

# **Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants**

## *Position on Minors Tanning*



The Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants is a professional organization that advocates for the interests of dermatology physician assistants and their patients. Dermatology physician assistants across the country are on the front line of the battle against skin cancer. Despite endless efforts in researching treatment of skin cancers, prevention and early detection are still our best defense. The recent decision of the International Agency for Research on Cancer to elevate UV radiation to a class 1 carcinogen equal to cigarette smoke has been applauded by our organization. It is scientifically proven that the use of tanning beds by younger individuals significantly increases their risk of having a melanoma.

It is the position of the Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants that UV emitting devices should only be used under the direction/order of a licensed medical professional. Furthermore we support legislation, laws, or regulations that will restrict the use of UV emitting devices by minors (under 18 years of age) unless specifically prescribed by a licensed medical professional.