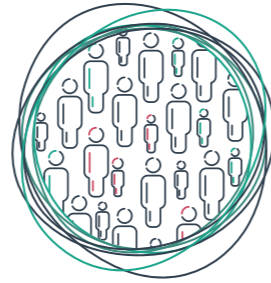


# Skin cancer



A total of 3,981 people completed the [All.Can patient survey](#). Of those, **5% (203 people)** indicated they had been diagnosed with skin cancer. Overall characteristics of this respondent sub-group are presented in **Table 1**.

Findings presented here are unweighted and therefore represent the actual responses from current and former cancer patients and/or caregivers who completed the survey. Percentages were calculated after excluding respondents who did not answer each particular question. Numbers in brackets represent the number of people who responded to that answer option.

**The cancer-specific findings in this profile must be considered independently and cannot be directly compared with those of other cancer types as the respondent characteristics vary considerably between cancer types.**

To find out more about the survey and to view additional materials, see: [www.all-can.org/what-we-do/research/patient-survey/about-the-survey/](http://www.all-can.org/what-we-do/research/patient-survey/about-the-survey/)

**Table 1. Characteristics of skin cancer respondents**

Country*	Age	Sex
Australia: <b>9%</b> (18) Belgium: <b>4%</b> (8) Canada: <b>19%</b> (39) Italy: <b>10%</b> (20) Poland: <b>13%</b> (26)	Spain: <b>1%</b> (3) Sweden: <b>0%</b> (1) UK: <b>4%</b> (8) USA: <b>29%</b> (58) Other: <b>11%</b> (22)	0–24: <b>1%</b> (2) 25–44: <b>22%</b> (43) 45–64: <b>56%</b> (110) 65+: <b>19%</b> (38) Not specified: 10
		Female: <b>77%</b> (154) Male: <b>23%</b> (47) Not specified: 2

\* Countries with no respondents for this cancer type have not been included.  
Note: All percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number, therefore the sum of percentages for all answers to a given question may not total 100%.

## Where did inefficiencies occur most?

- My initial cancer diagnosis: **28%** (50)
- Dealing with the psychological impact: **17%** (30)
- Getting the right treatment for my cancer **13%** (24)



'I was told over the phone that it was melanoma and I was being booked with a surgeon, but wasn't given any other information, so it was extremely stressful.'

Skin cancer respondent from Canada

## Swift, accurate and appropriately delivered diagnosis

- **69%** (108) of respondents were diagnosed outside of a screening programme
- **33%** (53) of respondents whose skin cancer was detected outside of a screening programme said that their cancer was diagnosed as something different – either initially or multiple times
- **14%** (25) of respondents whose skin cancer was detected outside of a screening programme waited more than six months to be diagnosed with cancer

## Information, support and shared decision-making

- **40%** (64) of skin cancer respondents did not feel involved enough in deciding which treatment options were best for them
- **31%** (55) were not given enough information (in a way they could understand) about their cancer care and treatment
- **49%** (87) did not receive enough support to deal with ongoing symptoms and side effects – including beyond the active phase of their treatment
- **46%** (68) felt that they lacked adequate information and care for dealing with the pain they experienced
- **32%** (50) did not receive enough information (in a way they could understand) about the signs and symptoms indicating that their cancer might be returning or getting worse
- **59%** (111) were not given information about available peer-support groups
- **35%** (37) of those who did receive information about these groups used them 'a lot' or 'some' of the time

## Integrated multidisciplinary care

- **65%** (75) of skin cancer respondents said that support from other healthcare professionals (e.g. from dietitians, physiotherapists or mental health services) was not always available when they needed it
- **66%** (115) reported that they needed some form of psychological support during or after their cancer care but, of those, **40%** (46) said it was not available to them
- Of those who received psychological support, **62%** (61) said it was 'very' or 'quite' helpful

## The financial impact of cancer

- **62%** (156) of respondents paid for some part of their cancer care: **24%** (48) already had private health insurance, **11%** (22) paid for care and treatment not covered by insurance or their country's healthcare system, and **9%** (18) paid to avoid delays
- **19%** (39) reported a loss of employment, **40%** (82) travel costs, **13%** (26) childcare costs, and **7%** (14) loss of insurance as a financial implication of their cancer care and treatment