

MALIGNANT MELANOMA CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS

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MALIGNANT MELANOMA CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS CAN BE

- EASY
- HARD
- DIFFICULT
- IMPOSSIBLE AT TIMES

CLINICAL FEATURES OF MELANOMA

- Usually after puberty
- Caucasians > Africans and Asians
- Most common sites
 - Women
 - Lower legs and trunk
 - Men
 - Trunk especially back
- Can occur at any site

CLINICAL FEATURES OF MELANOMA

- Size 2-15mm
- Initially flat ,
- later become raised

CLINICAL FEATURES OF MELANOMA

- asymmetry
- irregular borders
- variation in colour with multiple colours
 - tan, brown black, blue, grey, red and white
- can have a single colour
 - skin-coloured ie amelanotic
 - black
 - red
- +/- Ulceration and bleeding

MALIGNANT MELANOMA CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS -TYPES

- SUPERFICIAL SPREADING
- NODULAR
- LENTIGO MALIGNA
- ACRAL LENTIGINOUS
- UNCLASSIFIED
- Less common-Desmoplastic MM

At times melanoma may look like

- BOWEN'S DISEASE
- SKIN TAG
- BCC
- NAEVUS
- SEBORRHEIC KERATOSIS
- LICHENOID KERATOSIS
- SCAR
- DERMATITIS AND OTHER SKIN DISEASES

MELANOMA DIAGNOSIS

- CAN BE STRIAGHTFORWARD
- CAN BE VERY CHALLENGING AND AT TIMES VERY DIFFICULT
- VIGILANT IN PRACTICE
- LISTEN TO THE PATIENT
- KEEP LEARNING
- CLINICAL, DERMOSCOPY, PATHOLOGY
- ADVICE FROM COLLEAGUES