

Unified Dermoscopy Algorithm Study

Background

Dermoscopy increases diagnostic accuracy of cutaneous melanoma as compared to clinical evaluation. Currently more than eight different methods are recognized for dermoscopic analysis of melanocytic lesions. There is a considerable variability in the diagnostic accuracy of the methods and many overlapping features. Also, in recent years new features were defined and those have not been tested yet in a large comparative study.

Objectives

1. To create a new, unified IDS-consensus algorithm composed of the dermoscopic features that are most discriminatory between nevi and melanoma.
2. To compare the current algorithms using a single evaluation session.
3. To test the diagnostic value of new dermoscopic features that are not scored in the current algorithms.
4. Test the difference between polarized and non-polarized dermoscopy regarding diagnostic accuracy by the different features.

Methods

The study will include 800 melanocytic lesions collected from 10 centers around the world. The lesions will be selected sequentially from the center's logbooks. Each center will send clinical and dermoscopic images of 60 benign nevi and 20 melanomas along with non-identifiable clinical data and dermoscopy method (polarized vs. non-polarized and contact vs. non-contact). Random sub-groups of 50 lesions will be created from the data and will be presented for analysis to online readers of different expertise levels.

Registration of readers for the study: <http://uda.dermoscopy-ids.org/>

Manuscript for publication

Everyone who sends lesions for analysis will be named in the manuscript if possible; online readers will not be named in the manuscript for lack of space as we are anticipating hundreds of readers. Readers will however be named and included in the "Group of UDA readers" list, which will be published online at the IDS site and will refer to the manuscript. Readers will also enter a lottery for a handheld dermatoscope and dermoscopy atlases.

Coordinator and data collection

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