VivaScope® 1500 and 3000 systems for detecting and monitoring skin lesions: a systematic review and economic evaluation

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Plain English summary

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Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK. The main risk factor is exposure to ultraviolet radiation from sunlight or the use of sunbeds. People with suspicious skin lesions may be sent to hospital for expert examination by a dermatologist. At hospital, the lesion is first examined with a hand-held device called a dermoscope. After examination, those people with non-cancer lesions are sent home but lesions that are still clinically suspicious are booked in for surgical removal.

VivaScope® is a non-invasive stationary device designed to be used in addition to dermoscopy to provide a more accurate diagnosis. This prevents the unnecessary removal of harmless lesions and enables the area of skin to be removed surgically to be accurately defined, preventing unnecessarily large scars for skin cancers and reducing the risk of the lesion recurring.

The aim of this project was to look at the clinical benefits of VivaScope and assess whether or not the use of VivaScope in addition to dermoscopy is better value for money than dermoscopy alone.

The results showed that the use of VivaScope in addition to dermoscopy was more likely to correctly diagnose skin cancer (melanoma and basal cell carcinoma) and correctly define the area for surgical removal, and represents good value for money compared with the use of dermoscopy alone.
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This report

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