



Save These Dates & Latest News: November 2016

9 December: MelNet AGM & Media Training

The MelNet AGM will be held in Wellington on Friday 9 December at 12.30 pm at the offices of the Health Promotion Agency.

Members are invited to submit nominations for the Executive Committee in writing to the [MelNet Coordinator](#) no later than 5 pm on 25 November. These should include the nominee's name, a brief bio and the signatures of two members.

According to the MelNet rules, the Committee shall comprise at least eight and no more than ten members, with consideration to be given to occupations that span the continuum. Vacancies exist for those with oncology and pathology expertise. Other members will be serving the second year of their two-year term.

Also, all members are invited to submit to the [MelNet Coordinator](#) by no later than 5 pm on 25 November any other matters to be considered at the AGM.

A media training workshop that is open to all members will take place immediately after the AGM. For further information, please contact the [MelNet Coordinator](#).

14-21 November: Melanoma Awareness Week

Melanoma New Zealand (MNZ) is seeking to work with health professionals in raising melanoma awareness and promoting early detection during their upcoming Melanoma Awareness Week 14-21 November.

MNZ is seeking support during the month of November through professionals:

- Requesting a MNZ awareness poster for clinics
- Organising a free spot check day.

If you are able to hold a spot check day, for example, at a pharmacy or community centre, MNZ can promote the dates, location and times on their Facebook page and website. For posters, flyers and further information please contact Megan Rees at fundraising@melanoma.org.nz or 09 499 2342.

24 March 2017: Auckland Skin Lesions & Dermatoscopy Course

Conducted by Honorary Associate Professor Amanda Oakley, this one-day course will be held as part of the [Goodfellow Symposium](#) in Auckland on 24 March 2017.

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. MelNet members will be notified when registration opens.

18-21 October 2017: 9th World Congress of Melanoma

The [9th World Congress of Melanoma](#) will join with the Society for Melanoma Research to bring together the world's leading melanoma researchers and clinicians to showcase the latest developments in melanoma diagnosis, treatment and research. It will cover the entire field of melanoma and other cutaneous malignancies. This joint meeting will be held in Brisbane from 18-21 October 2017. Abstracts must be submitted before 7 May 2017.

8th AJCC Cancer Staging Manual

Our thanks to Amanda Oakley for alerting MelNet to the recent publication of the 8th edition of the AJCC Cancer Staging Manual.

Melanoma classification in New Zealand currently follows the AJCC 7th Edition. The melanoma chapter in the recently released 8th edition includes important changes to the T1 classification. A summary of these changes is available from the [MelNet Coordinator](#).

SunSmart Print Resources

A range of SunSmart print and PDF resources that can be downloaded and printed are available from the SunSmart [website](#). If you want more information or have a specific request please contact the [Skin Cancer Prevention team](#).

The Cancer Society of New Zealand, in addition to their [SunSmart Schools Accreditation Programme](#), also has SunSmart [information](#) and [resources](#).

New Australian clinical practice guidelines

In 2008 New Zealand and Australia co-published the "Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Melanoma in Australia and New Zealand". In light of the advances in melanoma diagnosis and management, new Australian [guidelines](#) are in the process of being developed in an incremental way using an electronic "wiki" platform. The four chapters completed thus far are:

- Type of biopsy
- Clinical features and atypical melanoma
- When is sentinel node biopsy indicated?
- Recommended definitive margins for excision of primary melanoma.

The provisional status of New Zealand's "[Standards of Service Provision for Melanoma Patients in New Zealand - Provisional](#)" is not due to be addressed by the Ministry of Health until 2018.

Recent MeINet website postings

Check out our website for the latest news, including:

[New Australian clinical practice guidelines for melanoma](#)

[Possible decreasing trend in NZ sunburn prevalence](#)

[Impact of sunbed ban in Australia](#)

[Tendency of indoor tanners to sunburn and avoid sun protection](#)

[Need for increased US school sun protection policies](#)

[2016 Society for Melanoma Research Congress abstracts available](#)

[Research shows how melanoma cells reach blood vessels, reveals chemicals for prevention](#)

[Impact on survival of a second primary melanoma](#)

[Prognostic indicators for early recurrence of melanoma](#)

[Prolonged survival in stage III melanoma with ipilimumab](#)

[AJCC 8th edition: Changes to melanoma T1 classification](#)

[Role of oncology nurses in protecting cancer patients](#)

[Head and neck melanoma: A population-based study of the prognostic impact of tumor location](#)

[Study examines relationship between UVB and global genome repair in melanoma](#)

[Ipilimumab plus local therapy safely extend survival in metastatic melanoma](#)

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