



## MELANOMA WALK '15

The Skin Cancer Institute hosted the 6th annual Melanoma Walk on Nov. 7, 2015. The Walk was a huge success. 340 people came out to walk in support of the fight against melanoma, and many more donated to the cause. As part of the event, 7 dermatologists and healthcare providers came out to perform free skin cancer screenings. We saw 75 people and diagnosed several possible skin cancers. We raised over \$57,000, all of which will go right back into our efforts to support melanoma research, community outreach, and education.



## Great News from the FDA!



On December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) proposed new regulations to ban children under the age of 18 from using indoor tanning facilities. The proposed ruling would also require these facilities to get a signed document from customers over the age of 18, stating they are aware of the health risks involved in using tanning beds. Such documents would have to be signed before a customer's first session, and every 6 months thereafter.

According to the American Academy of Dermatology, people exposed to UV radiation from indoor tanning are 59 percent more likely to develop melanoma than those who have never tanned indoors. Furthermore, studies show that tanning before the age of 35 can raise the risk of skin cancer by 75 percent! The SCI applauds the new proposed FDA regulations! This is a huge step in the journey to make indoor tanning beds, and therefore many skin cancer cases, a thing of the past!

### Upcoming Winter Events

- **January 23rd: Ben's Bells Color Dash**  
<https://bensbells.org/color-dash>
- **February 12th: Spring SASS training**  
<http://www.sassproject.org/>
- **March 12-13th: Tucson Festival of Books**  
<http://tucsonfestivalofbooks.org/>
- **Skin cancer screening with Clinica Amistad in April (TBD)**  
<http://www.clinicaamistad.org/>



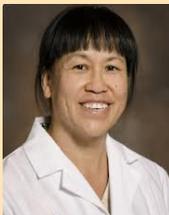


## SCI Seed Grants Winners 2015-2016

The Skin Cancer Institute loves to facilitate the discovery of new ideas about skin cancer causes, prevention, and treatment. The 'Skin Cancer Seed Grant Research' competition is designed to help University of Arizona researchers test novel ideas for prevention, detection, or treatment of melanoma and other skin cancers. These proposals are small grants designed to be 'seeds' to help new research ideas grow into larger research proposals that can be competitive for national funding, and to help young investigators grow their careers. We have recently completed the 2015-2016 round of funding for the seed grant opportunity. Thanks to the generous support of the Maltz Foundation and the Joanne Isbrecht memorial fund, the SCI is pleased to announce the three winners of this year's competition.



Sally Dickinson: "Targeting TLR4 in UV-Induced Skin Carcinogenesis"



Myra Muramoto: "Protocol Development for Massage Therapist Education in Skin Cancer Early Detection"



Karen Hastings: "GILT as a Prognostic Marker in Primary Melanoma"

### *Did you Know?*

More and more people are learning that the sun causes skin cancer, but maybe the reason why is less clear. Cancer begins in cells, the building blocks that make up tissues like skin and organs. Normal cells grow and divide to form new cells as the body needs them. When normal cells get old or damaged, they usually die, and new cells take their place. Too much ultraviolet radiation (UVR) from the sun or tanning beds can damage the genetic material (DNA) in your skin cells. Your body has ways of repairing most of the damage, but sometimes, damaged DNA can be left behind and cause permanent damage, creating mutations in cells. If enough DNA damage builds up over time, it can cause cells to start growing out of control, which can lead to skin cancer.

Tan and burn are sure signs that your skin cells are getting damaged, and on their way to mutating and possibly becoming skin cancer. The darkening/reddening are your body's way of trying to protect and repair skin cells from UVR damage. So, when you protect your skin from the sun, what you're actually doing is protecting your skin cells from mutating!

If you have questions, contact the Skin Cancer Institute at 1-888-724-2749 or visit our website at [www.azskincancerinstitute.org](http://www.azskincancerinstitute.org).

### *Join the SCI team today!*

#### **Skin cancer Prevention Friends (SPF)**

Donate \$100 and receive a subscription to our publications, alerts for our events, and an invitation to an annual luncheon.

**SPF Leaders** donate \$500+ and receive all of the above, plus play a leadership role in the SPF partnership.

#### **SCI Champions Board**

Invest in the SCI to help prevent skin cancer by giving \$5,000 annually. Champions receive an invitation to an annual dinner, access to University of Arizona Cancer Center dermatologists, recognition in SCI publications, media, and events, and a 'Protect Your Skin' sunscreen kit.

Call or email us today!

1-888-724-2749 Email: [contactsci@uacc.arizona.edu](mailto:contactsci@uacc.arizona.edu)