

Soft Tissue Sarcoma Prevalence Among African Americans

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Purpose of Study

To examine the disparity in the prevalence of soft tissue sarcoma in African Americans.

Background Information

- Soft tissue sarcoma affects all soft tissue such as, blood vessels, fat, facial tissue, nerves
- There are more than 50 types of soft tissue sarcoma
- Benign soft tissue tumors can occur

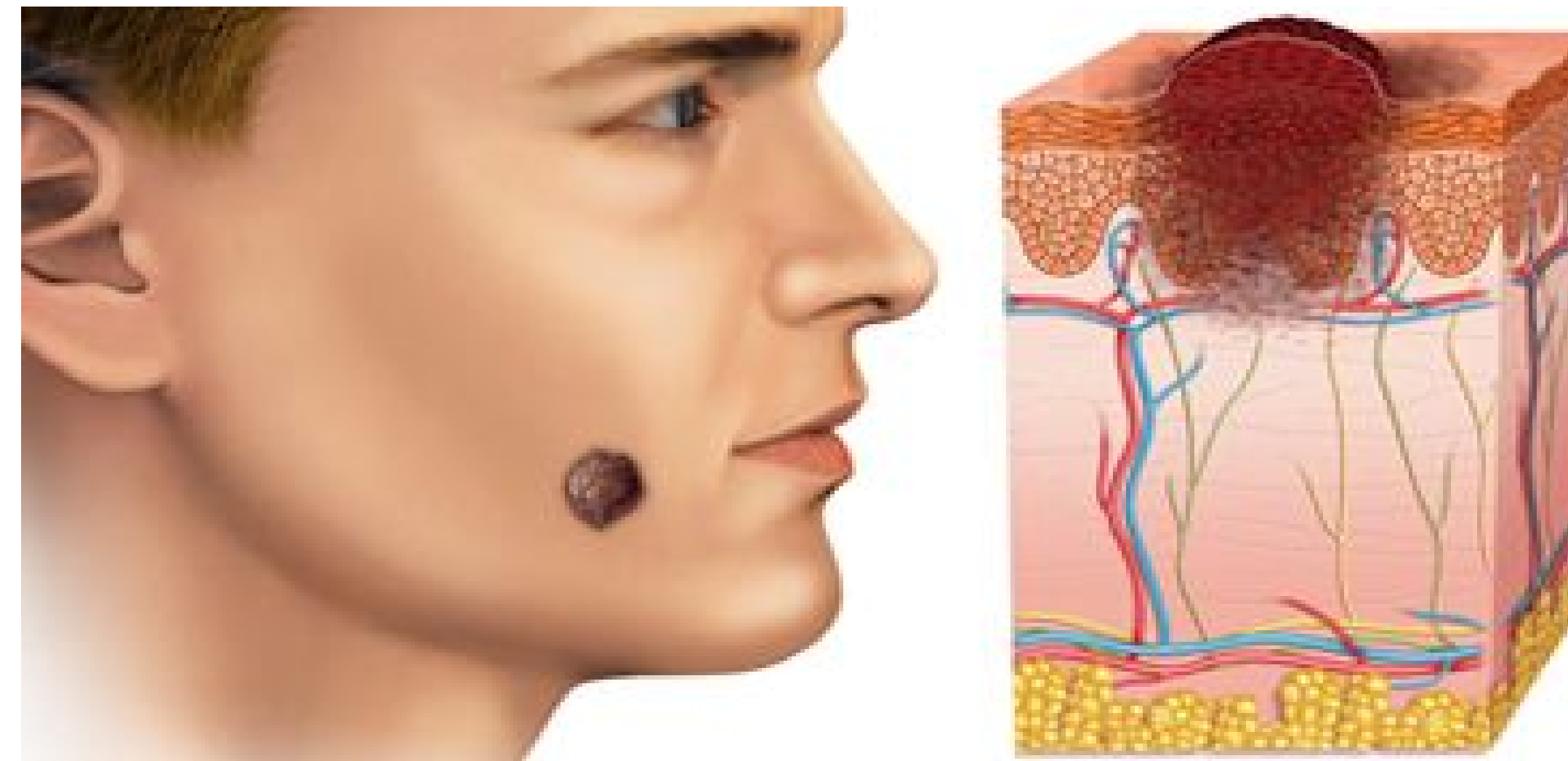


Figure 1. Soft tissue sarcoma

Data

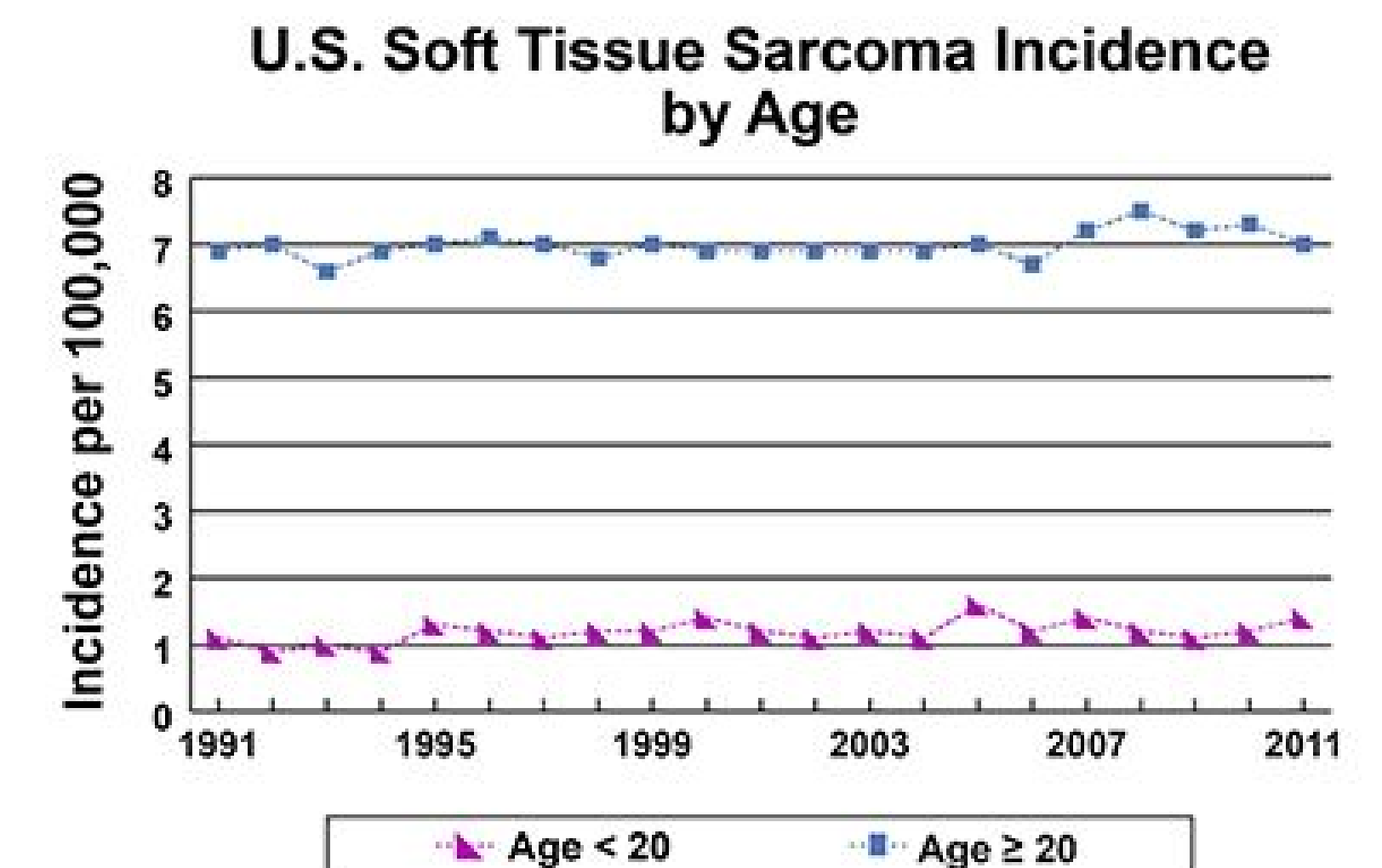


Figure 2. Incidence rates of soft tissue sarcoma

Prevention and Screening

- Keeping away from certain chemicals such as herbicides [weed killer]
- Stay away from strong radiation

Symptoms

- A new lump
- A lump that's growing
- Abdominal pain that's getting worse
- Blood in your stool or vomit
- Black tarry stools

Treatment

- Surgery
- Chemotherapy
- Radiation (used less often)
- Best approach combines two treatments

Factors Influencing Disparity

- Lack of access to quality healthcare
- Unhealthy diet
- Poverty
- Exposure to environmental toxins
- Stress

Addressing the Disparity

- Educate UMB CURE Scholars.
- Educate families.
- Educate community.
- Become healthcare providers.
- Become cancer researchers.

References

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2. National Cancer Institute
3. National Institute of Health