

Urgent — two weeks

Dermatology
Stonebridge Clinic
Sent 21 July 2026
By secure transfer

New pigmented lesion, right calf, changing over eight weeks

Sam Ortiz, born 28 July 1964, MRN 0000-2290. **Referred on the urgent pathway on the history of change rather than on the appearance alone**, which is unremarkable to my eye and which I would not otherwise be sending.

Why now

The reason this is urgent rather than routine.

The patient reports the lesion has enlarged and darkened over about eight weeks, and that the edge has become uneven where it was previously round. He is a reliable historian and noticed it himself; he did not come in about it and mentioned it at the end of an appointment for something else.

Two benign lesions were excised from other sites in June 2026 (Northfield Pathology, NP-26-H-0938), so he is familiar with the process and is not anxious about it.

On examination

Recorded today, 21 July.

A 7mm macule on the right calf, mid-brown with a slightly irregular border and one area of darker pigment at the inferior edge. No ulceration, no bleeding, no satellite lesions. Not palpable.

No regional lymphadenopathy. The remainder of the skin was examined and no other lesion of concern was found. **Photographed today with the patient's consent and the image is on the record.**

Diameter 7mm, from 4mm in May by patient report **Border** Irregular in one quadrant

Colour Two tones, darker inferiorly **Symptoms** None — no itch, no bleeding

Dermatoscopy Not performed in primary care **Elsewhere** Full skin check today, nothing else found

What I have told him

So the clinic knows where to begin.

That the referral is urgent because of the change, that most lesions referred this way turn out to be benign, and that he should expect to be contacted within two weeks. He understands he should not wait for a letter if he has heard nothing by 4 August.

He asked whether he should stop his walking group. I said no.

Background

Relevant history only.

Type 2 diabetes, diet-controlled. No immunosuppression, no personal or family history of melanoma, no significant sun exposure history beyond ordinary outdoor work in his thirties. Fitzpatrick type II. No regular medicines other than those on the attached list.

Safety netting

Recorded so the clinic knows it was done.

He has been told to contact the practice, or the clinic directly once he has an appointment, if the lesion bleeds, ulcerates, or changes further before he is seen. He was able to repeat that back and has the numbers written down.

If he has heard nothing by 4 August the practice will chase it, and a diary entry has been made to that effect rather than relying on him to prompt us.

Access

Practical detail, not clinical.

He works shifts and can attend any weekday before 14:00 or any Saturday clinic. He drives, does not need transport, and does not require an interpreter or any adjustment for the appointment.

He has asked that letters go to him directly rather than to the practice, and his address on the record is current as of this month.

Dr Elena Marsh · 21 July 2026

Direct line **0000 000 0000** during surgery hours if anything further would help before he is seen. **Enclosed:** clinical photograph of 21 July, histology report NP-26-H-0938, current medicines list. Specimen layout, not for clinical use.