



European Cancer  
Patient Coalition

# RISK FACTORS

FOR MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA INCLUDE

UV exposure from the sun or sun beds  
Impaired immune function  
Light skin colour at higher risk  
Men at higher risk  
Over 50's at higher risk



## MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA

**Dear Members,**

on Thursday, **ECPC will launch the first awareness campaign on [Merkel Cell Carcinoma \(MCC\)](#).** With this campaign, ECPC want to **raise awareness on this rare but extremely aggressive form of skin cancer** known to have a 25 – 40% chance of recurring and spreading (metastasizing) in two to three years after first diagnosis.

**While the summer season is all about enjoying the outdoors, it is crucial to stay protected from the sun and be informed about skin cancer.** Especially during these days of social distancing when many of us are spending a good amount of free time gardening, sporting or simply enjoying the nature.

May 2020

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TOOLKIT

CONTACT US

MORE INFO

**posts by using our messages or customising them** for your followers. If you are interested **in content translation for disseminating on national levels**, we encourage you to visit our [website](#). As you may know, **ECPC has developed a brochure about Merkel Cell Carcinoma that was translated in 14 languages** and is available online.

Any kind of support is highly appreciated!

**Stay Sun safe!**

**Kind regards,**

**ECPC Team**



### About Merkel Cell Carcinoma

Merkel cell carcinoma is 40 times rarer and three to five times more deadly than [melanoma](#), with a 5 year survival rate of 50% - 76%, depending on how much the disease has metastasized. While detecting skin cancer in its beginning stages can be difficult, Merkel Cell Carcinoma can be found early as it usually appears on the skins surface.



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Rue Montoyer 40

Brussels 1000

Belgium

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