

## **Halo Nevus**

The term halo nevus is used to describe a mole (nevus) surrounded by a ring of lighter skin. These types of moles are most common in children and teenagers, but can occur at any time of life in both men and women. Multiple numbers of these moles can occur in people with a skin pigmentation disorder called vitiligo or in patients with a family history of vitiligo. However, the presence of a halo nevus does not mean you have vitiligo.

The halo is an area of skin that has lost its normal color. It is believed that the loss of pigment is due to your own immune system. This can represent a normal immune process and does not mean that anything is wrong with your immune system.

A halo nevus can follow one of three courses:

1. The mole can remain dark with the surrounding light skin (halo).
2. The mole may lose its color and blend with the surrounding halo.
3. The halo may regain the color of your normal skin.

It is impossible to predict how your halo nevus will act, but it is important to know that each type of halo nevus is harmless. There is no increased risk of skin cancer with these spots.

For the most part we will just watch your halo nevus, just like we would watch any mole. If the mole itself develops any atypical features like irregular borders or variation in color, further testing may be indicated.

If you have any questions of concerns, please ask us before you leave the office today.

