

RHODE ISLAND + HEALTHCARE PROFILES

Putting the 'Care' in Skin Care

From education and screenings to diagnosis and treatment, the SkinPros team has one goal: keeping patients' skin healthy and beautiful.

Dermatologist Antonio P. Cruz, M.D., FAAD, FACMS, FASLMS, says his decision to open SkinPros in coastal New England was fueled, in part, by a determination to help the people in his community avoid skin cancer.

"New Englanders take advantage of the beautiful summer weather we experience in this part of the country," he says. "That means lots of time in the sun."

And while many people use sunscreen and cover up outdoors, many do not. "It just takes one blistering sunburn in a lifetime to double one's risk of developing melanoma or other skin cancers later in life. And just one visit to a tanning bed when a person is younger than 30 raises that risk to 75%," says Dr. Cruz, who founded the practice in 2010. "Regular dermatological screenings are important for diagnosing and treating skin cancers as early as possible."

By far the most common forms of skin cancers are basal and squamous cell cancers. Patients are understandably alarmed when they visit SkinPros concerned about a "weird spot" on their skin and learn that long-ago or long-term sun damage has led to a skin cancer diagnosis.

But the good news is that they can

often be treated right in the office with cryosurgery, curettage and electrodesiccation, medicated creams, and the revolutionary Mohs micrographic surgery. Dr. Cruz is a fellowship-trained Mohs surgeon who performs thousands of the in-office procedures every year. Most patients walk out of the office cancer-free after just one session.

LATEST AND GREATEST

The COVID-19 pandemic had an unexpected impact on the field of dermatology, says Dr. Cruz, who has seen an uptick in skin cancers in the past year. "People have been outdoors more than ever, forgetting, for example, that eating lunch on a restaurant patio exposes them to hours of direct sun," he says.

SkinPros' full array of the latest in cosmetic dermatology offerings are more popular than ever, he adds, as patients find themselves dissatisfied by their appearance on Zoom calls. "As we've all discovered, there's only so much a filter can do," admits Dr. Cruz, adding that cosmetic treatments can make a big difference. Dysport®, for example, temporarily improves the look of frown lines without changing the look of the whole face.

In addition to reaching more patients by opening an office in Swansea, SkinPros has welcomed Katayun Adhami, M.D., to the Providence team.

"Dr. Adhami is a fellowship-trained Mohs surgeon who joined our practice's Providence office in the summer of 2021, offering patients even faster access to this leading-edge, life-saving treatment," says Dr. Cruz. "We are thrilled to have her on board."



ANTONIO P. CRUZ, M.D.,
FAAD, FACMS, FASLMS

SKINPROS is a general dermatology practice with offices in Providence, Newport, Cumberland, and Swansea.

Services include:

- Skin cancer screenings
- On-site Mohs micrographic surgery
- Top-tier treatment of eczema and psoriasis
- Laser dermatology for treatment of rosacea, tattoo removal, and skin rejuvenation
- Cosmetic dermatology products and procedures such as Dysport®, Restylane®, and laser resurfacing



KATAYUN ADHAMI, M.D., FAAD



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