

Treatment options for basal cell carcinoma

Treatment	Type of BCC
Excision	Lesions commonly excised with a 4-5 mm margin (95% clearance rate). Often the most appropriate option for primary nodular BCCs
Mohs micrographic surgery	BCCs on high-risk areas of the face (around eyes, lips and nose). Also the best option for ill defined, morphoeic or recurrent BCCs on the face
Curettage and cautery	Suitable for treating superficial BCCs
Topical therapy (imiquimod or fluorouracil cream)	Suitable for small superficial BCCs — follow-up is advised as lesions may recur
Cryotherapy	Suitable for small superficial BCCs
Photodynamic therapy	Suitable for small superficial BCCs
Radiotherapy	Treatment of choice in patients with facial lesions who decline/cannot tolerate surgery. Less commonly used now
Vismodegib	A novel treatment for advanced or metastatic BCCs