

## UNIT 3 - CELLS, HISTOLOGY, INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM

### Diseases And Disorders Of The Cells and Integumentary System

- A. Acne** - An inflammatory disease of the sebaceous glands and hair follicles of the skin characterized by comedones, papules, and pustules. It primarily affects teenagers. It strikes boys more often and more severely than girls since androgens stimulate sebaceous gland growth and the production of sebum. The skin bacteria secrete enzymes which produce free fatty acids which causes the inflammation.
- B. Skin Cancer** - A general definition for cancer is the uncontrolled cell growth derived from normal tissues, and able to kill the host by the spread of the cells from the site of origin to distant sites or by local spreading. The American Dermatology Association recommends the ABCD method to assess for skin cancer. A = asymmetry, B= border, C = color, and D = diameter. All moles and skin lesion should be symmetrical or the same on both halves. The border should be smooth – not irregular or jagged. The color should be even and not changing to a different or darker color. The diameter of the mole or growth should be less than 6 millimeters. If you notice any of these changes, please consult your health care practitioner. It is also recommended a person limits their exposure to U-V light both from the sun and tanning beds.
1. Basal Cell Carcinoma - Basal Cell CA is a slow growing, destructive tumor. It tends to occur in people who are over 40, fair-skinned and blonde. It is common on the face, especially the forehead and nose. They have many colors and may be the normal skin color with depressed centers, elevated (like a pimple), with firm borders.
  2. Squamous Cell Carcinoma - This is an invasive tumor with a potential for spreading. It arises from the epidermal layer. It generally occurs in older males with fair skin. It commonly develops on the face, ears, or the back of hands and arms. The nodule grows slowly on a firm base. It eventually opens and invades the underlying tissues.
  3. Malignant Melanoma - This is a tumor that grows from the melanocytes. Melanoma spreads through the lymph and blood. Common sites include the head, neck, legs, and backs. Melanoma should be suspected when any skin lesion changes color, becomes inflamed or sore, ulcerates, or bleeds.
- C. Decubitus Ulcers**  
Also known as a pressure sore or bed sore, it is an ulcer, initially of the skin, due to prolonged pressure against areas of the skin over bony areas for a person who is bed-ridden.