

Protect your sight: What to know about ocular melanoma

BY ADITYA BANSAL

University of Kentucky

When you think of cancer, eye cancer may not be the first thing that comes to mind. However, ocular melanoma — a rare but serious disease — deserves attention. It is the most common primary eye cancer in adults, and early detection can significantly improve outcomes.

What is ocular melanoma?

Ocular melanoma (also called uveal melanoma) develops from melanocytes, the cells that produce pigment in the eye. Although it accounts for only about 5% of all melanoma cases, it is the leading cancer that originates inside the eyeball in adults.

The uvea — the eye's middle layer —

includes the iris (the colored part), the ciliary body (involved in focusing) and the choroid (a layer rich in blood vessels). Most cases begin in the choroid.

How common is it?

In the United States, ocular melanoma is diagnosed in about 5 out of every 1 million people annually, translating to roughly 2,000 new cases each year. Though rare, the disease requires vigilance because of its potential severity.

Warning signs

Early-stage ocular melanoma often causes no symptoms and may only be detected during a routine eye exam. As the tumor grows, you might notice:

- Blurry vision or loss of side vision
- Flashes of light
- Floaters (spots drifting across vision)

- A growing dark spot on the iris
 - A change in pupil shape
- These signs don't always mean cancer, but any new visual change should be checked promptly.

Risk factors

Factors that may increase risk include:

- Age: More common after age 60
- Light eye color: Blue, green or gray eyes carry higher risk
- Family history: Rarely, it can run in families

Diagnosis, treatment and prognosis

If ocular melanoma is suspected, your doctor will refer you to an eye cancer specialist. Diagnostic tests typically include a detailed eye exam and imaging, such as ultrasound.

Treatment options vary by tumor size and spread, and may include:

- Radiation therapy
- Surgical removal
- Laser therapy
- Targeted or immunotherapy (if spread is detected)

The prognosis for small, localized tumors is generally good, with high rates of vision preservation and local tumor control. However, about 50% of patients with ocular melanoma may develop metastasis — most commonly to the liver — which can complicate outcomes. Close follow-up is essential.

Why awareness matters

Though rare, ocular melanoma can be vision- and life-threatening. Regular eye exams, especially for people over 60 or those with light-colored eyes, are key to catching it early.

Diseases are spreading and CDC isn't warning the public like it was months ago

BY MELISSA PATRICK

Kentucky Health News

Since the Trump administration assumed power in January, an NPR analysis has found that "many of the platforms the CDC used to communicate with the public have gone silent."

"Health alerts about disease outbreaks, previously sent to health professionals subscribed to the CDC's Health Alert Network, haven't been dispatched since March," Chiara Eisner reports for NPR.

"Public health functions best when its experts are allowed to communicate the work that they do in real time, and that's not happening," Kevin Griffis, who served as the director of communications at the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention until March, told Eisner. "That could put people's lives at risk."

The silence doesn't mean health emergencies have paused, and the decline in communications could put people at risk, current and former CDC workers told Eisner.

"Cases of measles, salmonella, listeria and hepatitis A and C have spread throughout the country," Eisner writes. "More than 100 million Americans continue to suffer from chronic diseases like diabetes and breast cancer."

Eisner digs into the details of how communications were handled before and after the Trump administration took over, noting that at this time, all posts that CDC workers want to make to their social media accounts must first be reviewed by the De-

partment of Health and Human Services.

Since HHS approval was instituted as a requirement for posting, almost no newsletters have been sent to the tens of thousands of people who subscribe to them, CDC workers said.

Later in the story, Eisner writes that the CDC is not locked out of its X account, but Andrew Nixon, the director of communications at HHS, did not respond to a request for comment regarding whether the CDC was still locked out of its other social media accounts.

When asked for comment about the communication practices at the CDC, Nixon cast doubt on what the workers said, Eisner reports, saying they were "spreading false rumors."

The workers continued to give ex-

amples of the decrease in communication since the Trump administration took over.

"Since HHS approval was instituted as a requirement for posting, almost no newsletters have been sent to the tens of thousands of people who subscribe to them," CDC workers told Eisner.

Further, they said some CDC publications have been delayed or missing information, such as the lack of data on PrEP coverage, referring to the medication taken to prevent HIV infections, in an HIV news release.

Eisner also notes that CDC employees have said less than half of the public health posts they've sent to HHS for approval have been cleared for publication on social media.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Boyle County Schools
Invitation to Bid

The Boyle County School System will be soliciting sealed bids beginning on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, through 10:00 a.m. Monday, July 7, 2025, on surplus items, including but not limited to the following:

Cafeteria tables (30in x 6ft) with pedestal seats, 2 -78 passenger buses, 86 Ford truck, 06 Ford Econoline Van, bumper lift, and other items— can be viewed weekdays June 17, 2025 through July 3, 2025, from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM by contacting Bobby Lefew at 859-236-6634, extension 3272.

Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m. Monday, July 7, 2025, at the central office 101 Citation Drive, Suite C, Danville, Kentucky. Bids will be opened at 1:00 PM on July 7, 2025. The Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Jennifer Newby, Chairperson
 Mark Wade, Secretary

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COMMISSIONER'S SALE
 In order to comply with the Judgments and Orders of the Honorable Whitney Z. Johns, Judge of the Boyle Circuit Court, the Master Commissioner, will sell the Real Properties described in the following Civil Actions on July 1st, 2025 at the hour of 10:00 a.m. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS CAN BE AUCTIONED AT THE BOYLE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE FISCAL COURTROOM, ROOM 106, 321 W. MAIN STREET, DANVILLE. Said properties shall be sold to raise the amounts as set forth in the judgments and orders of the court together with interest and the costs of the action, and upon the (unless otherwise indicated) following terms and conditions.

(A.) At the time of sale successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of 10% of the Purchase price with the balance on credit for 30 days. In

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the event the successful bidder desires or elects to credit the balance, they will be required to post bond and furnish a sufficient surety approved by the Master Commissioner prior to the sale to secure the unpaid balance of the purchase price. Said bond shall be for the unpaid purchase price and bear interest at the rate stated in said Judgment.

(B.) The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes or assessments upon the property for the current tax year which are not yet due and payable, and for all subsequent years. All taxes or assessments upon the property for prior years shall be paid from the sale proceeds, unless otherwise stated.

(C.) The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, **excepting easements and restrictions of record in the Boyle County Court Clerk's Office**, and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America or the Defendants.

**Sold subject to Current year real estate taxes not yet due and owing affecting the real estate for which the purchaser shall take no credit on the purchase price, and further any delinquent State, County and/or City real estate taxes sold pursuant to the provisions of KRS Chapter 134 to any private purchaser during the pendency of this action.

SALE NO. 1
 CONDOR PROPERTIES, LLC PLAINTIFF VS. UNKNOWN HEIRS, ASSIGNS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND BENEFICIARIES, IF ANY, OF PEGGY ARNOLD, UNKNOWN SPOUSES, OF THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, ASSIGNS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND BENEFICIARIES, IF ANY, OF PEGGY ARNOLD, UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS, IF ANY, OF 8254 LEBANON ROAD, HEATH ARNOLD, AND UNKNOWN SPOUSE, IF ANY, OF HEATH ARNOLD, COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, COUNTY OF BOYLE, TAXMERCHANTS, LLC, DEFENDANTS
 (Case No. 24-CI-00237)

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION
 8254/8274 LEBANON ROAD,
 PARKSVILLE, BOYLE
 COUNTY
 PARCEL ID: PA1-000-007

Danville Advocate-Messenger:
 Jun. 17, 2025
COMM SALE

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This office has been appointed to give notice of the filing of a legal proceeding, Boyle County Case 25-CI-00229; Monticello Banking Company v B. J. Price, et al., regarding certain real property at 3376 Alum Springs Rd., Junction City, KY 40440. A lawsuit has been initiated and any information on the UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF B. J. PRICE should be submitted to Hon. Patrick S. McClure who has been appointed as Warning Order Attorney to give notice of the proceedings, by phone at 859-236-8888 or by mail at 426 S. Fourth Street, Danville, KY 40422, else through his website www.danvillekyattorney.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOYLE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

On June 6, 2025, the Boyle County Board of Education approved rescinding the vote, passed at the May 27, 2025, board meeting to adopt the general fund tax rate pending certification of tax assessments for the 2025 fiscal year in order to provide taxpayers with exact revenue numbers.

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