



Skin Cancer Early Detection Service

Introduction

Skin Cancer Early Detection (the Service) is a pilot outreach service funded by the Queensland Government. It will be delivered in priority Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) in Queensland.

The Service will work closely with each HHS and other local stakeholders to deliver skin cancer services in rural, regional, and remote locations where such services are limited or non-existent.

The Service is one of three elements of a Skin Cancer Prevention and Early Detection initiative. Other elements are a multi-year state-wide social marketing campaign promoting sun-safe behaviours and local health promotion activities.

Aim

The Skin Cancer Early Detection service aims to create fairer access to professional assessment and treatment of skin cancer for people who have a skin cancer risk.

Priority Areas

The Service will be delivered in South West HHS, Central Queensland HHS, Mackay HHS, Townsville HHS and North West HHS. It will provide:

- skin cancer risk assessments
- clinical skin assessments (ie. dermoscopy)
- treatment of skin cancers (ie. cryotherapy, biopsy and excision)
- patient education on individual skin cancer risks and prevention.

Objectives

The Service's objectives are to:

- provide outreach health services focused on the prevention, early detection and treatment of skin cancers.
- facilitate linkages and referral pathways for patients with skin cancer.
- provide upskilling for the local workforce engaged through the program, to build ongoing capacity and expert knowledge of skin cancer in local health practitioners.

Funding eligibility

The Service funds outreach services provided by specialists and General Practitioners with evidence of training and/or experience in skin cancer early detection, including but not limited to relevant accreditations awarded by Skin Cancer College Australasia, Healthcert and/or mentorship.

About CheckUP

CheckUP is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of people and communities in need, especially those in rural, regional, and remote areas. We are committed to advancing equity in healthcare by strategically collaborating at both regional and local levels, ensuring that health and community services are more accessible and responsive to people who need them most.

Since our foundation in 1998, CheckUP has built a broad service footprint across more than 170 communities in Queensland, delivering innovative health programs and community-focused initiatives to reduce disparities in health outcomes.

Skin Cancer Early Detection Service (January 2024 - December 2025)



2,781
patients

801
received pre-cancer
treatment

524
histologically proven
cancers detected

390
Basal Cell
Carcinomas detected

338
Squamous Cell
Carcinomas detected

31
Melanomas detected



Experience and outcomes of care (patient feedback survey: N=168)

96% increased their awareness
of how to self-check skin

99% likely to increase their
sun safe behaviours

99% likely to commit to
regular skin checks

98% likely to speak to family/friends
about doing regular skin checks

95% increased their knowledge
of five sun protection behaviours

99% were satisfied overall
with the SCED service

One in four patients reported that if the SCED service was unavailable, they would not have a skin check.

"Amazing service to have available in community with a large number of older members who cannot easily get to larger towns/city."

"Just very grateful to have a skin doctor come to our small town - so much more accessible than having to travel for checks."

"This service is extremely important to people who live in isolated communities. Thanks to all the wonderful professionals who make the time to ensure our health. This is our lifeline."

"We live in a very high U/V climate area of Nth Qld and definitely require services of skin specialist GPs."