

**Letter to the Editor – *New York Times*
July 25, 2019**

Dear Editor,

“[When you Wear Sunscreen, You’re Taking Part in a Safety Study](#)” encourages the public, without any basis in evidence, to doubt the value of sunscreen, thereby discouraging use of this vital tool in the battle against skin cancer.

Skin cancer remains the most common cancer in the U.S., with millions of Americans affected each year. Minimizing exposure to ultraviolet (UV) rays in sunlight is the best way we know to avoid skin cancer. In combination with sun avoidance and protective clothing, use of topical sunscreens protects is essential in protecting us from the sun’s harmful rays.

The fact that an ingredient is absorbed through the skin does not mean the ingredient is unsafe. Additionally, in the JAMA study, applications were over 75 percent of the body, four times a day, well out of the range of normal application.

Sunscreens have been used safely for decades. ASDS supports research to improve skin cancer prevention methods and unequivocally champions FDA’s recommendation to continue to use sunscreen as a protective measure.



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