The COP also serves as a referral center for the management of nonmelanoma skin cancer, including, squamous cell carcinomas in immunocompetent and immunosuppressed patients, undifferentiated cutaneous carcinomas, Merkel cell carcinoma, and other epidermal and appendageal malignancies. A unique aspect of the COP is the experience in management of patients with cutaneous lymphomas, including CD30 lymphoproliferative diseases.

Patients at risk for melanoma, particularly those with multiple moles or atypical nevi, may be highly concerned about developing melanoma. In addition, patients at risk for other skin cancers, including immunosuppressed patients, are also comprehensively evaluated in the program. Chemoprevention is widely utilized for patients in need. Our patients receive management and follow-up by dermatologists with experience in the surveillance of these complex phenotypes. Patients and family members also receive comprehensive skin cancer risk-reduction education. We offer total body and/or regional digital photographs (TBDP) to candidate patients to facilitate a more objective and accurate follow up of atypical pigmented lesions or to patients with an overall complex cutaneous examination.
The Cutaneous Oncology Program (COP) at The University of Arizona/Arizona Cancer Center offers exceptional care to patients with a wide variety of cutaneous malignancies.

The COP uses a unique approach to skin cancer management by providing patients with “one stop” comprehensive, multidisciplinary clinical care by nationally known experts in Dermatology, Medical Oncology, Surgical Oncology/ENT Surgery, Pathology, Radiation Oncology, Behavioral Science, and Public Health. These experts use a team approach to patient assessment, treatment and management, all occurring in a state-of-the-art facility. Team members work closely with referring physicians to create a plan of care and follow up for individual patients. The team works closely with community providers to provide expert advice and/or management as individually needed.

Management of malignant melanoma in all stages remains one of the COP’s areas of greatest expertise. For patients with locally advanced or metastatic disease, the widest variety of conventional and experimental treatments is available. We have extensive experience with targeted immune therapy, intralesional treatment and vaccine therapy in the treatment of melanoma. The multidisciplinary strengths of our program are exploited to maximize treatment options and, most importantly, likelihood of response.