

Mayo Clinic Minute

The ABCDE melanoma check

VIDEO	AUDIO
Graphic: Asymmetry Courtesy: American Academy of Dermatology	According to the American Academy of Dermatology, in melanoma checks, “A” is for asymmetry.
Dr. Juan-Carlos Martinez	“So, typically, a lesion will be symmetrical, if it’s normal.”
	Dermatologist Dr. Juan-Carlos Martinez says an asymmetric lesion can signal trouble.
Graphic: Border	The “B” in this test is for border.
Title: Juan-Carlos Martinez, M.D. Dermatology Mayo Clinic	“So you want to have smooth borders like an even oval shape or an even, circular shape.”
	Dr. Martinez says irregular or scalloped borders can indicate melanoma.
Dr. Juan-Carlos Martinez Graphic: Color	“‘C’ is for color. So, typically, a mole will have one or two colors in it. If you start to see three or more different, distinct colors within a single lesion, that’s something that may warrant biopsy or further inspection.”
Graphic: Diameter	“D” is for diameter. A lesion larger than 6 millimeters – about the size of a pencil eraser- should be evaluated, especially if it has any of other features mentioned.
Dr. Juan-Carlos Martinez Graphic: Evolving	“And ‘E’ is probably the most important of those.”
	“E” is for evolving. Is the mole changing over time?
Dr. Juan-Carlos Martinez	“That may be something that needs to be more carefully evaluated or possibly even biopsied.”
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Jeff Olsen.

