

Skin cancer



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Neenah Joint School District Health & Wellness Center

Mon. 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Tues. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wed. 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Thurs. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Fri. 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month. Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the US, with 5 million cases diagnosed each year. It is also largely preventable through things like avoiding excess sun exposure and utilizing appropriate sunscreen.

There are multiple types of skin cancer, with melanoma being the only form with a genetic predisposition. This means that if your parents (or another first-degree relative) have had melanoma, you may be at increased risk even if you take excellent care of your skin. The other types of skin cancer (basal cell and squamous cell) are almost always directly related to sun exposure. Because these types of cancer are much more easily treated when they are caught early, vigilance is key.

If you have a spot, mole, or lesion on your skin that is new or changing in size, shape, color, or elevation, you should have this looked at by a healthcare provider. Any mole that changes drastically is worth a visit to the clinic, but this doesn't mean that all moles need to be removed. Some types of skin lesions are known for changing over time, but having this monitored by a healthcare provider can help to identify changes that require further intervention.

The Neenah Joint School District Health and Wellness Center will again be offering skin screenings for those who are eligible for clinic services. Look for the informational flyer in today's Rocket Roundup, and call to schedule an appointment during the times we've set aside.