Arizona Melanoma Reporting

ARIZONA

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Purpose of the Arizona Melanoma Task Force

To identify barriers and develop strategies to improve melanoma reporting by physicians in Arizona.

This report provides physicians the latest information on melanoma counts, gender and age group, compares Arizona cancer rates to the rates of the SEER Registry and the U.S., and the ranking of melanoma among the top leading cancers.

A message from the Task Force Chair:

In this report our data shows that there is an 84% increase in reporting of melanoma (invasive and in situ) from 2008 to 2013, which is the most current year of complete data. In that time period, melanoma has risen from the eighth most common cancer in Arizona to the fifth (see Figure 5). This increase at least in part reflects the 3 years of effort by the Task Force to improve reporting. Before we applaud ourselves though, I would point out areas which seem to confirm that Arizona is still underreporting melanomas. One observation is that the Arizona age-adjusted rate of melanoma is still below the national average (see Figure 4), while I think most dermatologists in Arizona would doubt that estimate to be accurate. At the end of the report the number of melanoma cases reported by each physician is included. I recognize colleagues whose names are absent indicating that for 2015 no melanoma cases were reported by that physician. I ask you to review this yourself. If your own number seems low, review your path logs and office procedures. 2015 cases can still be accepted.

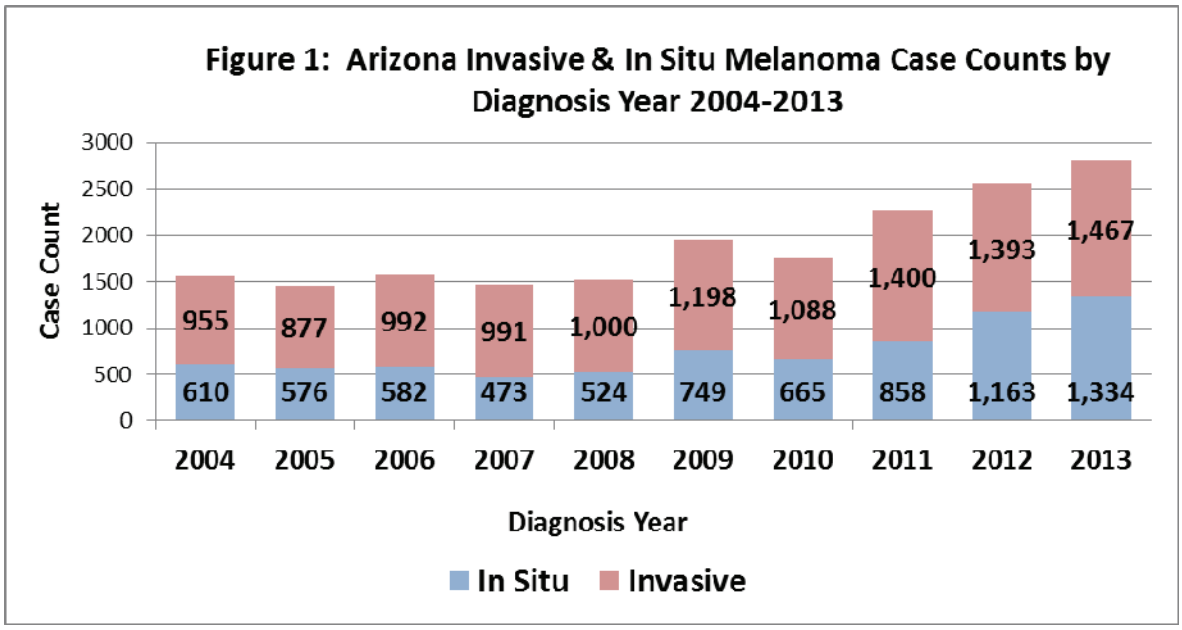
Young women in the age group 20 to 49 years are disproportionately diagnosed with melanoma (see Figure 2). Preventative measures including reduction of indoor tanning need to focus on this group.

On behalf of the entire Arizona Melanoma Task Force and myself thank you for your help.

Nancy Silvis, MD Tucson, AZ

Melanoma Case Counts -

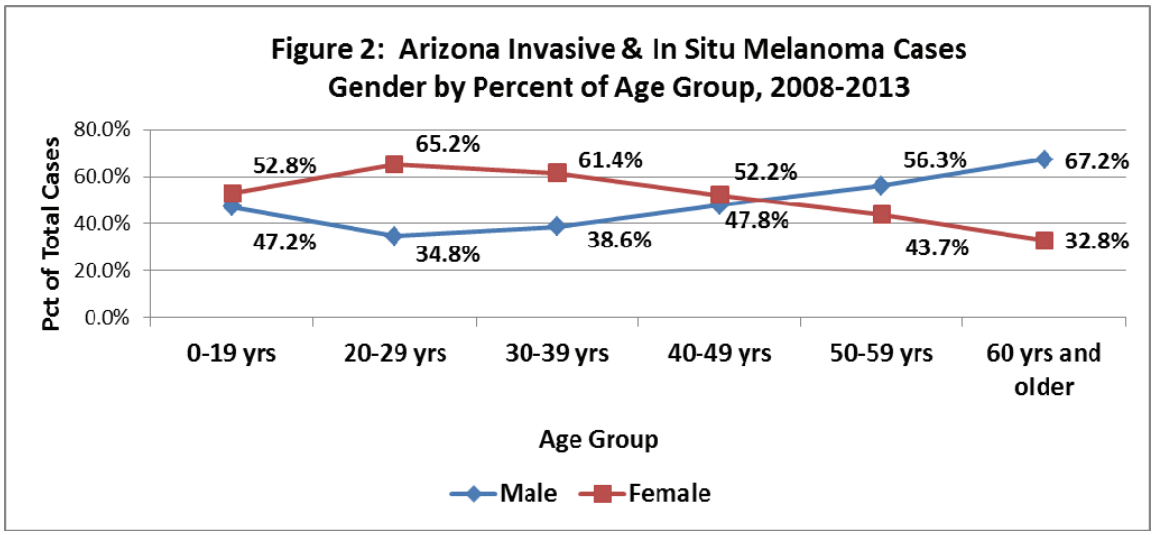
Figure 1: Case counts by year for invasive and in situ melanoma show the effect of active physician involvement in the reporting of melanoma. In 2008, the year prior to the review of melanoma case reporting, 1,524 cases of in situ and invasive melanoma were reported. In 2013, three years after active engagement in the reporting process by community dermatologists, 2,801 in situ and invasive melanoma cases were reported, an increase of 84 percent.



TRENDS IN REPORTING

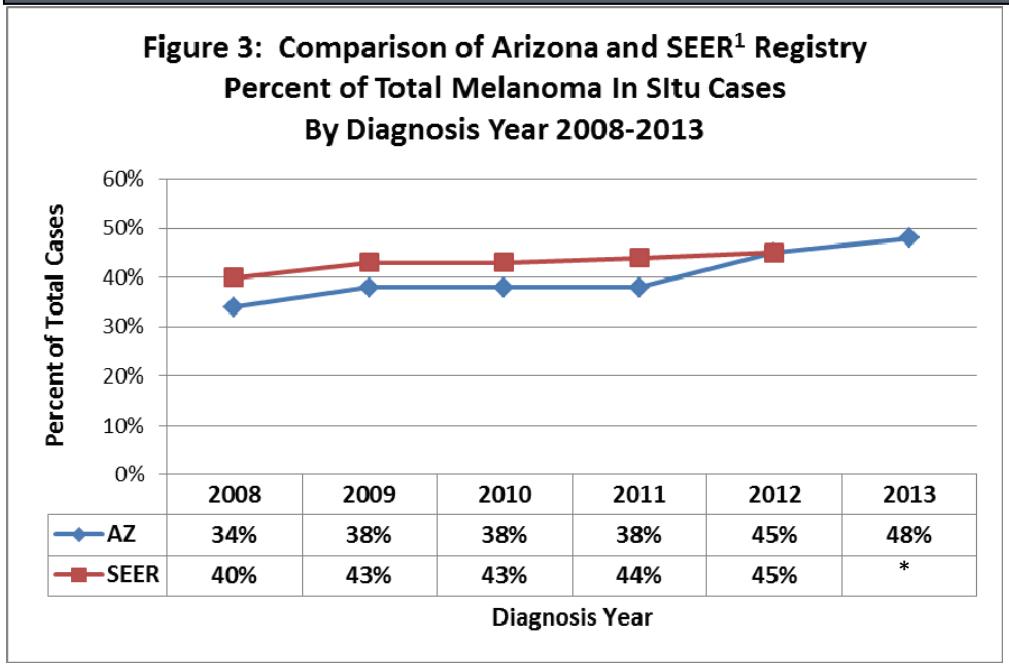
BETWEEN THE AGES OF 20 AND 50 YEARS MORE WOMEN ARE DIAGNOSED WITH MELANOMA COMPARED TO MEN

GENDER / AGE GROUP - Figure 2: Age at diagnosis of melanoma differs between men and women. When all age groups are combined most cases of melanoma occur in men. However, between the ages of 20 and 50 years, more cases of melanoma are diagnosed in women. After the age of 50 years most cases of melanoma are diagnosed in men. Almost 1 in 5 melanoma cases among women occur between the ages of 20 and 50 years. In men only 1 in 10 cases occur in the 20 to 50 year age groups. The effects of a younger age at diagnosis shows up in the median age at diagnosis as the median age of diagnosis is 63 years for women and 69 years for men.



Note: 10 cases that were not classified as male or female or were unknown gender were excluded from Figure 2. 12 cases with an unknown age were also excluded from Figure 2.

AN UPDATE: THE PROPORTION OF IN SITU CASES, COMPARING ARIZONA TO THE SEER REGISTRY



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
AZ	34%	38%	38%	38%	45%	48%
SEER	40%	43%	43%	44%	45%	*

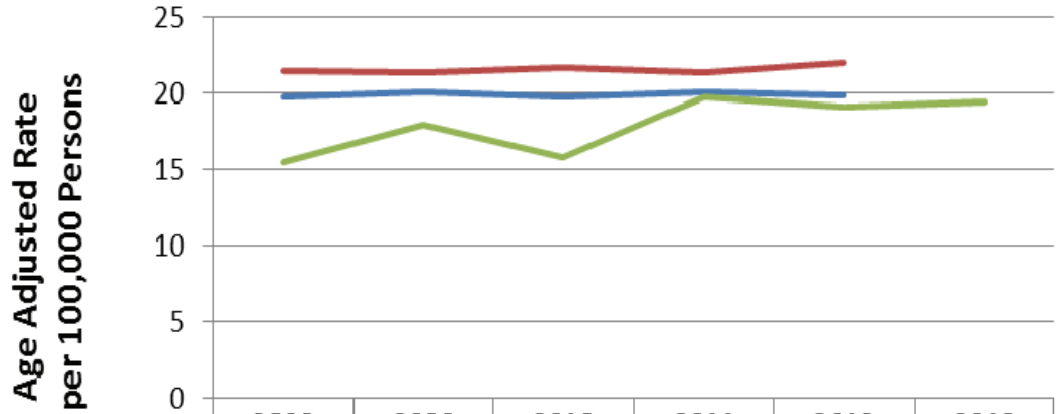
Figure 3: The percent of total melanoma in situ cases for Arizona has risen 14 percent (from 34% in 2008 to 48% in 2013). In the SEER Registry[1] the increase was 5 percent in the same time period. This increase in the Arizona in situ case percentages can be attributed to the rising number of in situ cases reported by community dermatologists. More complete melanoma reporting by Arizona physicians has increased the proportion of all melanoma cases that are in situ thus possibly surpassing the SEER Registry in situ proportion of melanoma cases.

*SEER 2013 data not available.

TRENDS IN REPORTING

AGE ADJUSTED MELANOMA RATES — Figure 4: Invasive melanoma age adjusted rates in Arizona have risen 26 percent from the year 2008 to year 2013 (from 15.5 to 19.5 cases per 100,000 persons). In this same time period (through year 2012) melanoma rates from the SEER Registry and the United States increased less than 3 percent. The sharp increase in age adjusted melanoma rates in Arizona shows more complete reporting by dermatologists.

Figure 4: Arizona, SEER[1], and U.S.[2] Invasive Age Adjusted Melanoma Rates For Diagnosis Years 2008 -2013

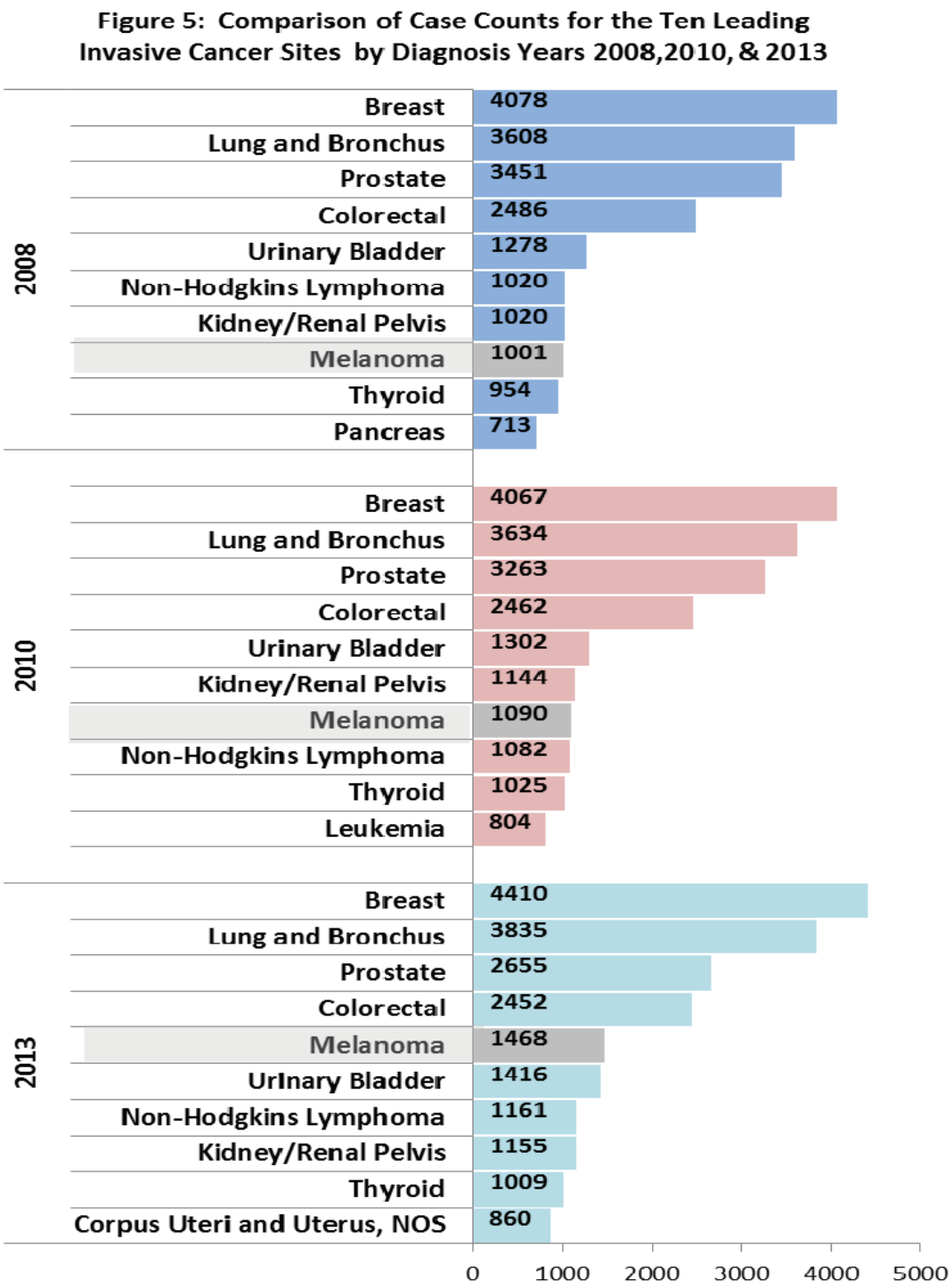


	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
SEER Invasive Melanoma	21.5	21.3	21.7	21.3	22.0	*
U.S Invasive Melanoma	19.7	20.1	19.7	20.1	19.9	*
AZ Invasive Melanoma	15.5	18.0	15.9	19.7	19.1	19.5

Diagnosis Year

*SEER and U.S. 2013 data not available.

Comparison of the Ten Leading Cancer Sites, 2008-2013 — Figure 5: Melanoma has risen from the eighth (8th) most common cancer in 2008 to the fifth (5th) most diagnosed cancer in 2013. Physician reporting to the registry has helped invasive melanoma to be more accurately counted and resulted in a more accurate picture of its effect and place among the leading cancer sites in Arizona.



Notes:
The data counts for melanoma in Figure 5 will be different from other counts in the other graphs contained within this report due to the date information was retrieved. Data for Figure 5 was retrieved on March 11, 2016. Data may have been added or changed due to quality assurance activities.
In situ cases are excluded from this figure.

TRENDS IN REPORTING

Number of Melanoma Reports Submitted By Physician Offices—

The following table shows the number of melanoma cases reported by physician offices in 2015 grouped by Phoenix Area, followed by Tucson Area and lastly those received from the rest of the state. The table does not include reports from a hospital cancer registry. The physician report indicated by Dr. Nancy Silvis on page 1 is not included in this version. Physicians interested in verifying if the registry has received reports from their office may contact Georgia Yee at Georgia.Yee@azdhs.gov.

Arizona Population Areas - Melanoma Physician Reports Submitted	
Phoenix Area	1819
Tucson Area	618
Rest of the State	601
Statewide Total	3038

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provide support to the Arizona Cancer Registry under cooperative agreement 5U58DP003858. The contents of this report are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Forms for melanoma reporting can be found at http://www.azdhs.gov/cancer/MelanomaForm.pdf. Any questions about reporting can be directed to Georgia.yee@azdhs.gov at the state's Arizona Cancer Registry.

[1]Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program (www.seer.cancer.gov) SEER*Stat Database: Incidence - SEER 18 Regs Research Data + Hurricane Katrina Impacted Louisiana Cases, Nov 2014 Sub (2000-2012) <Katrina/Rita Population Adjustment> - Linked To County Attributes - Total U.S., 1969-2013 Counties, National Cancer Institute, DCCPS, Surveillance Research Program, Surveillance Systems Branch, released April 2015, based on the November 2014 submission. This program is used to estimate cancer rates throughout the U.S>.

[2]United States Cancer Statistics: 1999 - 2012 Incidence, WONDER Online Database. United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; 2015. Accessed at http://wonder.cdc.gov/cancer-v2012.html on Feb 29, 2016