



Cancer Center
Skin Cancer Institute

Newsletter

Spring/Summer Issue 2025

May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month

Throughout the month of May, people are encouraged to do their part to raise awareness about skin cancer. Avoiding too much sun, covering up, and using sunscreen are the keys to preventing skin cancer. Early detection is important too. When skin cancer is caught early, it is usually very treatable!

We will be posting videos on skin cancer education on our website throughout the month of May. Visit azskincancerinstitute.org every week for new stories.



As part of this important month, we are hosting a Pickleball Social on May 2nd from 4-6pm at Ace Pickleball Club on 4881 N. Stone. You must register to play, so sign up today! **Visit the registration page [HERE](#).** Registration will also be available at the event, but spots are limited!

Thank you Desert Toyota

Desert Toyota of Tucson has been sponsoring the SCI's special events for almost 10 years! Their continued support has helped the SCI work towards our mission to prevent and cure skin cancer.

Thank you for continuing to partner with us. Support from respected Tucson businesses helps us not only continue our mission, but also helps us connect with the community.





Partnering with Sun Bus

The Sun Bus is a charitable mobile Dermatology clinic established by The Colorado Melanoma Foundation that provides free skin screenings, and sun safety education at events. Since 2019, they have provided close to 7,500 free skin screenings, and delivered sun safety education to thousands of people.

Tucson was lucky to have a visit from the Sun Bus on April 5th and 6th during the Tucson Folk Festival. The Skin Cancer Institute and our SASS (Students Are Sun Safe) students were there to help share sun safety education to everyone that stopped by the Sun Bus.



SAVE THE DATE

The annual Fight Melanoma Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, November 8th at Omni Golf Resort at 7:30 AM.

Join us for golf and lunch, or just come for lunch after the tournament.

Research News

Dr. Sally Dickinson and her research team at the UA Cancer Center, is finding new ways to prevent skin cancer by topically targeting skin proteins known to be affected by ultraviolet radiation (UVR) from the sun. Specifically, they are studying the immune modulating protein PD-L1, which becomes activated in the top layers of the skin by UVR exposure. The team is testing whether an inhibitor of PD-L1 (known as BMS-202), is able to block UV-induced signaling and skin cancer in mice when applied to the skin. They recently published promising results showing that this topical agent blocks UV-induced PD-L1 expression (Dickinson et al., JID Innovations 2024). This is exciting research targeting PD-L1 in the skin in hopes of developing better options for skin cancer prevention. The seed grant program at the SCI helps make this, and many other discoveries possible.



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