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From: Press
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Subject: Treatment of malignant melanoma

REQUEST

Please could you provide me with information regarding the treatment of malignant melanoma and how decisions are made with regards to undertaking baseline scans (brain, pelvis, thoracic) once wide excision surgery has been undertaken. If the SLNB comes back clear does this change the follow up at all?

RESPONSE

Primary melanoma is always treated with surgery.
Decisions on management of melanoma are discussed at the specialist skin MDT, in accordance to the local Merseyside & Cheshire network guidelines.

Base line Ct Scans for melanoma are not usually performed unless:

1. The melanoma is a thick melanoma stage PT4b (Breslow greater than 4mm with ulceration)
2. Positive SLNB

A clear SLNB remains on follow up for 5 years.

This is in accordance with “NICE Melanoma Guidelines 2018” and “Cheshire and Merseyside CQG Skin Cancer Guidelines March 2019”