



Latest News and Courses: 3 August 2016

PHARMAC approves pembrolizumab (Keytruda) funding

As of 1 September 2016 oncologists will be able to offer pembrolizumab (Keytruda) to patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma

PHARMAC's decision to fund pembrolizumab (Keytruda) followed a brief period of consultation. The MelNet Executive Committee's submission to PHARMAC can be found [here](#).

Pharmac's announcement can be found [here](#), and a wide range of media responses to the initial proposal can be found [here](#).

Don't delay! Register for Auckland, Wellington and Hamilton Courses

To ensure you have a place, register now for one of the one-day Common Skin Lesions and Dermatoscopy courses in [Auckland](#), [Wellington](#) and Hamilton. MelNet, with the support of the HPA, will be hosting the courses.

All health professionals from around NZ, including doctors and nurses with a specialist role in dermatology (e.g., dermatology nurses and melanographers), are invited to register. MelNet is offering a subsidised fee for general practice registrars.

You can register for the Auckland course on 3 September [here](#).
You can register for the Wellington course on 17 September [here](#).
You can register for the Hamilton course on 1 October [here](#).

Melbourne Locoregional Melanoma 2016 Conference 26-27 August

The inaugural Locoregional Melanoma 2016 conference will be held in Melbourne on 26-27 August 2016. The meeting seeks to discuss the paradigm shift in the management of this complex group of patients, and to highlight the importance of multidisciplinary care.

Day one of the conference also will include:

- ANZMTG Annual Meeting
- Melanoma Information Forum, hosted by Melanoma Patients Australia.

Please like us on Facebook!

Please “Like” us on Facebook! Just go to MelNet’s home page and click the Facebook icon in the upper right corner.

“Liking us” will show your support for MelNet and our efforts to:

- facilitate communication and collaboration
- promote evidence-based best practice
- advocate for reduced rates of melanoma (and non-melanoma skin cancer) in New Zealand.

Recent MelNet website postings

Check out our website for a long list of recent [media](#) postings, along with the [latest news](#), including:

- Auckland Common Skin Lesions and Dermatoscopy Course
- Wellington Common Skin Lesions and Dermatoscopy Course
- Hamilton Common Skin Lesions and Dermatoscopy Course
- [Insufficient evidence to assess visual skin cancer screening](#)
- [Melbourne Locoregional Melanoma 2016 conference 26-27 August](#)
- [The first validated tool for measuring sun exposure](#)
- [Dermoscopy follow-up for patients with multiple atypical naevi](#)

- CDC releases second annual Skin Cancer Prevention Progress Report
- Molecular characteristics of cancer stem cells derived from drug-resistant melanoma
- Need for skin-protection efforts to lessen adolescent aura of invincibility
- Sunscreens: patient beliefs and myth-busting advice
- Adolescents and sun protection
- Epidemiological and clinical differences for in situ and invasive melanomas
- Integration of radiation therapy and immunotherapy in melanoma management
- Need for skin-protection efforts to lessen adolescent aura of invincibility

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