



Oncology Nursing Society

125 Enterprise Drive • Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1214

Toll Free: 866-257-4ONS • Phone: 412-859-6100 • Fax: 412-859-6165

customer.service@ons.org • www.ons.org

November 2, 2022

USPSTF Coordinator

c/o USPSTF

5600 Fishers Lane

Mail Stop 06E53A

Rockville, MD 20857

Submitted electronically to <https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/skin-cancer-screening-draft-evidence-review>

Re: Draft Recommendation Statement and Evidence Review: Screening for Skin Cancer

The Oncology Nursing Society agrees with the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) that there is a lack of evidence to support recommending visual skin screening for asymptomatic adolescents and adults. However, we feel there is a notable lack of recognition or guidance for those who are at elevated risk, but without a history of abnormal skin lesion.

Given the acknowledgment that the evidence utilized to form this recommendation has a low level of applicability within the United States, **ONS urges USPSTF to include language that clearly defines normal versus elevated risk, as well as recommendations for those at elevated risk**. It is well-established in oncology prevention, that prevention and screening recommendations are stratified by risk; skin cancer should be no different. ONS believes the current recommendation is insufficient without this additional information.

Recognizing there is limited literature in this realm, **we further recommend that clinician expertise be the foundation for determining the appropriateness of visual screenings in those at elevated risk**. Recommendations may include guidance for clinicians on discussing history of sunburns, use of tanning beds, and sun behaviors with one's clinician during routine annual physical exams or other visits and/or discussions with one's primary care clinician about skin cancer risks, and if visual screening is appropriate for the individual based on elevated risk.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on draft recommendation statement and evidence review. If you have any questions about our comments, please contact Alec Stone, ONS Public Affairs Director, at astone@ons.org.

Sincerely,

The Oncology Nursing Society

About ONS

The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) is a professional organization of over 39,000 registered nurses and other healthcare providers dedicated to excellence in patient care, education, research, and administration in oncology nursing. ONS members are a diverse group of professionals who represent a variety of professional roles, practice settings, and subspecialty practice areas. Oncology nurses are leaders in the healthcare arena, committed to continuous learning and leading the transformation of cancer care by advocating for high-quality care for people with cancer.