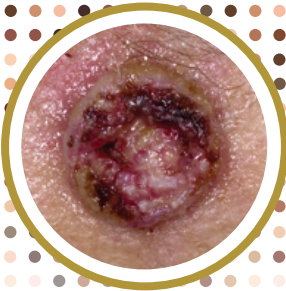


Squamous Cell Carcinoma



Squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) is a major type of cancer that starts in the skin's outer layer (epidermis), as well as in the tissues that line airways and some internal organs (mucous membranes). Cells in the epidermis are constantly shed as new ones form. If the cells grow out of control, they can develop into SCC. Although SCCs can usually be removed completely, they occasionally spread to other parts of the body.

When completely treated, the cure rate is greater than **95%**.

Source: American Cancer Society, 2020



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What happens now?

Squamous cell carcinomas can usually be completely removed with outpatient surgery or sometimes with topical medicine. If your skin cancer is small, noninvasive treatments might be appropriate. Larger skin cancers might require more invasive treatments. If your squamous cell carcinoma spreads to other parts of the body, drug treatments might be recommended.

Have an honest discussion with your doctor. Here are some questions that may help you better understand your status:

- Has my SCC spread to other parts of my body?
- What are my treatment options?
- Do I need other tests before deciding on a treatment?
- How quickly do we need to decide on treatment?
- Should I get a second opinion?
- How long will treatment last? What will it be like?
- Who can help me understand costs and insurance coverage for my diagnosis and treatment?

Men are **3 times more** likely to have squamous cell carcinoma than women.

Source: Moffitt Cancer Center

Treatment options

- Surgical removal
- Laser therapy
- Freezing (cryosurgery)
- Electrosurgery
- Radiation therapy
- Drug treatments, such as chemotherapy or immunotherapy

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For more information, including tips on how to protect your skin from additional issues, visit SpotTheSpot.org.

