

INTRODUCTION

Malignant melanoma is a relatively common neoplasm that no long ago was considered deadly (Murphy & Mihm ; 1989) . Now, malignant melanoma is becoming an important public health problem (Rigel ; 1992) as the incidence of melanoma is rising at an alarming rate (Russel , et al; 1992) . Today, as a result of increased public awareness of the earliest manifestations of this neoplasm and its recognition in the early stages with the use of the appropriate therapy will result in dramatic improvement in the survival data of patients with malignant melanoma (Mihm ; 1971) .

AIM OF THE WORK

The aim of this work is to clarify , discuss and review the definition , incidence , aetiology , risk factors, pathology , clinical presentation , diagnosis , methods of treatment and prevention of malignant melanoma .