**Title: Algorithms and their Complex Intricacy in Diagnosing Skin Cancers**

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**Background:** Skin cancer is the most common malignancy in Australia and New Zealand where its prevalence and incidence are always in the top range worldwide.

**Aims:** This piece outlines the awareness of the limitations and pitfalls in the diagnosis and management of skin cancers for primary care practitioners (General Practitioners).

**Method:** Literature studies including several algorithms designed to better detect skin cancers are reviewed and analysed in regards to their sensitivity and specificity.

**Results:** So far, the majority of algorithms (Pattern analysis, ABCD, Menzies method, 7-point check list, 3-point check list, CASH algorithm, Chaos & Clues algorithm), have generally covered only for invasive melanoma except ‘Chaos & Clues’ which can be applied to all types of skin cancers. However, the latter’s specificity is only 62 - 66%, thus resulting in a lack of a near-flawless tool.

**Conclusion/Discussion:** There needs to be more studies with better validated tools. There will always be challenges ahead for the detection and management for cutaneous neoplasm. Nevertheless, GP’s have increased involvement than two decades prior, in the management of cutaneous cancers. It should be noted, *not everything that appears like a skin cancer dermoscopically, is a skin cancer.*

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