

INTRODUCTION TO DERMOSCOPY

Course Prospectus

Dermoscopy is a non-invasive, widely used diagnostic tool that aids the diagnosis of skin lesions and is proven to increase the accuracy of melanoma diagnosis.

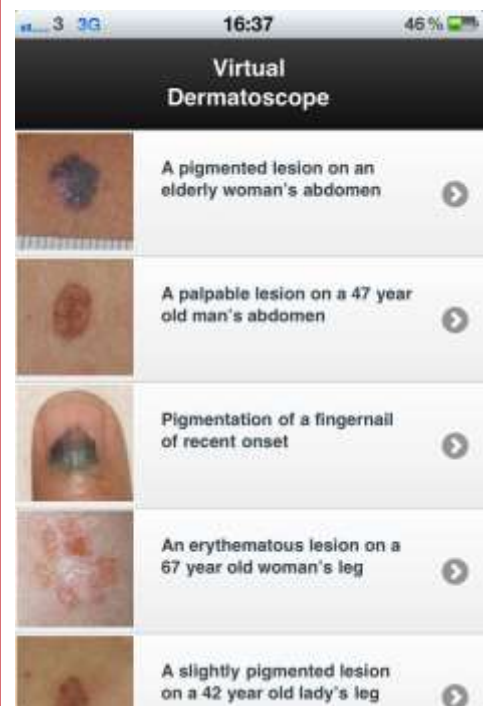
Cardiff University's Department of Dermatology offers a 12-week online short course to help you develop competency in using a dermatoscope.

Key Information:

- ⇒ Designed for qualified doctors who see patients with skin lesions
- ⇒ Two intakes per year: March and September
- ⇒ Online delivery of topics
- ⇒ Assessment via online activities
- ⇒ 5 hours of study per week recommended
- ⇒ Participation requires access to a computer with high-speed internet access
- ⇒ Module materials compatible with most desktop and mobile devices



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Introduction to Dermoscopy

Online Distance-Learning Course

Duration: 12-weeks

Intakes: March & September

The Introduction to Dermoscopy Course is designed specifically for doctors who are involved in the care of dermatology patients with skin lesions, and who are interested in the management of benign and malignant skin lesions, or who wish to learn about dermoscopy to improve their skill in the diagnosis of melanoma.

AIM

This programme aims to develop competency in using a dermatoscope to:

- differentiate melanocytic from non-melanocytic skin lesions
- differentiate malignant from non-malignant skin lesions
- assist in the early diagnosis of melanoma
- assist in management decisions relating to pigmented skin lesions
- assist in the diagnosis of some non-melanocytic skin lesions

COURSE STRUCTURE

Six topics have been written by leading dermatologists in the field of dermoscopy. Participants are expected to complete a topic every two weeks.

Features of the course include:

- detailed topic materials with specific aims and objectives
- **“Virtual Dermatoscope” featuring a large bank of dermoscopic images**
- clinical cases and interactive quizzes (with immediate performance feedback) for each module
- live interactive expert lectures using Adobe Connect© software
- group discussion forums led by expert tutors
 - * collaborative learning is strongly encouraged
 - * participants will be able to discuss difficult or interesting cases that they encounter in their own practice (camera recommended)
 - * tutors will also share cases from their clinics
 - * forums aim to enable students to learn from each other and receive feedback from tutors

ASSESSMENT

Each module is accompanied by a set of Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs). Participants are required to complete the MCQs before progressing to the next module. Participants who meet these requirements will be eligible for the final examination.

At the end of the course an online examination will provide the basis for the summative assessment. Participants who are successful in completing the final examination will be awarded an electronic certificate of completion.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must fulfil all of the following criteria to be considered eligible for this course:

- hold a medical degree
- see patients with skin lesions regularly
- have an excellent command of English
- own or have access to a computer with high speed internet

You do not need to have completed a previous dermatology or dermoscopy course but some knowledge of dermatology is required in order to participate effectively.

EQUIPMENT

Access to a dermatoscope is highly recommended in order to participate in this course. There are several different types available. Cross-polarised light dermatoscopes are popular as they are versatile, small and light, and multiple lesions can be examined quickly without the need for interface fluid application. Most devices have an extendable faceplate for use with interface fluid if needed; this can improve the image quality. Devices are available that combine both cross-polarised and oil-immersion features.

Ultimately the choice of dermatoscope will reside with the doctor and include factors such as personal preference, and likely population of patients to be examined. If you do not own a dermatoscope, please contact the department for advice on sourcing one.

Access to a camera to share your dermatoscopic images with the online community is also recommended but not essential.

HOW TO APPLY

Go to: www.cardiff.ac.uk/dermatology/an-introduction-to-dermoscopy to access the application form

- UK applicants must supply their GMC number on their application
- Non-UK applicants will be required to provide their medical degree certificate and a reference supporting their application

A decision on your application will be made within 10-15 working days of submission. The full fee must be paid in full in order to secure your place on the course.

Note that places on the course are strictly limited to 75 per intake and are allocated on a first come, first served basis. *We reserve the right to close applications early.*

TESTIMONIALS

Dr Shewring, Wales

“This was an excellent course which has totally changed my day-to-day practice in lesion recognition. The modules were well written and practical, with clearly defined learning points which provided a steep learning curve in the use of the dermatoscope. From a clinical governance aspect I would say that any GP that is using a dermatoscope needs to have done this course.”



Dr Proctor, England

“I was completely new to dermoscopy and I have been very pleasantly surprised about how useful it can be in assessing skin lesions. I feel that I personally needed a course with this amount of detail in order to gain enough confidence to use dermoscopy as a GP. In particular I was impressed that the course had a good balance of background information and more importantly how to deal with the practicalities of decision making in day-to-day practice.”



About the Department:

The Department of Dermatology at Cardiff University is based in Glamorgan House (Welsh Institute of Dermatology) at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff.

The department is a world leader in dermatology research and teaching and has an international team of tutors, lecturers and administrators dedicated to running the courses and other educational activities.

The department has won numerous awards including BMJ Clinical Teacher of the Year and Times Higher Leadership and Management Outstanding ICT Initiative.

Courses available:

An Introduction to Dermoscopy
Diploma in Practical Dermatology
MSc in Practical Dermatology
MSc in Clinical Dermatology

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