

Mayo Clinic Minute: Learning the ABCDEs of melanoma

Video	Audio
	<p>Moles are a common skin growth, and most are harmless. But changes in moles and other pigmented patches may be the sign of skin cancer, particularly melanoma.</p> <p>When it comes to early detection, just remember the ABCDEs.</p> <p>"A" is for asymmetry.</p>
CATHERINE DEGESYS, M.D. DERMATOLOGY Mayo Clinic	"You want your moles to be perfectly symmetrical such that you could put a mirror right down the middle of it and the image would look the same."
	"B" stands for border.
	"You want a nice crisp edge to your pigmented lesions, no scalloped edges or indistinct edges."
	"C" is for color."
	"In general, you want your moles to be a nice homogenous color not to have multiple different pigmented areas."
	"D" represents the mole's diameter.
	"Pigmented lesions being greater than six millimeters as potentially needing further evaluation."
	"E is probably the most important, and that corresponds with evolution. Any pigmented lesion or any moles that are changing are something that really need to be evaluated."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Alex Osiadacz.