

# Large-scale skin cancer screening initiative feasible

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(HealthDay)—Large-scale skin cancer screening, including full-body

skin examination (FBSE) is feasible and increases diagnosis of melanoma and thinner invasive melanoma, according to a study published online Feb. 23 in *JAMA Oncology*.

Laura K. Ferris, M.D., Ph.D., from the University of Pittsburgh, and colleagues describe a [skin cancer](#) screening initiative implemented in a large health care system among adults seen during an office visit with a University of Pittsburgh Medical Center-employed primary care physician. The intervention included implementation of a campaign promoting annual skin [cancer screening](#) by FBSE.

The researchers found that 15.9 percent of the screen-eligible population of 333,735 adult [patients](#) received FBSE. Overall, 50 and 104 melanomas were diagnosed in screened and unscreened patients, respectively. Compared with unscreened patients, screened patients were more likely to be diagnosed with a melanoma (adjusted risk ratio, 2.4; 95 percent confidence interval, 1.7 to 3.4; P

"Large-scale screening for [melanoma](#) within a U.S. health care system is feasible and can result in increased detection of thinner melanomas," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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