Basal Cell Carcinoma

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) is the most common cancer in the world. It represents 80% of all cases of non-melanoma skin cancer.

BCC can develop anywhere on the body, however it is most commonly found in sun-exposed areas, such as the head, face, and neck.



It originates in the basal layer of the epidermis, which is the top or outer layer of the skin. It primarily affects the Caucasian and older populations.

STAGES

It is rare but possible for BCC to spread to other areas of the body (metastasize), or to penetrate more deeply into the underlying skin or surrounding tissues. It's estimated that approximately 1% of BCCs can be classified as advanced BCC. **Advanced BCC (aBCC)** encompasses a diverse assortment of cases, including locally advanced BCC (laBCC) and metastatic BCC (mBCC).



LOCALLY ADVANCED BCC

This classification often includes large, aggressive, or recurrent tumours, or those with deeper penetration into the underlying skin or surrounding tissues.



METASTATIC BCC

mBCC is a rare classification defined as primary cutaneous basal cell carcinoma that has spread to local or distant lymph nodes, or to distant organs or tissues.

Most BCCs can be treated with surgery or radiotherapy. However, the minority of patients who develop a form of advanced BCC may not have surgery or radiotherapy as an option. In these cases, other treatments such as chemotherapy, itraconazole, Hedgehog pathway inhibitors, or immuno-oncology drugs may be recommended.

Bring this guide to your doctor to start the discussion around BCC.

