



## MelNet Update 2 December 2016

### **NZ banning sunbeds will have little impact on jobs**

Banning sunbed services in New Zealand would help reduce skin cancer rates and only have a minimal impact on businesses and jobs, new University of Otago research suggests.

Researchers from the University's Cancer Society Behavioural Research Unit conducted a nationwide audit of businesses potentially providing sunbed services and found that a ban would only have a minor effect on a very small number of businesses.

Their results showed that for most businesses with sunbeds (92.4 per cent) - such as hairdressers, salons, gyms, and fitness centres - tanning services were supplementary to their other services.

The researchers, Bronwen McNoe and Tony Reeder (both members of MelNet), argue that New Zealand should follow Australia's lead in banning all commercial sunbeds while compensating for the loss of the equipment and arranging for its safe disposal.

The findings, which are published today in the [\*New Zealand Medical Journal\*](#), coincide with the [findings](#) of the European Commission that there is no safe exposure limit for UV radiation from sunbeds. Together they add weight to MelNet's position that sunbeds should be banned in New Zealand.

### **MelNet AGM: Friday 9 December 12.30 pm**

The MelNet AGM will be held on Friday 9 December from 12.30 to 1.00 pm at the offices of the Health Promotion Agency (HPA), ASB House,

101 The Terrace, Wellington.

The agenda and other documents, including bios of the Executive Committee nominees, can be found in the members' area of the MelNet [website](#). As no hard copies will be available at the AGM, please have a quick read prior to the meeting.

All members, especially those who are Wellington-based, are warmly encouraged to attend. A light lunch will be available.

After the AGM, members are invited to a workshop to explore ways in which MelNet might strengthen its role in facilitating communication and collaboration among professionals working in melanoma (and non-melanoma skin cancer) in New Zealand. For more information, please contact the [MelNet Coordinator](#).

Any member not represented at the AGM may appoint a proxy to speak and vote on their behalf. The appointment of a proxy must be in writing and signed by the member and state that: *I [member name] appoint [other member's name] to be my proxy at the AGM to be held at the HPA offices on Friday 9 December.* The proxy must be reach the [MelNet Coordinator](#) no later than 11 am on the day of the AGM.

## **24 March 2017: Auckland Skin Lesions & Dermatoscopy Workshop**

Conducted by Honorary Associate Professor Amanda Oakley, this one-day workshop will be held at the Vodafone Events Centre in Auckland on Friday 24 March.

Co-hosted by MelNet and the Goodfellow Symposium, the course will address clinical and dermatoscopic diagnosis of common benign and malignant skin lesions, particularly pigmented lesions. All health professionals undertaking skin examinations are invited to attend, whether new to or experienced in dermatoscopy.

You can find further information and registration [here](#).

## Other upcoming 2017 events

You can find a listing of other upcoming courses and events on the MelNet [website](#). These include a range of courses – both in Australia and in New Zealand as well as the 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Melanoma to be held in Brisbane 18-21 October 2017.

## Melanoma Principles and Practice

Those who attended the Sydney Melanoma Congress were introduced to the newly released *Melanoma Principles and Practice: A Comprehensive Guide*. According to the Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA), this interactive multi-touch book, which has been written and designed by researchers and clinicians at MIA, “is designed to become an ultimate resource on melanoma”.

You can find further information about the resource [here](#).

## Recent MelNet website postings

Check out our [website](#) for upcoming [events](#) and recent postings, including:

[NZ banning sunbeds will have little impact on jobs](#)

[No safe exposure limit for UV radiation from sunbeds](#)

[Melanoma in New Zealand: New registrations and deaths 2013](#)

[High SPF sunscreen use shown to protect against melanoma](#)

[Need for expanded research to enable better care for melanoma survivors](#)

[Cancer information seeking in NZ: insights for providers](#)

[Quality of direct-to-consumer telemedicine websites and apps](#)

[Skills training for patients at risk of second primary melanoma](#)

[Melanoma risk factors and surveillance programmes](#)

[How UVR impacts melanoma incidence in men and women](#)

[PD-1 blockade with pembrolizumab in advanced merkel-cell carcinoma](#)

[p15 expression differentiates naevus from melanoma](#)

[Safety profile of nivolumab monotherapy](#)

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