

Presentation title: Update on skin cancer incidence and mortality in Europe

The epidemiology of skin cancer shows interplay between host susceptibility, (ultraviolet) environment, socioeconomical conditions and behavioural patterns. Its etiology is not yet fully elucidated and reveals intriguing questions. Fair-skinned populations have experienced over the last 60 years a rapid increase in the incidence of melanoma which is unparalleled by any other cancer, although signs of levelling off and stabilization in incidence have recently been observed in some countries.

Despite many primary prevention and early detection campaigns over the last decades in Europe, decreases in melanoma mortality are modest and limited to a few countries. Further, reduction in the incidence of thick melanomas has not yet been evidenced. In this presentation, drivers for the incidence and mortality trends of skin cancer – with a strong focus on melanoma, its most lethal form – will be discussed.