

Faculty Spotlight:

Susan Swetter, MD

Susan M. Swetter, MD

Professor of Dermatology at Stanford University Medical Center and Cancer Institute and Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System



Summary of Work

Dr. Susan Swetter has directed the Pigmented Lesion and Melanoma Programs at Stanford University Medical Center and Cancer Institute and VA Palo Alto Health Care System since 1995. Dr. Swetter's research focuses on precision public health as it relates to primary and secondary prevention strategies in melanoma. She is currently leading the Wipe Out Melanoma™-California statewide efforts to target high-risk populations for early detection through community engagement and novel technologies, including artificial intelligence and machine learning. Dr. Swetter has published nearly 200 scholarly articles, reviews, and textbook chapters. She serves on the National Comprehensive Cancer Network Melanoma Panel and chaired the American Academy of Dermatology Melanoma Clinical Practice Guidelines Work Group. Dr. Swetter serves as the dermatologist liaison to the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) Melanoma Committee and co-directs the national Melanoma Prevention Working Group, a national forum for research collaboration among academic dermatologists, pathologists, oncologists, surgeons, and epidemiologists, dedicated to melanoma control, including screening and therapeutic prevention.

Dr. Swetter's research interests include clinical and translational studies of melanoma epidemiology, prognostic factors, screening and chemoprevention in high-risk groups. She is the Stanford Principal Investigator for the NCI/University of Arizona Early Phase Cancer Chemoprevention Consortium for

skin cancer research and co-led one of the first randomized trials of therapeutic prevention in individuals with atypical nevi and increased melanoma risk. Dr. Swetter co-leads the Stanford University Network for Sun Protection, Outreach, and Teamwork (SUNSPORT) program to improve primary skin cancer prevention in college athletes. Her Wipe Out Melanoma™-CA research aims to increase professional and public education to improve melanoma awareness and recognition across all racial-ethnic groups and socioeconomic classes. She is engaged in clinical trials for advanced melanoma patients at Stanford and for nonmelanoma skin cancer chemoprevention at VA Palo Alto.

Biography

Susan M. Swetter, M.D., is a Professor of Dermatology, Assistant Chief of the Dermatology Service at the VA Palo Alto, Director of the Pigmented Lesion and Melanoma Program and Physician Leader of the Cancer Care Program in Cutaneous Oncology at Stanford University Medical Center and Cancer Institute. Her research interests encompass both primary and secondary melanoma prevention, including therapeutic prevention strategies in patients with atypical nevi and targeted screening/education of high-risk groups for improved melanoma awareness and early detection. Her clinical interests are in cutaneous oncology (focused on pigmented lesions/melanoma) and adult general medical dermatology (at VA Palo Alto). Dr. Swetter joined the Stanford Dermatology faculty in 1994 following dermatology residency/chief residency at Stanford and internal medicine internship at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Swetter received her MD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and her BA with Distinction from the University of Virginia.



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