at the highest possible level is what we do. Our goal is to have every Dermopath Diagnostics associate exclusively focused on giving their best, realizing that there is a concerned patient, a life, behind every specimen and diagnosis. This patient centric goal is what drives the continual development of our Passion for Patients company culture.


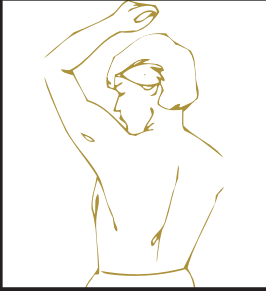

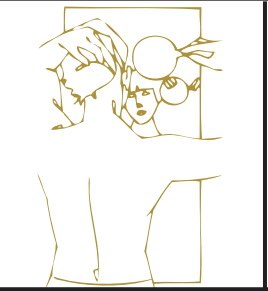
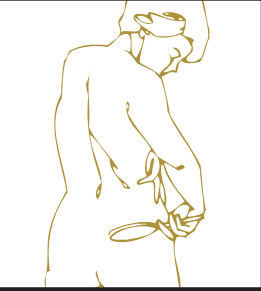
THE IMPORTANCE OF SKIN PATHOLOGY

DERMPATH
DIAGNOSTICS®

PATIENT INFORMATION

PERIODIC SELF-EXAMINATION

Aids in the recognition of any new or evolving lesions. Consult your physician if changes are noticed.

				
STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5
Examine your body front and back in the mirror, then right and left sides, arms raised.	Bend elbows and look carefully at forearms and upper arms and palms.	Look at the backs of legs and feet, spaces between toes and soles.	Examine back of neck and scalp with a hand mirror. Part hair for a closer look at scalp.	Finally, check back and buttocks with a hand mirror.

Images and content provided by the American Academy of Dermatology

WHEN IN DOUBT, HAVE A PHYSICIAN CHECK IT OUT.

Demand the most accurate diagnosis. Request that your skin tissue be sent to a board-certified dermatopathologist.

SKIN CANCER FACTS:

- More than half of all new cancers are skin cancers
- More than 1 million new cases of basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma occur annually
- The most serious form of skin cancer is melanoma, which is expected to be diagnosed in approximately 68,000 persons this year
- An estimated 8,650 people will die annually from melanoma
- Prevention and early detection are the best weapons against skin cancer

Source: 2009 American Cancer Society

To obtain more information about skin cancer and to learn more about the services Dermpath Diagnostics provides, please visit our website.

WWW.DERMPATHDIAGNOSTICS.COM