

SKIN CANCER: EARLY DIAGNOSIS MATTERS
Key Takeaways from TAO's Conference



Brussels, 18th May 2026

FR

Following our conference of 21 January, **TAO is pleased to share with you the key conclusions** presented at this event. Dr Patushenko addressed how skin cancer

develops, the main risk factors involved, and the often-overlooked fact that the skin constantly generates micro-tumours that are usually eliminated by the immune system. She stressed the importance of early diagnosis and highlighted research advances that could significantly improve early detection and outcomes.

SKIN CANCER: AN OVERVIEW

Skin cancer is, by far, the **most frequent cancer worldwide**. There are two main types:

Melanoma

Derives from melanocytes, the cells responsible for melanin production (the pigment that makes our skin tan upon UV exposure). It is the **most aggressive** form of skin cancer.

Non-melanoma skin cancer

Derives from epithelial cells. It is **much more frequent** but significantly less aggressive than melanoma.

3 KEY MESSAGES

1

There is no healthy tan.

Tanning is your body's reaction to UV-induced DNA damage. This summer don't forget to protect your skin – and that your loved ones.

2

Early diagnosis and timely treatment allow 100% survival.

Advanced technology such as VECTRA360 now allows diagnosis at very early stages. Early detection saves lives.

3

UV damage goes beyond cancer.

Excessive UV exposure is also the leading cause of common cosmetic concerns such as wrinkles and dark spots.



May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month

Awareness saves lives, early detection matters

KEY FIGURES FOR EUROPE

> 90%

Five-year survival rate for melanoma detected at an early stage in Western Europe and the Nordic countries.

Source: [Melanoma Epidemiology and Early Detection in Europe \(PMC\)](#)

> 99%

Five-year survival rate in the early stages of melanoma, dropping dramatically in advanced stages.

Source: [Melanoma Epidemiology and Early Detection in Europe](#)

87.9%

Average five-year survival rate for melanoma among European patients, best results in Central and Northern Europe.

Source: [Skin melanoma survival is improving in Europe](#)

4%

Melanoma's share of all new cancers diagnosed in the EU, more than 100,000 new cases per year across Europe.

Source: [Euronews – European Cancer Information System](#)

TOP 15

Melanoma is one of the 15 cancers causing the most deaths in Europe and its incidence continues to rise across many European countries.

Source: [Melanoma Mortality Trends in 28 European Countries](#)

TAO-The Independents

Stay healthy, inform yourself, prevent, take action in time



**CANCER DE LA PEAU : LES DIAGNOSTICS PRÉCOCE
SONT ESSENTIELS**

Point clés à retenir de la conférence de TAO



Bruxelles, le 18 mai 2026

EN

À la suite de notre conférence du 21 janvier, **TAO a le plaisir de vous présenter les principales conclusions** exposées lors de cet événement. Le Dr Patushenko a abordé

le développement du cancer de la peau, les principaux facteurs de risque associés, ainsi que le fait que souvent négligée, la peau génère en permanence des micro-tumeurs qui sont généralement éliminées par le système immunitaire. Elle a souligné l'importance d'un diagnostic précoce et a mis en avant les avancées de la recherche susceptibles d'améliorer considérablement la détection précoce et les résultats thérapeutiques.

SKIN CANCER: AN OVERVIEW

Le cancer de la peau est, de loin, le **cancer le plus fréquent dans le monde**. On distingue deux types principaux :

Mélanome

Il provient des mélanocytes, les cellules responsables de la production de mélanine (le pigment qui fait bronzer notre peau lorsqu'elle est exposée aux rayons UV). C'est la forme **la plus agressive** de cancer de la peau.

Autre cancer de la peau

Il provient des cellules épithéliales. Il est **beaucoup plus fréquent** mais nettement moins agressif que le mélanome.

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KEY FIGURES FOR EUROPE

> 90%

Taux de survie estimé à cinq ans pour les mélanomes détectés à un stade précoce en Europe occidentale et dans les pays nordiques.

Source: [Melanoma Epidemiology and Early Detection in Europe \(PMC\)](#)

> 99%

Taux de survie estimé à cinq ans aux stades initiaux du mélanome, qui chute drastiquement aux stades avancés.

Source: [Melanoma Epidemiology and Early Detection in Europe](#)

87.9%

Taux de survie estimé à cinq ans en moyenne pour le mélanome chez les patients européens, avec les meilleurs résultats en Europe centrale et septentrionale.

Source: [Skin melanoma survival is improving in Europe](#)

4%

Part du mélanome dans l'ensemble des nouveaux cancers diagnostiqués dans l'UE, avec plus de 100 000 nouveaux cas par an en Europe.

Source: [Euronews – European Cancer Information System](#)

TOP 15

Le mélanome est l'un des 15 cancers causant le plus de décès en Europe, et son incidence continue d'augmenter dans de nombreux pays européens.

Source: [Melanoma Mortality Trends in 28 European Countries](#)

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Restez en bonne santé, informez-vous, prévenez, agissez à temps



Join TAO to reinforce the staff's action and to be informed on your rights!

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