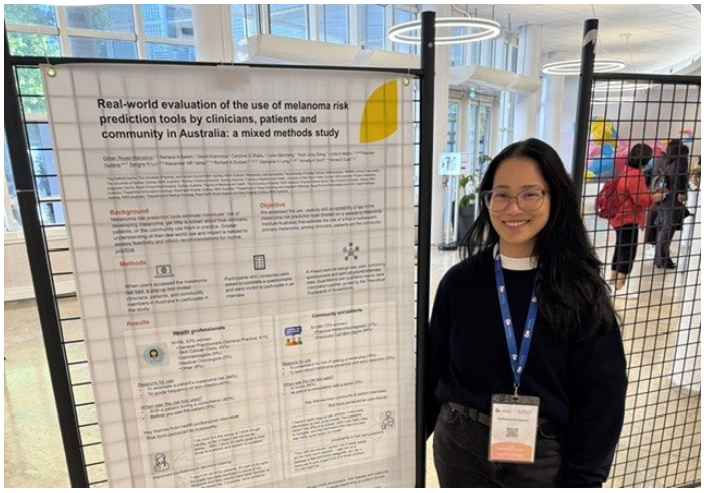
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Full Reference: **Reyes-Marcelino G**, Salam RA, Espinoza D, Watts CG, Steinberg J, Kang Y-J, Martin LK, Guitera P, Lo SN, Varey AHR, Scolyer RA, Long GV, Smit AK, Cust AE. *Real-world evaluation of the use of melanoma risk prediction tools by clinicians, patients and community in Australia: a mixed methods study.*
Conference/Meeting Name: International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC@60) conference
Location: Lyon, France
Dates: 19-21 May 2026
Presentation Type: Poster



Me at the IARC@60 conference with my poster presentation supported by SCP conference support grant.

The IARC@60 Conference, celebrating the 60th anniversary of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), took place from May 19 - 21, 2026, in Lyon, France. The conference attracted over 1,000 delegates, including researchers, clinicians, policymakers, and advocates, all united under the theme "Cancer Research into Action." Key invited speakers included: Dr. Elisabete Weiderpass, Director of IARC; Dr. Freddie Bray, Branch Head, Cancer Surveillance Branch, IARC; Dr. Pietro Ferrari, Branch Head, Nutrition and Metabolism Branch, IARC; Professor Marc Gunter, Chair, Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention, Imperial College London and Dr. Erikka Loftfield, Stadtman Investigator, National Cancer Institute

The session on nutrition, held on Tuesday, generated significant interest and discussion. Presentations by Dr. Ferrari and Dr. Gunter focused on the intricate relationship between dietary factors and cancer risk, highlighting new findings that underscored the importance of nutrition in cancer prevention. Additionally, the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into cancer screening and diagnosis was a hot topic, with several presentations emphasising its potential to revolutionise early detection and improve patient outcomes.

Attending the conference allowed me to connect with Dr. Erikka Loftfield and other members of the Cancer Elimination Collaboration at the University of Sydney. This networking opportunity was invaluable, as it opened pathways for future collaborations and discussions around cancer research. While the primary focus of the presentations did not centre on melanoma, I gained significant insights into various other cancers and their prevention strategies.

The importance of interdisciplinary approaches in cancer research, particularly in integrating findings from different cancer types to inform broader prevention strategies.

Innovative methodologies being utilised in cancer epidemiology, which can inspire new perspectives in my own research. These learnings will enhance my understanding of the cancer landscape as a whole, potentially informing my contributions to melanoma research in the future.

While the knowledge gained from the conference may not directly link to my current research on melanoma, it provided valuable insights that can enrich my understanding of broader cancer care and prevention strategies. Specifically the networking opportunities at the conference opened doors for potential interdisciplinary collaborations.

A personal highlight was the engaging session on nutrition and cancer. The discussions not only deepened my understanding of the relationship between diet and cancer but also inspired me to consider how these insights can be applied in my own research. The enthusiasm surrounding the integration of AI in cancer care was equally exciting, showcasing the future potential of technology in improving patient outcomes.

Overall, the IARC@60 Conference was an enriching experience that provided valuable insights and fostered connections in the field of cancer research.

Real-world evaluation of the use of melanoma risk prediction tools by clinicians, patients and community in Australia: a mixed methods study

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Background

Melanoma risk prediction tools estimate individuals' risk of developing melanoma, yet little is known about how clinicians, patients, or the community use them in practice. Greater understanding of their real-world use and impact is needed to assess feasibility and inform recommendations for routine practice.

Objective

We assessed the use, usability and acceptability of two online melanoma risk prediction tools (hosted on a website by Melanoma Institute Australia) that estimate the risk of a first or subsequent primary melanoma, among clinicians, patients and the community.

Methods

When users accessed the melanoma risk tool, a pop-up box invited clinicians, patients, and community members in Australia to participate in the study.

Participants who consented were asked to complete a questionnaire and were invited to participate in an interview.

A mixed-methods design was used, combining questionnaire and semi-structured interview data. Quantitative and qualitative results were interpreted together, guided by the Theoretical Framework of Acceptability.

Results

Health professionals



N=58, 53% women
- General Practitioners (General Practice, 41%; Skin Cancer Clinic, 41%)
- Dermatologists (5%)
- Medical Oncologists (3%)
- Other (8%)

Reasons for use
- To estimate a patient's melanoma risk (84%)
- To guide frequency of skin checks (40%)

When was the risk tool used?
- With a patient during a consultation (82%)
- Before you see the patient (5%)

Key themes from health professional interviews:

Risk tools perceived as trustworthy



"I do trust it in the sense of I think it's got validity, so far, it hasn't led me too far astray… Also, I think it's really good to then show to a patient and explain to a patient."

Improved confidence in decision making

"I use it on all of my patients. It's part of my spiel… It's made me more confident in some of my decisions and they usually have been backed up. Also, it's made me, I suppose, more evidence based."

Community and patients

N=268 (72% women)
- Previous melanoma diagnosis (27%)
- Previously had skin checks (84%)

Reasons for use
- To understand my risk of getting a melanoma (76%)
- To learn about melanoma prevention and early detection (25%)

When was the risk tool used?
- At home (85%)
- As part of a consultation with a doctor (5%)

Key themes from community & patient interviews:

Risk tools perceived as user-friendly

"I found it really easy to use, actually. It was really informative as well, to be honest. The questions weren't too difficult to answer, and it was really easy to navigate, and the information that was provided was really quite helpful for myself."



Uncertainty in risk tool questions

"Then with the results, I guess I ran it twice, based on the mole count question. I was sort of in between a few and some categories, so I ran it twice just to give myself a bit of a range of where my risk might be."

Conclusion

Clinicians, patients and community members generally found the melanoma risk prediction tools acceptable, user friendly and useful for supporting melanoma prevention and early detection, although use differed among clinicians and varied depending on patient factors.

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