



MelNet Update 20 December 2016

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 2017.

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](#).

30 June 2017: Melanoma Research Symposium

Hosted by MelNet and Melanoma New Zealand with support from the Health Promotion Agency, this symposium in Auckland on 30 June 2017 will bring together those involved in the broad spectrum of research into the prevention and control of melanoma in New Zealand to:

- Be informed of recent developments
- Identify opportunities for closer collaboration.

Key participants of this multidisciplinary symposium will be health promoters, nurses, GPs, pathologists, dermatologists, surgeons, oncologists, epidemiologists as well as public health, biomedical and clinical researchers.

Save the date of 30 June 2017 and watch this space!

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.

Other 2017 events

11-12 March 2017

[The Skin Cancer Symposium: Dermatoscopy and Surgical Training](#)
- Warkworth

19-21 May 2017

[Australasian Skin Cancer Congress](#) – Surfers Paradise

Highlights of 2016

Guided by the 2015 Melanoma Summit six-point call to action, the MelNet Committee made numerous written submissions and had face-to-face delegations during the past year on:

- The need for the *Standards of Service Provision for Melanoma Patients in New Zealand – Provisional* to be reviewed/finalised
- The need to ban sunbeds in New Zealand
- The need for realistic funding of primary prevention in New Zealand
- The need for PHARMAC to fast track funding reviews of melanoma treatments
- The Government's funding boost that enabled PHARMAC to list nivolumab and pembrolizumab.

- The Committee also actively pursued MelNet's aims (facilitating communication and collaboration and promoting education and best practice) by:
- Coordinating with the Health Promotion Agency a highly successful series of skin lesions/dermatoscopy courses conducted by Amanda Oakley in Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington and Hamilton
- Meeting with the RNZCGP regarding credentialing in skin lesion diagnosis, including dermatoscopy
- Developing a soon-to-be launched 'research and activity portal'.

For further details, see the Committee Chair's AGM report [here](#).

Committee welcomes new member

The Executive Committee welcomes its 'returning' members as well as new member Dr Jacqui Gardner. Jacqui is a Consultant Anatomical Pathologist at Canterbury Health Laboratories in Christchurch with a major subspecialty interest in skin pathology, in particular melanoma. You can find bios of all members of the 2016/2017 committee [here](#) and draft minutes of the AGM [here](#).

Recent MelNet website postings

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

[Symptoms linked to a delayed presentation among melanoma patients](#)

[Barriers and facilitators to UVR safety in outdoor workers](#)

[Banning sunbed use in teens could save lives and money](#)

[Prognostic factors after whole-brain radiotherapy alone for melanoma brain metastases](#)

[Caffeinated coffee might protect against basal cell carcinoma](#)

[p15 expression differentiates naevus from melanoma](#)

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

[Interval cancers after skin cancer screening](#)

Best wishes for the holiday season!

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