

# Healthcare & Hospital Management

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## Deep shave removal of suspected basal cell carcinoma: A prospective study

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Basal cell carcinoma (BCC), the most common type of skin cancer, accounts for at least 32% of all cancers globally with an incidence that continues to rise. Suspected BCCs are diagnosed initially with partial biopsy, requiring patients to return to clinic for treatment. Treatment depends on the anatomic location, size, and histological subtype of the tumor, with surgical options including excision, and Mohs surgery. In light of the rising incidence of BCC, separate clinic visits for diagnosis and treatment amplify the increasing demand for dermatology services and do so at a significant cost—BCC is the 5th most costly cancer to Medicare. Previous retrospective studies suggest that initial deep shave at the time of diagnosis with the intent to remove the entire Our study evaluates whether deep shave removal is effective diagnostic and treatment modality for small (<1 cm) primary BCC. Patients were prospectively followed after deep shave removal of 78 lesions. The pathology of the initial removed lesions had the following histological subtypes: superficial, nodular, and superficial and nodular. After the initial removal, 58 cases had clear margins and 15 cases had positive residual margins, which were excised. All patients attended the 6 months follow up appointment, while 78% and 47% attended the 12 and 18 month visits. To date, we have noted no BCC recurrence after an average of 17 months of follow up. To our knowledge, this is the first prospective study evaluating the use of deep shave removal and follow up in the long-term recurrence rate. Deep shave removal of small primary BCC on the trunk or extremities is a promising treatment modality which needs to be followed by close follow up visits. This has the potential to reduce health care utilization and expenditure and reduce the number of invasive surgical procedures.

### Biography

Enea Shehu has completed MBA and MIS degrees from the Robert Morris University. He is currently finishing the executive master program on informational technology with emphasis on statistics and data analysis. His goal is to participate in large studies related to health care data utilization and different treatment outcome.

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