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The changing face of evaluation and treatment of melanoma

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The incidence of melanoma is rising at a virtually exponential pace. It is therefore fortunate and rather exciting that monumental developments have occurred involving methods of analyzing prognostic factors associated with melanoma, as well as new classes of medications that have proven effective in treating metastatic disease. These new tools in the armamentarium for melanoma evaluation and treatment represent significant advances and hopefully will translate into more appropriate patient selection, more effective treatment strategies, and reduced toxicity, resulting in prolonged survival and improved quality of life. Novel diagnostic tests, as well as new classes of medications including BRAF inhibitors, anti-CTLA 4 antibodies, and PD1 inhibitor therapy will be discussed in detail.

Biography

Alexander R Miller attended medical school and completed general surgical training at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He performed clinical and research fellowships in surgical oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Center and UCLA School of Medicine. He has served as assistant and associate professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Currently, he works as a surgical oncologist on the staff of the START Center for Cancer Care in San Antonio, where he has been actively involved in the development of novel strategies for the evaluation and treatment of melanoma.

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