

Teenagers needed for cancer probe

TEENAGERS can help researchers by taking part in a study aimed at reducing skin cancer rates.

WA Institute for Medical Research Professor Lyle Palmer said the study would look at possible genetic causes of moles and how they might relate to melanoma, including an initial probe of five genes believed to be linked to melanoma.

"We know that having a lot of moles is a strong risk factor for

melanoma, but there's still a lot of mystery surrounding the genetic causes of moles," he said.

"If we can find out what prompts their development, we might be able to move a step closer to uncovering the genetic causes of skin cancer.

"That would ultimately boost the chances of discovering more about how to prevent it and how it can be treated more effectively."