



Tennessee Department of Health Warns Against Use of Tanning Facilities

In addition to the warning provided under T.C.A. § 68-117-106, the Tennessee Department of Health warns that exposure to UV radiation is associated with an increased risk of melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers. Indoor tanning equipment emits UVA and UVB radiation, placing users at significant risk for the development of these cancers.

Melanoma is the second most-common cancer found in women ages 15-29 years. The American Academy of Dermatology reports that the vast majority of skin cancer deaths are from melanoma and, on average, one American dies from melanoma every hour.

Exposure to UV light is the most preventable risk factor for ALL skin cancers.

To minimize risk:

- **Do not use** indoor tanning beds.
- Researchers estimate that indoor tanning may cause upwards of 400,000 cases of skin cancer in the U.S. each year.
- UV light from tanning beds can both cause melanoma and increase the risk of a benign mole progressing to melanoma.
- Avoid sun exposure by using protective clothing and regularly applying sunscreen.
 - Even one blistering sunburn during childhood or adolescence can nearly double a person's chance of developing melanoma.
 - Experiencing five or more blistering sunburns between ages 15 and 20 increases one's melanoma risk by 80 percent and non-melanoma skin cancer risk by 68 percent.

As of April 2, 2018, Tennessee Public Chapter No. 608 prohibits a person under the age of 16 years from using a tanning device at a tanning facility and requires that a person between the ages of 16 and 18 years be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian who must sign a warning statement giving consent for the use of a tanning device by the person. Once the warning statement is signed and is on file with the tanning facility, the person may be unaccompanied on future visits to the same facility.

I hereby acknowledge that I _____ have been informed of the risks of indoor tanning.
(name of minor age 16-18)

Signature of minor age 16-18 _____
Date

I hereby acknowledge that I _____ am the legal guardian of _____.
(legal guardian name) (name of minor age 16-18)

I have provided photo identification and proof of guardianship. I have been informed of the risks of indoor tanning and give my permission for _____ to use this facility.
(name of minor age 16-18)

Signature of legal guardian _____
Date

