

MELANOMA

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. The most dangerous type of skin cancer — melanoma — causes most skin cancer deaths.

Higher numbers of people who were exposed to the 9/11 disaster as rescue and recovery workers or non-rescue and recovery workers (survivors) were diagnosed with melanoma than expected (based on the general population*).

Cadmium, an established carcinogen, was present at the World Trade Center (WTC) site and has been associated with melanoma. There was a significant dose-response trend (indication of a causal relationship between exposure and outcome) for melanoma among survivors in relation to WTC exposure.

To learn more about skin cancer and its risk factors, as well as how to reduce your risk and where to get screenings, visit nyc.gov/health and search for **skin cancer**.

Skin cancer is one of 52 health conditions covered by participating in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's WTC Health Program. The program provides medical monitoring and treatment for responders of the WTC disaster and related sites in New York City, Washington, DC, and Shanksville, PA. It also serves survivors who were in the New York City disaster area. To find out if you are eligible for assistance, apply to the program online at cdc.gov/wtc/apply.

If you are experiencing an emotional crisis at any time, call NYC Well at 888-NYC-WELL (888-692-9355) or visit nyc.gov/nycwell. NYC Well is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and in multiple languages.

This health material is provided by the NYC Health Department WTC Health Registry. If you have questions about the Registry, please contact 866-NYC-WTCR (866-692-9827), Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or wthcr@health.nyc.gov.

*See Li, J, Brackbill, RM, Liao, TS, et al. Ten-Year Cancer Incidence In Rescue/Recovery Workers and Civilians Exposed to the September 11, 2001, Terrorists Attacks on the World Trade Center. *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*. 2016;59(9):709-721.