

Dear Editor,

Thank you for allowing us resubmit a revised version of our manuscript. All reviewers' comments have been addressed. We hope that this version is now acceptable. Please find here below answers one by one. We are looking forward hearing from you

Sincerely,

Marios Papadakis

Reply to reviewer 1:

- a) Please include a statement from the ethical commission in the material and methods section.

Dear reviewer,

We have now included a statement from the ethical commission in the material and methods section.

The study was approved by the ethics committee of the hospital and all participants gave written informed consent to take part in the study.

- b) I presumed the authors meant statistical.

Indeed. The text has been accordingly revised.

- c) I presumed the authors meant single center study.

Indeed. The text has been accordingly revised.

- d) Please include strong points and limitations of the study at the end of the discussion.

Dear reviewer, now strong points and limitations of the study have been included at the end of the discussion.

Our study has several strengths and limitations. Strong points of this study include that all participants were assessed by a dermatologist and the questionnaire was not only self-reported but also was completed at the same time together with the patient and the dermatologist who examined the patient giving more accurate data. Furthermore, the design of this study involves consecutive patients who were recruited during a specific timeline.

Limitations of our study include the small sample of patients and the fact that we have performed a single center hospital-based study. Patients and controls were recruited consecutively from a tertiary referral mole clinic being dermatology department patients. These patients might be more motivated towards, skin cancer prevention knowledge and photoprotection measures, which may limit the generalizability of our results.

Reply to reviewer 2

- a) The questionnaire was administered after receiving counselling on photoprotection. This has now been included in the materials and methods.
. The survey was administered to patients after having received counselling on photoprotection from the dermatology outpatient mole clinic.
- b) Kindly mention limitations of this study.

Dear reviewer,

Now limitations of this study have been mentioned.

Limitations of our study include the small sample of patients and the fact that we have performed a single center hospital-based study. Patients and controls were recruited consecutively from a tertiary referral mole clinic being dermatology department patients. These patients might be more motivated towards, skin cancer prevention knowledge and photoprotection measures, which may limit the generalizability of our results.