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SYDNEY



Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials
Limited

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02.17 MEL-SELF

A pilot randomised controlled trial of patient-led surveillance compared to clinician-led surveillance in people treated for localised melanoma

Registration number: ACTRN12616001716459
Version 6.0 dated 22 May 2020

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Signature

22 May 2020
Date

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47 For information related to the Trial Management Committee membership please refer to the
48 Operations Manual. This is an independent investigator initiated co-operative group trial.

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53 **Administration**

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55 Sponsor: The University of Sydney

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91**Document Version History**

Version	Version date	Main Changes
2.0	30/08/2017	Initial protocol
3.0	23/04/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ANZMTG added as lead collaborative group/co-ordinating centre - ASICA smartphone App replaced with web-based version of the ASICA skin checker App - Duration of treatment/study updated - Schedule of assessments: Time and Events table added - SMS text added as a patient reminder option
4.0	24/01/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Australia and New Zealand Melanoma Trials Group (ANZMTG) is now known as Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Ltd. (MASC Trials). MASC Trials is now the lead collaborative group and co-ordinating centre - Recruitment process updated for in clinic recruitment and not a bulk mail out - Baseline questionnaires will be a part of the study invitation package - Teledermatologist case review recommendations have been updated
5.0	3/12/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confidentiality section: Data is stored at University of Sydney
6.0	22/05/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8.6.2 End of Study updated from 6 months to 12 months

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2. Abbreviations:

AE	Adverse event
AJCC	American Joint Committee of Cancer
ANZMTG	Australia and New Zealand Melanoma Trials Group
App	Smartphone Application
ASICA	Achieving Self-Directed Integrated Cancer Aftercare
CI	Co-investigators
CR	Complete response
CRF	Case report form
CTCAE	Common terminology criteria for adverse events
DASS-21	Depression Anxiety and Stress Scales
DSMC	Data Safety Monitoring Committee
FCR	Fear of Cancer Recurrence
FCRI	Fear of Cancer Recurrence inventory
FDA	Food & Drug Administration
GCP	Good Clinical Practice
GP	General Practitioner
HREC	Human research ethics committees
ICF	Informed consent form
ICH GCP	International Conference on Harmonisation of Good Clinical Practice
ID	Identification
IELab	Australian Industrial Ecology Virtual Laboratory
Kg	Kilogram
M	Million
MASC Trials	Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Ltd.
MM	Millimetre
MIA	Melanoma Institute Australia
NMSC	Non-Melanoma Skin Cancers
RCT	Randomised Controlled Trial
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas
SSE	Skin Self-examination
TMC	Trial Management Centre
USYD	University of Sydney

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3. Study synopsis

Title:	A pilot randomised controlled trial of patient-led surveillance compared to clinician-led surveillance in people treated for localised melanoma
Study Number:	02.17 MEL-SELF
Primary Objective:	1. To assess the feasibility of patient-led surveillance.
Rationale:	Most new (and recurrent melanomas) are detected by patients or family members in between scheduled visits, and this might be increased with additional training and support for patient skin self-examination and with Teledermatology assessment of patient-detected abnormalities. This may enable less frequent scheduled follow-up with melanoma clinicians. Fewer scheduled visits may be just as safe, cause less anxiety and consume fewer resources.
Study Design:	Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT)
Sample Size (by treatment group):	50 participants allocated to the intervention group and 50 participants allocated to the usual care group
Study Arms (Intervention and Control):	<p>Intervention group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Patient-led surveillance: web-based questionnaire based on the ASICA skin checker App (with instructional videos and electronic reporting of lesions discovered on skin self-examination), Smartphone App for participants to perform teledermoscopy with feedback to participants of Dermatologist report, email/SMS reminders to perform total skin self-examination every 2 months; (ii) An educational booklet. (iii) Usual scheduled follow-up; (iv) Unscheduled visits as needed <p>Control group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) an educational booklet (ii) Usual scheduled follow-up ; (iii) Unscheduled visits as needed
Study Population	Adult patients who are undergoing routine melanoma skin cancer surveillance.
Study Endpoints (Primary and Secondary):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary outcome: Proportion of patients who are contacted and invited to participate, who are finally randomised in the trial. 2. Secondary outcomes: Adherence with recommended skin self-examination practice (total body self-examination conducted two- monthly), thoroughness, confidence, knowledge attitudes and beliefs about skin self-examination, fear of new or recurrent melanoma, general anxiety, stress and depression, number of lesions surgically excised, number of follow up visits attended (both scheduled and unscheduled), inter-dermatologist reliability of teledermoscopy, resource use and costs (both financial and carbon emission costs), and results from the qualitative sub-study.

216 **4. Project Team Roles and Responsibilities**

217 **Study Chair:**

218 Dr Katy Bell, Senior Lecturer in Clinical Epidemiology, Public Health, School of Public Health, The
219 University of Sydney.

220

221 **Protocol Development Group:**

222 Professor Monica Janda (academic health psychologist)
223 Associate Professor Anne Cust (cancer epidemiologist)
224 Associate Professor Robin Turner (statistician)
225 Professor Les Irwig (clinical epidemiologist)
226 Associate Professor Pascale Guitera (academic dermatologist)
227 Associate Professor Robyn Saw (melanoma surgeon)
228 Associate Professor Victoria Mar (academic dermatologist)
229 Professor Peter Soyer (academic dermatologist)
230 Dr Mbathio Dieng (epidemiologist & health economist)
231 Dr Jolyn Hersch (academic health psychologist)
232 Associate Professor Rachael Morton (melanoma health economist)
233 Mr Donald Low (consumer investigator)
234 Ms Cynthia Low (consumer investigator)
235 Ms Amelia Smit (public health researcher)
236 Ms Mai Nguyen (health economist)

237

238 **5. Introduction and rationale**

239 **5.1. Background**

240 The increasing incidence of melanoma in Australia (~500% increase from 3,526 new melanomas in
241 1982 to 17,570 by 2020)¹ is largely driven by increased early detection of localised melanoma
242 before it has spread from the skin². After treatment, these patients are at risk of developing a
243 recurrent or new primary melanoma and/or NMSCs and are recommended to undergo lifelong
244 follow-up at intervals based on stage that range between 3 to 12 months³. However, they have a
245 very good prognosis in terms of life expectancy: the same as the general population for melanoma
246 in situ (stage 0), and 96% 20 year survival for thin melanomas (<1 mm) (together these are >80%
247 of all localised melanomas⁴). The potential benefits of clinician surveillance for recurrent or new
248 primary melanoma and NMSC in ensuring timely treatment, needs to be balanced against costs
249 and possible physical and psycho-social harms of frequent scheduled follow-up clinic visits and
250 investigations^{5,6}. The costs of follow-up are substantial and have been estimated at AU\$44M over
251 5 years for American Joint Committee of Cancer (AJCC) stage I/II⁷. There are also opportunity
252 costs in terms of clinician time, with waiting lists for new patients in public dermatology clinics
253 potentially getting longer. Fewer scheduled follow-up visits may have little impact on the detection
254 of recurrence and new primaries⁸ and can result in substantial cost savings⁹. Clinicians are more
255 likely to choose this option if they are confident in the patient's ability to do their own surveillance
256 through skin self-examination (SSE)¹⁰.

257 Currently there is no evidence that frequent scheduled follow-up has any effect on patient
258 survival¹¹. In contrast, there is evidence that self-detection of recurrence is associated with higher
259 survival compared to detection by a clinician, highlighting the importance of patient vigilance. Yet
260 despite SSE being universally recommended by clinical guidelines, education and practice remains
261 suboptimal, with less than half of respondents in a study of melanoma patients in NSW [paper
262 currently under review], and only 14% in an American study¹², indicating that they examined all
263 parts of the body. In fact current evidence suggests that few people carry out SSE thoroughly, with
264 many failing to view hard-to-see areas, seeking assistance by a partner, or documenting lesions
265 that they need to check again to notice changes¹³.

266

267 5.2. Justification/ Significance

268 This pilot study is the first to evaluate the feasibility of patient-led surveillance through: Web-based
269 version of the 'ASICA skin checker' App (instructional videos, guided self-examination and
270 electronic reporting), Smartphone App using teledermatology of patient detected lesions (detailed
271 images transmitted electronically for dermatology review), email + SMS reminders + educational
272 booklet + scheduled and unscheduled clinic visits. It will support planning for a large trial to
273 compare the effects of patient-led surveillance and clinician-led surveillance on health outcomes,
274 psychological outcomes and resource use. The larger study will aim to demonstrate that patient-
275 led surveillance results in health outcomes that are at least as good as clinician-led surveillance,
276 with better psychological outcomes and less health resource use. Our work will allow for evidence-
277 based follow-up after treatment of localised melanoma, to maximise patient wellbeing and the early
278 detection of new or recurrent melanoma, while minimising costs to the health system.
279

280 5.3. Lay summary

281 **Background and Aim:** Most melanomas are detected by patients or family members between
282 scheduled visits; Even more might be detected if patients are trained in how to self-examine their
283 skin and have access to timely dermatology review. Frequent follow-up of localised melanoma is
284 time and resource intensive and has not shown improved outcomes. This pilot study, and the larger
285 one that will follow, aim to provide evidence on the best model of follow-up care after treatment for
286 localised melanoma.

287 **Research Design:** This proposal is for a pilot randomized controlled trial among patients who have
288 had surgery for localised melanoma and are followed up at recruiting skin cancer specialist clinics
289 or general practice clinics. We will compare the effects of offering patient-led surveillance (Web-
290 based version of the ASCIA skin checker + dermatoscope + Teledermatology + email and text
291 reminders to support self-examination + an educational booklet + scheduled and unscheduled clinic
292 visits) to clinician-led surveillance (an educational booklet + scheduled and unscheduled clinic
293 visits). We will document how well participants are able to perform self-examination, their levels of
294 melanoma-related anxiety, the number of skin lesions biopsied or removed, and the costs of follow-
295 up to the participant, to the healthcare system, and to the planet (in the form of carbon emission
296 costs). We will recruit 100 people who have been treated for a first primary localised melanoma,
297 own a smartphone, and are being followed up at a recruiting skin cancer specialist clinic or general
298 practice clinic. Potential participants will be screened in clinic by the treating clinician. Potential
299 participants will be given the study invitation package either in clinic or by mail out. Patients who
300 are found to be eligible and who consent to participate will be randomised to patient-led
301 surveillance or clinician-led surveillance. Participants will be sent questionnaires at six months to
302 measure outcomes using paper or online surveys. We will also collect data through the web-based
303 version of the ASICA skin checker (in the intervention group), patient diaries (to measure out of
304 pocket costs), and from the clinic databases (including follow-up visits, surgical procedures and
305 pathology reports of any skin lesions removed).

306 6. Study design

307 6.1. Research question(s)/ aim(s):

308 The **primary aim** of the study is to investigate whether patient-led surveillance (Web-based version
309 of the ASICA skin checker + smartphone App and dermatoscope attachment + Teledermatology +
310 email/SMS reminders) is feasible.

311 The **secondary aims** are to investigate whether patient-led surveillance:

- 312 1. increases patients' adherence with recommended SSE practice (total body self-examination
313 conducted two- monthly)
- 314 2. improves confidence in, knowledge of, attitudes and beliefs about, skin self-examination,
- 315 3. decreases level of fear of new or recurrent melanoma, general anxiety, stress and
316 depression,

- 317 4. decreases the number of lesions surgically excised, the number of follow up visits attended
318 (both scheduled and unscheduled), resource use and costs and carbon emissions (costing
319 study)
320 5. Increases acceptability of reducing scheduled clinic visit frequency
321 6. has acceptable inter-rater reliability for the Teledermatology assessment (reliability sub-
322 study)
323 7. is accepted by clinicians and patients views (qualitative sub-study)
324

325 6.2. Study design

326 This study is a 2-armed RCT with 1:1 allocation to intervention vs the control group, with a
327 Teledermatology repeatability sub-study nested within the intervention arm to estimate the inter-
328 rater reliability of Teledermatology.
329

330 In addition, we will conduct a costing study to estimate the total costs to the health system, to
331 patients, and to the planet (carbon emissions) for the intervention and control groups. All costs
332 associated with SSE, skin surveillance and management of newly identified lesions, out-of-pocket
333 costs and opportunity costs will be included. We will also measure and value all resources used
334 (micro-costing approach) to estimate the carbon emissions associated with melanoma surveillance
335 for the intervention and control groups.

336 We will conduct a qualitative sub-study to understand patients' and clinicians' acceptability and
337 satisfaction with the intervention and explore components which may need to be changed. The
338 qualitative evaluation will be in the form of phone or face to face interviews at the end of the 6
339 month follow-up.
340

341 7. Study population

342 We will recruit adult participants who have been treated for a first primary melanoma, stage 0/I/II,
343 and who are undergoing regular melanoma follow-up at recruiting melanoma and skin cancer
344 clinics in NSW.
345

346 This pilot study aims to recruit 100 patients from the Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA) and Royal
347 Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH) (specialist treatment centres) and the Newcastle Skin Check clinic
348 (GP run clinic). Recruitment will be done over six months.
349

350 7.1. Inclusion Criteria

- 351 • Patients treated for stage 0/I/II melanoma who are attending regular melanoma follow-up as
352 indicated by scheduled or recommended visit within next 12 months.
353 • Are able to self-examine;
354 • Have a suitable study partner (spouse, partner, family member, friend) to help with self-
355 examination
356 • Own a compatible Smartphone (and have access to Wifi / email / SMS text messaging);
357 • Are able to give informed consent;
358 • Have sufficient English language skills to read the materials and complete the
359 questionnaires;
360 • Aged 18+ years old.

361 7.2. Exclusion Criteria

- 362 • unable to perform self-examination
363 • Patient who currently or previously have had stage III/IV melanoma
364 • Patients with a known past or current diagnosis of cognitive impairment

365 8. Study procedures

366 8.1. Enrolment procedure

367 All patients treated for localised melanoma who are attending regular follow-up, will be identified in
368 clinic by the clinician. The potential participant will be contacted by a research coordinator who will
369 explain the study and give the patient an invitation package either in person or by mail. The initial
370 study invitation package includes: Study Invitation Letter, Participant Information Sheet, Consent
371 Form, Participation Card, Baseline Questionnaire (to measure demographics, knowledge, attitudes
372 and confidence on self-examination and smartphone Apps, and their baseline level of fear of new
373 or recurrent melanoma (using a melanoma specific version of the Fear of Cancer Recurrence
374 Inventory Severity subscale)¹⁴ and reply paid envelope. The letter of invitation will be printed on the
375 clinic letterhead and will be signed by patients' treating clinician, preferably as original signatures
376 but alternatively using electronic signatures with their permission. Participants will be able to opt
377 into the study by returning the signed consent form and participation card to the researchers by
378 reply paid mail or to decline study participation by returning the participation card, or by phone or
379 email. Potential participants will be asked to indicate whether they meet each of the inclusion
380 criteria (e.g. own a compatible Smartphone etc.) and to specify on their participation card how they
381 would like to receive the study dermatoscope and questionnaires reminders (on Text SMS or
382 email). Participants who do not return their consent form or participation card within two weeks will
383 be contacted via telephone by the research staff. If the participant does not return their consent
384 form after this telephone call, no further contact will be made. Participants that do not respond will
385 be recorded as screen fails. The clinic staff will be informed which patients have agreed to
386 participate in the study.

387
388 Consenting participants will then be sent a baseline package in the mail.

389 8.2. Stratification and Randomisation

390 Patients will be stratified by the following factors:

- 391 • AJCC Melanoma Stage (0, IA, IB, IIA, IIB/IIC)
- 392 • Sex/gender (male/female)
- 393 • Age group (18–40, 40–60, 60+)
- 394 • Clinic type (GP clinic/specialist clinic)

395
396

397 Patients will be randomised 1:1 taking into account the above listed stratification factors using a
398 randomisation to one of two study arms:

399 Randomisation will be performed using the offsite randomisation service provided by the NHMRC
400 Clinical Trials Centre, The University of Sydney, thus ensuring allocation concealment. The
401 research coordinator will call the NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre (using their telephone
402 randomisation service) to randomise the patient once a consent form and the baseline
403 questionnaire has been received. Consenting patients who meet all inclusion/exclusion criteria will
404 be randomised in a ratio of 1:1 to the intervention or usual care.

405
406

Full instructions on how to randomise patients are described in the Operations Manual.

407 8.3. Interventions/ Groups

408 Participants allocated to the intervention will receive:

- 409 • An educational booklet 'Your guide to early melanoma',
- 410 • Web-based ASICA skin checker log-in. The web-based ASICA skin checker combines
411 instructional videos, guided total skin self-examination and electronic reporting,¹⁵
- 412 • A dermatoscope to attach to their phone similar to that reported in *Manahan et al.*¹⁶.
- 413 • Detailed written instructions on how to use the smartphone App and dermatoscope.

- 414 • Video outlining how to use the dermatoscope and associated App/online submission
 415 platform.
 416 • Email or SMS text reminders every 2 months to perform SSE.
 417 • Teledermoscopy: participants are required to take dermoscopic images of at least 3 lesions
 418 and up to 9 lesions on each SSE, including all lesions that concern them, and submit these
 419 through the smartphone App. They are also required to enter a text description of the results
 420 of SSE for each part of the body and submit this through the web-based ASICA skin
 421 checker. Both dermoscopic images and text reports will be sent securely to one of the study
 422 dermatologists, who will undertake teledermatology review within 3 days and feedback the
 423 results to the participant.
 424 • Unscheduled visits as needed in addition to those prompted through Teledermatology.
 425 • Scheduled visits as per treating clinician.
 426

427 Those allocated to the control arm will receive:

- 428 • An educational booklet 'Your guide to early melanoma';
 429 • Unscheduled visits as needed
 430 • Scheduled visits as per treating clinician
 431

432 All participants will receive two study questionnaires; one at baseline and one at 6 months.
 433

434 **8.4. Blinding**

435 Blinding of participants, site staff and treating clinicians will not be possible in this trial. Where
 436 possible, outcome assessment will be done masked to study group allocation.
 437

438 **8.5. Duration of treatment/ Study**

439 Unless the study is closed prematurely, it will proceed to the pre-defined accrual target. Following
 440 announcement of closure to recruitment by the research team, no further enrolment will be
 441 possible. It is anticipated, based on estimates from individual sites that the accrual target will be
 442 reached over a period of 6 months. Each participant will be followed up for 6 months. The timeline
 443 below provides an outline of anticipated study milestones:
 444
 445

Timeline	2017	2018	2019	2020
Apply for ethics approval and preparation of study materials	■	■		447 448 449
Recruitment & random allocation		■	■	
6 month follow-up data collection and entry			■	
Analysis of 6 months follow up data finalised and paper drafted				■
Qualitative phone interview study				■
Costing study				■
Data cleaning, statistical and cost analyses				■
Paper & Dissemination				■

463

8.6. Asses

464 **ment schedule and follow up**

465 *Follow-up:* All participants will be complete a questionnaire at baseline (T0: prior to randomisation)
466 and 6 months (T1) follow-up which they can complete in hard copy or online. Data will be extracted
467 from clinic databases for 6 months from randomisation, including surgical procedures and
468 histopathology.

469 **8.6.1. Follow-up questionnaire (T1): 6 months**

470 Participants will be mailed the first follow-up questionnaire (or provided with a link to the online
471 survey via email) 6 months after randomisation. If participants do not return their completed
472 questionnaire within 1 week of postage or email, the researchers will contact the participant by
473 SMS text and/or email (according to the participant's preferred method of contact) as a reminder
474 about the study. The researchers will remind the participant 5 times. If there are delays with the
475 return of the questionnaire, and the participant appears to have problems completing the
476 questionnaire on paper or online, the research coordinator will offer to administer the questionnaire
477 over the telephone.
478

479 **8.6.2. End of study.**

480 Measurement of outcomes will be at 6 months (T1questionnaire) for evaluation of intervention
481 effects. If a patient has not completed the schedule of follow up visits, further follow up of outcomes
482 will continue up to a maximum of 12 months. If a patient withdraws consent to participate, a Study
483 Discontinuation Form will be completed (see below).
484

485 Similarly, if a patient dies, a Study Discontinuation Form will be completed and a copy of the death
486 certificate or discharge summary provided. Reason for death, melanoma/skin cancer related or not,
487 will be considered in the final analysis.
488

489 **8.6.3. Withdrawal and Lost to Follow up**

490 Participation in this study is voluntary; patients are able to withdraw at any time.
491

492 If a patient decides to stop their follow-up visits but is willing to keep in contact via telephone, their
493 health status will be periodically ascertained by way of phone contact with their general practitioner
494 or by direct phone contact with the patient.
495

496 For those patients who want to have no further contact, all correspondence regarding the trial will
497 be discontinued. A Study Discontinuation Form is to be completed at the last study visit the patient
498 attends and this is to be submitted to the Trial Coordinating Centre.
499

500 The National Death Index at the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and other local
501 databases, including clinic databases, may be used to collect outcome information on patients who
502 have been lost to follow-up.

503 **9. Data Collection**

504 Trial data will be recorded in full on the CRFs (hardcopy to each site) or eCRFs (eDatabase).
505

506 The site is required to complete all appropriate data entry fields as specified on the forms. The
507 investigator will be asked to confirm the accuracy of completed CRFs by signing forms as indicated.
508 Source documents pertaining to the trial must be maintained by investigational sites. Source
509 documents may include a subject's medical records, hospital charts, operation reports, the
510 investigator's subject study files, as well as the results of diagnostic tests such as laboratory and
511 pathology results.
512

513 The Trial Management Centre (TMC) may request copies of some source documents in support of
514 the CRF as a quality assurance exercise. All study-related documentation is required to be
515 maintained by the site for 15 years following completion of the study.

516 10. Intervention

517 10.1. Intervention and comparison arms

518 The intervention comprises:

- 519 • **The web-based ASICA (Achieving Self-directed Integrated Cancer Aftercare) Skin-**
520 **Checker** is used to record regular Skin Self-Examination.¹⁵ The patient will be prompted to
521 perform a skin exam every two months. When the patient discovers a skin change or lesion,
522 the patient will report the changes on the web-based ASICA survey. The skin report
523 contains a description of the change or lesion and where it is located. Participants are
524 required to provide text reports on each part of the body before they can proceed with
525 submitting the report through the site (if there are no concerning changes/lesions then this is
526 reported for each part of the body).
- 527 • **Dermatoscope and Teledermatology:** Smartphone App and dermatoscope that can be
528 attached to a smartphone for patients to use. The device allows magnified images of skin
529 lesions to be taken under polarized light for electronic transmission to a specialist. This store
530 and forward process is called “mobile teledermatology”. Three dermatologists will be
531 rostered on to review the reports and images of patient detected lesions, and feedback
532 recommendations to the patient as to the action that needs to be taken. They will report
533 results within 3 working days of receiving the electronic text report and images from the
534 patient. If the report is not reviewed in this timeframe the site study coordinator will notify the
535 patient of a delay in reporting. They will provide one of the following recommendations:
 - 536 ○ Follow Up Photo - There is no immediate concern today, but this case should
537 continue to be monitored. Please take another picture and resubmit for review.
 - 538 ○ Retake Photo - Unfortunately, the image quality is not sufficient for
539 teledermatology review. Please retake the photo.
 - 540 ○ Clinical Exam - We recommend that you book an appointment with your doctor
541 to examine this case. Please call your melanoma clinic to make an appointment
542 at your earliest convenience.
 - 543 ○ No Concern Today - This case does not seem to be suspicious at this time. Self-
544 monitor and review with your doctor at your next scheduled visit.
 - 545 ○ Biopsy/Excision - We recommend that you book an appointment with your doctor
546 to examine this case as biopsy or excision may be needed. Please call your
547 melanoma clinic to make an appointment at your earliest convenience.
 - 548 ○ Other
- 549 • Educational booklet ‘Your guide to early melanoma’: The freely available booklet developed
550 by the Melanoma Institute Australia for patient support and comprises a treatment-
551 management organiser and detailed information source in one booklet. Contents include: -
552 Diagnosis summary - Melanoma glossary - Treatment plan - Pain diary - Medication chart -
553 Body maps for self-examination - Frequently asked questions - Supportive services -
554 Information on treatments and surgical procedures
- 555 • Written and video instructions on how to use the dermatoscope + Smartphone App
- 556 • Email and/or SMS text reminders every 2 months to perform self-examination
- 557 • Unscheduled visits as needed in addition to those prompted through Teledermatology
- 558 • Scheduled visits as needed
- 559 • Monthly diaries capturing clinic visits and travel costs

560

561 The control arm comprises

- 562 • An educational booklet ‘Your guide to early melanoma’;
- 563 • Unscheduled visits as needed

- 564 • Scheduled visits as needed
565 • Monthly diaries capturing clinic visits and travel costs
566

567 **10.2. Intervention/ treatment modification**

568 Participation in this study does not stop participants in either the intervention or control groups from
569 seeking professional medical care. Access to formal health services will, however, be recorded as
570 part of the study.

571 **10.3. Distribution, packaging and labelling**

572 The initial Invitation letter will be sent on clinician letterhead to the participant at the address on file
573 at the clinic database. Following consent and receipt of the baseline study questionnaire, the study
574 packages will be distributed by the research coordinator, according to their random intervention or
575 control group allocation, to participants through the mail or during their routine clinic visit (as
576 directed by participant preference).

577 **10.4. Accountability for intervention**

578 It is the responsibility of the research coordinator to make sure that all participants receive their
579 packages according to their randomised group allocation.

580 **11. Safety Reporting**

581 **11.1. Adverse Events**

582 An Adverse Event (AE) can be any unfavourable and unintended sign, symptom, or disease
583 temporally associated with the use of an intervention, whether or not related to the intervention.

584
585 In cases of surgical or diagnostic procedures, the condition/illness leading to such a procedure is
586 considered as the AE rather than the procedure itself.

587

588 Medical device adverse event / incident:

- 589 • An event associated (caused or partially attributable) with the use (or misuse) of a
590 medical device.
591 • An event that resulted in or could have resulted in (had effective intervention not taken
592 place) serious injury, illness or death to patient, healthcare worker or other person.
593 • Faults that may affect the quality of device, timeliness of assessment and cost-
594 effectiveness such as, problems with getting the device to operate, repeated repairs,
595 device design and difficulty of use.
596

597 All AEs with the smartphone App and dermatoscope will be recorded and reviewed by the trial
598 management committee.
599

600 **11.2. Serious Adverse Events**

601 **SAE Definitions**

602 A serious adverse event (SAE) is any untoward medical occurrence which:

- 603 • is fatal;
604 • is life-threatening;
605 • requires unanticipated in-patient hospitalisation or prolongation of hospitalisation;
606 • results in persistent or significant disability or incapacity;
607 • is a congenital anomaly/birth defect;
608 • is a grade 4 (NCI CTCAE v4.0) toxicity;

609 **and**

- 610 • could be related to the device and/or software
 611 The term “life threatening” in the definition of SAE refers to an event in which the participant was at
 612 risk of death at the time of the event; it does not refer to an event which, hypothetically, might have
 613 caused death if it were more severe.

614

615 **SAE Reporting**

616 All relevant and subsequent information relating to each reported SAE must be submitted on the
 617 CRF, along with any available source documentation, to the Trial Coordinating Centre. This must
 618 be completed within 24 hours of the site becoming aware of the event and all SAE CRFs require
 619 the signature of the Principal Investigator.

620

621 **SAE Reporting Timelines**

Type	Timeframe
Initial SAE Report	The site must submit the original SAE Form to the Trial Coordinating Centre within 24 hours of becoming aware of a trial participant experiencing an SAE. Please provide copies of relevant source documents if available. Should the site have any questions please immediately contact the Trial Coordinating Centre for assistance.
Updated Report	The site should provide any updates to the Trial Coordinating Centre as soon as possible. Please use the original SAE Form, and use additional Forms if more space is required. Please provide copies of all relevant source documents if available.
Completed Report	Once the event has resolved or if the participant has died, using the original SAE Form(s), the site should provide the complete report to the Trial Coordinating Centre as soon as possible. This must include relevant source documents.

622

623 All SAEs will be reviewed by the Study Chair and also summarised for review by the Data Safety
 624 Management Committee.

625

626 SAEs will be reported as per the local Ethics Committee (EC)/Research Governance Officer (RGO), in
 627 accordance with international and local laws and regulations.

628

629 Should any trial site have any questions they will immediately contact the Trial Coordinating Centre for
 630 assistance.

631 **12. Outcomes/ Measures**632 **12.1. Primary outcome**

633 **(M1)** The primary outcome is the **proportion of patients who are invited to participate who are**
 634 **finally randomised into the trial.**

635 **12.2. Secondary outcomes**636 **(M2) Skin –Self Examination (SSE) including:**

637 M2.1. *Adherence with recommended SSE practice* (total body self-examination conducted two-
 638 monthly); Participants will be asked how often they perform a complete examination of their skin.
 639 M2.2. *Thoroughness, confidence, beliefs, attitude, and knowledge of SSE* will be assessed by
 640 items adapted from Janda et al.

641 **(M3) Level of fear of new or recurrent melanoma (FCR) severity:** FCR will be assessed using a
 642 modified (i.e. melanoma-specific) version of the 9 item Fear of Cancer Recurrence Inventory (FCRI)
 643 severity subscale, the most comprehensive multi-dimensional scale of FCR available.⁷ A higher
 644 score is indicative of greater FCR.

645 **(M4) General anxiety, stress and depression:** Anxiety, stress and depression will be measured
646 using the short version of the Depression Anxiety and Stress Scales (DASS-21).¹⁷ The DASS-21 is
647 a set of three 7-item self-report scales designed to measure the emotional states of depression,
648 anxiety and stress. The depression scale measures dysphoria, hopelessness, devaluation of life,
649 self-deprecation, lack of interest/involvement, anhedonia and inertia. The anxiety scale measures
650 autonomic arousal, skeletal muscle effects, situational anxiety, and subjective experience of
651 anxious affect. The stress scale assesses difficulty relaxing, nervous arousal, and feeling irritable
652 and impatient.

653 **(M5) Acceptability of reducing scheduled clinic visit frequency:** will be measured through
654 item(s) designed specifically for this questionnaire.

655 **(M5) Number of lesions surgically evaluated;**

656 **(M6) Number of clinic visits attended** (both scheduled and unscheduled)

657 **(M7) Inter-rater reliability for the Teledermatology assessment:** We will carry out a repeatability
658 study after trial close-out where the three study dermatologists independently report on cases they
659 did not provide teledermatology assessment for during the trial. We will compare results across the
660 three dermatologists to assess agreement.

661 **(M8) Resource use:** Patient out of pocket and health system costs associated with each arm of the
662 trial will be estimated using a resource use diary. The diary will be used to document and measure
663 health behaviours and service use - such as hospitalisation, other allied health consultations, use of
664 alternative therapies and self-monitoring behaviours. The diary will also document days out-of-role
665 (including paid and unpaid work), travel costs and carer costs. The diary will be based on existing
666 resource use questionnaires resource use recorded in databases.

667 **(M9) Qualitative results:** We will carry out face-to-face or telephone interviews with a sub-set of
668 intervention group participants at 6 months after randomisation to explore in depth patients'
669 experiences with digitally supported self-examination. We will also interview clinicians to explore
670 their experience of the benefits and limitations of the intervention.

671 **12.3. Potential confounders and biases**

672 **(M10) Demographic and other risk factors including:**

673 Age, sex, ethnicity, Indigenous status, language spoken, marital status, children, occupation,
674 income, highest education level, postcode/SEIFA, brand of smartphone owned (if applicable),
675 baseline use of digital technology/ internet, and personal history of depression or anxiety. We will
676 collect these data using standardised items from the Australian Census questionnaire and other
677 instruments, where appropriate.

678 Clinical characteristics of the index melanoma including AJCC sub-stage and site, retrieved from
679 administrative datasets at the clinics.

680 **13. Statistical methods**

681 **13.1. Sample size and justification**

682 A sample size of 100 participants, with 1:1 allocation to intervention vs control groups, will ensure
683 that the 95% confidence interval for the proportion of potential participants who are recruited has a
684 margin of error of <10% (assuming that 30% of contacted, eligible participants are recruited).

685
686 A sample size of 30 participants in the qualitative sub-study is a well-accepted sample size in
687 qualitative studies using in-depth interviews.¹⁸
688

689 **13.2. Feasibility**

690 Administrative data from our main clinic (MIA) indicates that approximately 800-900 patients are
691 treated for localised melanoma at MIA each year and approximately 50% then attend regular
692 follow-up at MIA.¹⁹ Recruiting 100 patients over 6 months from all patients treated for localised
693 melanoma who are attending follow-up at MIA and the clinic in Newcastle, is highly feasible.

694

695 13.3. Early stopping

696 There are no safety endpoints or criteria for early study termination.

697

698 13.4. Analyses plan**699 13.4.1. Statistical analysis for primary endpoint**

700 The proportion of patients who are randomised into the trial will be estimated using the number of
701 contacted patients as the denominator. The Wilson (score) method will be used to estimate the
702 confidence interval for this proportion to assess the best and worst case scenarios supported by the
703 pilot study data. We will investigate and describe any groups that had low participation rates in our
704 pilot study.

705

706

707 13.4.2. Statistical analysis for secondary endpoints

708 We will use a chi-squared test to investigate the difference in proportion undertaking regular skin
709 self-examination between the intervention arm and the usual care arm. A t-test will be used to
710 compare fear of new or recurrent melanoma severity at 6 months between the intervention and
711 usual care group. We will report any estimated differences (either proportions or means) with
712 appropriate confidence intervals as the power for these comparisons will be limited.

713

714 13.5. Secondary analyses**715 *Teledermatology Repeatability Study***

716 Sub-study to assess Dermatologist diagnostic agreement of electronic text reports and images
717 collected during the trial.

718 We will assess inter-rater agreement across three dermatologists, reporting on prospectively
719 collected Teledermatology materials. After close-out of the trial, three dermatologists (CIs Guitera,
720 Soyer and Mar) will independently review all electronic reports and images of patient detected
721 lesions that they did not report on during the trial. All three dermatologists will report their results
722 blinded to those of the other two dermatologists and to any other clinical information apart from that
723 received during the Teledermatology (age and sex of patient and the text report describing the
724 lesion where this was provided).

725 Agreement across the following broad clinical diagnostic categories will be calculated:

- 726 • No concern today [i.e. benign]
- 727 • Follow up photo [i.e. low probability of melanoma/NMSC]
- 728 • Clinical Exam [i.e. intermediate probability of melanoma/NMSC]
- 729 • Biopsy/excision [i.e. high probability of melanoma/NMSC]
- 730 • Only one category per patient episode allowed, where teledermatologist makes more than
731 one diagnosis, most severe diagnostic category used.

732 We will construct cross-classification tables to separately compare inter-rater reliability for text
733 report + macroscopic image and for text report + dermoscopic image. We will calculate percentage
734 agreement and kappa statistics across diagnostic categories and 95% confidence intervals for
735 these.

736

737 *Costing study*

738 We will identify, measure and value all resources used (micro-costing approach) to estimate the
739 total costs to patients, to the health system, and to the planet (carbon emissions) for the
740 intervention and control groups. All costs associated with SSE, skin surveillance and management

741 of newly identified lesions, out of-pocket costs, opportunity costs and carbon costs will be
742 included.²⁰

743 Patient diaries

744 Patient out-of-pocket and health system costs associated with each arm of the trial will be
745 estimated using a monthly resource use diary.^{21,22} The diary will be used to document and measure
746 health behaviours and service use - such as hospitalisation, other allied health consultations, use of
747 alternative therapies and self-monitoring behaviours. The diary will also record any melanoma
748 follow up consultations and procedures conducted by other providers (e.g. GPs). We will ask
749 patients to report the number of trips made to their melanoma follow-up clinic and the mode of
750 transport used. We will also ask patients to report any visits to other physicians in the community
751 for a skin lesion excision or other skin cancer related procedures. The time each patient spent to
752 perform digital SSE and to attend follow-up visits will be recorded. The diary will also document
753 carers' days out-of-role (including paid and unpaid work), travel costs and direct carer costs.

754 Review of medical records

755 All recorded melanoma follow up consultations and procedures will be extracted from the patients'
756 medical records in the clinic databases. We will also extract all diagnostic tests during the trial
757 period.

758 The mean (and standard deviation) volume of resource use by category and mean cost per
759 participant will be tabulated. The difference in resource use and costs between the intervention and
760 control groups will be presented with 95% CIs, and P- values for differences will be calculated by
761 two sample t-tests.

762 Carbon Costs

763 We will then apply a carbon value to each of the types of resource use identified above. This will
764 include direct estimation (e.g. travel) and indirect (e.g. life cycle costs of a tablet/smartphone). We
765 will do this using data from the Australian Industrial Ecology Virtual Laboratory (IELab), which offers
766 a unique platform for the compilation of customized economic input-output tables for the Australian
767 economy. As a first step, we will couple these economic tables with data on carbon emissions for
768 every economic sector. Next, we'll use these integrated tables to undertake well-established input-
769 output mathematical calculations to estimate the direct impacts, as well as the indirect impacts
770 throughout the infinite supply chains of a product, for example. As opposed to conventional life
771 cycle assessments that are affected by so-called truncation errors because they only take into
772 account selected supply chains, input-output analysis considers the entire supply chain of a
773 product, technology or an organization in question, and this provides a complete picture of the
774 impacts.

776 **Qualitative sub-study (intervention group only)**

777 We will conduct a qualitative evaluation after the 6 month follow up among a sub-sample of patients
778 and clinicians. We will invite participants who were randomised to the intervention to indicate their
779 interest in taking part in a interview (number of participants=30) to explore in depth their
780 experiences with digitally supported self-examination. We will carry out face-to-face or telephone
781 interviews among these patients at 6 months after randomisation. Interviews will be audio recorded
782 and transcribed verbatim. We will also interview participating clinicians (n=5-10) to explore their
783 experience of the benefits and limitations of the intervention. The study will take a
784 Phenomenological perspective and will use Framework Analysis,²³ a matrix based method of
785 thematic analysis which has been used successfully in numerous screening studies.^{24,25}

786 **13.6. Missing data**

787 Missing data will be imputed in analysis as appropriate.

788 **13.7. Deviations from original statistical plan**

789 The version of this document and the statistical analyses plan will be updated with each change,
790 and each change noted.

791

792 **14. Responsibilities of the Principal Investigator at each site**

793

794 The study will be performed in accordance with the CPMP/ICH Note for Guidance on Good Clinical
795 Practice (CPMP/ICH/135/95) in Australia and applicable guidelines in participating sites overseas.

796

797 The study protocol, including the final version of the participant information and informed consent
798 form to be used, must be approved by the Trial Management Committee and a constituted Human
799 Research Ethics Committee (HREC) prior to enrolment of any patients into the study. The opinion
800 of the HREC should be dated and given in writing. It is the responsibility of the PI at each site to
801 forward a copy of the approval from the HREC clearly identifying the protocol submitted for review
802 and a copy of the approved participant information sheet and consent form to the Trial Coordinating
803 Centre prior to entry of patients.

804

805 The investigator is responsible for ensuring that written informed consent by the patient is obtained
806 before study entry. The investigator is responsible for informing the Trial Coordinating centre and
807 the HREC of any SAEs and/or major amendments to the protocol as per local requirements.

808

809 The investigator is responsible for ensuring that all regulatory requirements are followed.

810

811 The investigator is required to ensure compliance with the protocol in its entirety. It is the
812 responsibility of the investigator to maintain adequate and accurate CRFs.

813

814 **15. Reporting of Results**

815

816 The Study Chair and TMC will be responsible for decisions regarding presentations and
817 publications arising from this study.

818

819 Authorship credit should be based on the Vancouver statement by the International Committee of
820 Medical Journal Editors, i.e. substantial contribution to all three of the following criteria:

- 821 • Conception and design OR analysis and interpretation
- 822 • Drafting article OR critically revising it for intellectual content
- 823 • Final approval of version to be published

824 Or, a fourth criterion is:

- 825 • Contributors who register 5% or more (accrual by institution) of the evaluable cases on a
826 study will be listed as authors. The designated author is the choice of the institution's PI and
827 in most cases would be the investigator with the highest accrual. If an institution places a
828 large number of cases on the study, that institution will get an additional author for every 10%
829 of the participants accrued, not to exceed a total of three authors (i.e. two authors for $\geq 15\%$
830 accrual and three authors for $\geq 25\%$ accrual)

831

832 Acknowledgement of the collaboration between MASC Trials is required in all publications,
833 abstracts and presentations. Publications and abstracts must be presented to the Study Chair and
834 TMC for review and approved prior to submission. Draft publications will be presented to the
835 Publications/Writing Committee of each collaborating group for comment prior to submission.

836

837 Publications must be reviewed by the MASC Trials Executive Committee prior to submission.

838

839 16. Quality Assurance

840 16.1. Data Management and Source Data Verification

841 Trial sites are expected to regularly provide the completed CRFs reflecting the patient visits to the
842 Trial Coordinating Centre. Copies of relevant documents for source verification and quality
843 assurance will be requested including various imaging scans and reports.

844
845 The Trial Coordinating Centre will issue data queries as required to clarify CRF data and will report
846 to the Study Chair regarding CRF submission and query completion rates as well as any issues
847 related to protocol compliance.

848 16.2. Protocol Amendments

849 Changes and amendments to the protocol can only be made by the TMC. Approval of amendments
850 by the HREC is required prior to their implementation. In some instances, an amendment may
851 require a change to the participant information sheet and/or consent form. The Investigator must
852 receive approval/advice of the revised consent form prior to implementation of the change. In
853 addition, changes to the CRFs, if required, will be incorporated in the amendment.

854 16.3. On Site Monitoring

855 Site monitoring is scheduled annually for this study (also subject to funding and recruitment rate
856 and at the discretion of the TMC).

857 16.4. Site Audits

858 This study is subject to audit by each of the groups involved and could occur at any stage of the
859 study. Sites will be informed in advance in writing, outlining and the scope of the audit should one
860 occur.

861 16.5. Confidentiality

862 The study will be conducted in accordance with applicable Privacy Acts and Regulations. All data
863 generated in this study will remain confidential. All information will be stored and backed-up
864 securely at the MASC Trials Coordinating Centre or at the School of Public Health at University of
865 Sydney and will only be available to staff directly involved with the study. Hard-copy documents will
866 be stored in locked cabinets. Electronic files will be stored on secure servers and files containing
867 identifying information are password-protected.

868
869 Personal data identifying trial subjects will be held securely at the sites according to local
870 institutional requirements for the purpose of follow up after the conclusion of the protocol-specified
871 period. Sites may be asked to submit copies of source documents to the Trial Coordinating Centre
872 e.g. pathology reports, however, all reports must be de-identified prior to sending, with only
873 participant trial number and initials detailed.

874

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931 18. Appendices

932

933 Table 1: Schedule of Assessment: Time and Events Table:

934 Follow on next page 29.

MEL-SELF

-PROTOCOL-

USYD

Study Treatment:	Screening:	Time:	Staff Identify participants:	
Site staff identify participants			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 0/I/II melanoma who are attending regular melanoma follow-up • 18 years or older • Sufficient English language skills • Are able to self-examine • No known cognitive impairment • Follow up appointment planned 	
Invitation package:				
Informed consent to study participation	√	Before follow up appointment		
Patient Information Sheet	√			
Participation and Eligibility card	√			
Study Invitation Letter	√			
Prepaid envelope to return Consent	√			
Baseline Questionnaire (hardcopy)	√			
Eligible patient returns consent and participation card.				
Site staff performs patient randomisation.				
		Time from randomisation:	Control Arm	Intervention Arm
Welcome Package sent to participants. This include the following items:		+/- 7 days		
Dermatoscope (By mail or face-to-face)				√
Rubber attachment-(smartphone-specific) (By mail or face-to-face)				√
Instructions for MoleScope App and Dermatoscope				√
Participant diary for next 6 months and 6 prepaid envelopes			√	√
"Your Guide to Early Melanoma Detection" educational booklet			√	√
Baseline letter- Control			√	
Baseline letter - Intervention				√
Text/email reminders for Self-Skin Examination with ASICA survey code.		Every 2 months		√
6 month Follow-up package:		6 months +/- 7 days		
6 month Follow-up Questionnaire (Hardcopy) and prepaid envelopes (for those opting for paper version)			√	√
6 month Letter – Control with REDCap code updated (Online)			√	
6 month Letter- Intervention with REDCap code updated (Online)				√

935