



Teledermatology

We have put together 7 short tips for providing images:

1. Take an establishing (locating) view & close up view:
 - Always take an establishing image to identify which part of the body you are photographing.
 - Then take a close-up image or a series of close-up images.
2. Take more than one image:
 - When taking the key photograph the camera needs to be parallel to the lesion. Consider taking any additional image views for example an oblique angle or a side view for a raised lesion.
3. Use a background:
 - Backgrounds should be plain and unobtrusive providing no distraction from the area of interest. A background is only needed if the subject area does not fully fill the frame.
4. For standard images always use the couch or treatment room examination light, or your mobile phone light. **This is not needed for dermatoscope images:**
 - General office lighting is not usually sufficient to light an image and may result in camera shake.
5. Auto focus on the lesion and zoom in and check the focus:
 - Before taking a picture make sure that the auto focus is fixed on the lesion of interest.
 - If you are struggling to ensure the camera is focussing on the lesion include a measuring scale in the same plane of focus as the lesion.
 - Your images must be sharp as possible if they are going to enable the dermatologist to make a diagnosis.
6. Please add a dermatoscopic photo where possible, particularly for pigmented lesions. Remember that you don't need to interpret the dermatoscopic photo – the hospital dermatology teams will do that!
7. Patient-taken photos are rarely of sufficient quality to enable a diagnosis, so we really appreciate it if the photos can be taken by a health professional in the practices.