



## **MelNet Update 20 December 2017**

### **March 2018: Skin Lesions & Dermatoscopy Courses**

Conducted by Honorary Associate Professor Amanda Oakley, two one-day courses will be held in March 2018:

#### **Saturday 10 March 2018 – Hawke's Bay**

This course will be hosted by MelNet and the Hawke's Bay DHB with support from the Health Promotion Agency. You can find further information here: <http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/hawkes-bay-skin-lesions-and-dermatoscopy-course-2018>, and you can register here.

<https://hpa.formstack.com/forms/dermatoscopy10march2018hb>

#### **Friday 23 March 2018 – Auckland**

This course will be co-hosted by the Goodfellow Symposium and MelNet and offered as a pre-symposium workshop. You can find further information and register here:

<https://www.goodfellowunit.org/symposium/programme>

If you are based in the South Island (or willing to travel) and would like to have a course in your region next year, please let us know.

### **15 March 2018: Research and Therapy Expert Group Meeting**

Anyone with a special interest in melanoma research and therapy is invited to the second meeting of a melanoma research and therapy expert group. Broadly, the aims of the group are:

- to achieve consensus on current issues for melanoma clinicians and researchers and to seek to implement solutions to these issues, and
- to improve upon current standards of care by promoting and facilitating research in melanoma.

Hosted by MelNet, the half-day meeting will be held at the Auckland International Airport Novotel (within walking distance from the domestic terminal) on Thursday 15 March 2018 from 12.00 noon to 4.15 pm. Topics for this meeting will include tissue banking, PET CT and sentinel node data.

For further information and to register your interest, please email the MelNet Coordinator ([melnet@melnet.org.nz](mailto:melnet@melnet.org.nz)).

You can find recommendations from the inaugural meeting on 8 December here.

<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/melanoma-research-and-therapy-expert-group-meetings>

### **2-3 November: Melanoma Summit 2018**

Mark your calendar now for the fifth national Melanoma Summit, which will be held at the in Auckland on 2 and 3 November 2018, with pre-Summit workshops on 1 November.

As in the past, the 2018 Summit will provide a unique and important opportunity for professionals working in all areas of melanoma control (including health promoters, nurses, general practitioners, pathologists, dermatologists, surgeons, oncologists and researchers) to be informed of recent developments and to identify priorities for action.

### **UV Workshop: 4-6 April 2018**

Be sure to register for the “UV Radiation: Effects on Human Health and the Environment” workshop to be held in Wellington 4-6 April 2018. You can find further information about the workshop and register here (**UV Workshop: 4-6 April 2018**

Be sure to register for the “UV Radiation: Effects on Human Health and the Environment” workshop to be held in Wellington 4-6 April 2018. You can find further information about the workshop and register here (<https://www.niwa.co.nz/events/uv-radiation-effects-on-human-health-and-the-environment-2018>). MelNet is a sponsor of the workshop.

### **MelNet Research and Activities Portal: Post now!**

Take a moment to create a post on MelNet’s new research and activity portal.

The portal encourages links between different cancer research groups in New Zealand, and between researchers, clinicians, health promoters and others working in melanoma prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care.

While only members can post on the portal, anyone is able to see the information on it.

You can view recent posts, including abstracts of the recent Queenstown melanoma research and therapy meeting, here: <http://www.melnet.org.nz/portal>.

You can write a post about a recent/planned activity or your current research here: <http://www.melnet.org.nz/members/login>

### **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.

### **Recent MelNet website postings**

Check out recent postings in our recently updated calendar of 2017 events and recent media postings.

Our latest news postings include:

Melanoma of the face and Mohs micrographic surgery  
<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/melanoma-of-the-face-and-mohs-micrographic-surgery>

Updated ASCO guideline for sentinel lymph node biopsy in melanoma  
<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/updated-asco-guideline-for-sentinel-lymph-node-biopsy-in-melanoma>

Hawke's Bay Skin Lesions and Dermatoscopy Course 2018

<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/hawkes-bay-skin-lesions-and-dermatoscopy-course-2018>

International review of the UV index

<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/international-review-of-the-uv-index>

Unintended sunburn: A potential target for sun protection messages in NZ

<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/unintended-sunburn-a-potential-target-for-sun-protection-messages-in-nz>

Adding mitotic rate increases positive sentinel node detection

<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/adding-mitotic-rate-increases-positive-sentinel-node-detection>

Need for dedicated efforts and investment in skin cancer prevention

<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/need-for-dedicated-efforts-and-investment-in-skin-cancer-prevention>

Sun safety intervention for vacationers: a North American RCT

<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/sun-safety-intervention-for-vacationers-a-north-american-rct>

US experts call for efficient use of technologies to improve sun protection

<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/us-experts-call-for-efficient-use-of-technologies-to-improve-sun-protection>

Utility of whole-body PET/CT versus 'eyes-to-thighs' PET/CT

<http://www.melnet.org.nz/news/2017/utility-of-whole-body-pet-ct-versus-eyes-to-thighs-pet-ct>

## **Farewell from the MelNet Coordinator**

---

Nine years have passed since 230 health professionals at the inaugural Melanoma Summit unanimously called for the establishment of a network linking all health professionals working in melanoma in New Zealand. As the Coordinator of MelNet since that time, I have had the privilege of working alongside and drawing upon the expertise of a wide range of professionals with a strong commitment to melanoma (and non-melanoma skin cancer) prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care and research in New Zealand.

I would like to especially acknowledge and thank Gary Duncan and Chris Boberg, Chair and Deputy Chair of the MelNet Executive Committee since its inception. They, along with other Executive Committee members, have dedicated many hours of their personal time to the establishment and expansion of MelNet and its activities. Also, they have been wonderfully supportive of me.

Also, I would like to thank the Health Promotion Agency (HPA) and its predecessor, the Health Sponsorship Council, who have funded my position. Without the HPA and its staff, MelNet as an organisation and its ability to undertake such a range of activities would not be possible.

Over the next month I will be passing on my responsibilities to a very capable and energetic successor who will introduce herself in January. In the meantime, I thank you all for your help and support over these past nine years, and I wish you a lovely holiday season ahead.

Betsy Marshall

MelNet Coordinator

<http://melnet@melnet.org.nz>

---