



## **MelNet Update 12 October 2017**

### **2 December 2017 - Whangarei Skin Lesions & Dermatoscopy Course**

Conducted by Honorary Associate Professor Amanda Oakley, this one-day course will be held in Whangarei on Saturday 2 December. Hosted by MelNet and the Health Promotion Agency, this is the only course scheduled between now and March 2018.

You can find further information and a link to registration here:

<http://www.melnet.org.nz/index.php/news/2017/whangarei-common-skin-lesions-and-dermatoscopy-course>

### **8 December 2017 - Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group Meeting**

Those with a special interest in melanoma research and therapy, including scientists, oncologists, pathologists, radiologists, clinical nurse specialists and surgeons, are invited to a meeting at Auckland International Airport on Friday 8 December 2017. Hosted by MelNet (and at no charge to participants), the half-day meeting, including lunch, will be held at the Novotel from noon to 4.15 pm. The aim of the meeting is to establish a melanoma research and therapy special interest group.

All those with a special interest in melanoma research and therapy, including scientists, oncologists, pathologists, radiologists, clinical nurse specialists and surgeons, are invited to attend.

Please contact the MelNet Coordinator ([melnet@melnet.org.nz](mailto:melnet@melnet.org.nz)) if you are interested in attending and/or would like to receive further information.

### **8 December 2017 - MelNet AGM**

The MelNet AGM will be held at the Novotel, Auckland International Airport, on Friday 8 December from 3.30 to 4.15 pm. The meeting will follow the Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting (see above).

Members are invited to submit nominations for the Executive Committee in writing to the MelNet Coordinator no later than 5 pm on 24 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 occupations that span the continuum. Members who will be serving the second year of their two-year term are a surgeon, a GP, an oncologist, a researcher, a pathologist and a clinical nurse specialist. Up to five additional members can be elected to the committee at the AGM.

Also, all members are invited to submit to the MelNet Coordinator by no later than 5 pm on 24 November any remits or other matters to be considered at the AGM.

## **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>

## **Melanoma Summit 2018 – Save these dates!**

Mark your calendar now for the fifth national Melanoma Summit, which will be held at the Langham Hotel in Auckland on 2/3 November 2018.

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.

Delegates attending the New Zealand networking dinner at the upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Melanoma in Brisbane will be discussing possible themes and speakers. If you are not attending the Congress or the dinner, please send your ideas to the MelNet Coordinator.

## **Melanoma risk calculator**

A New Zealand-specific risk prediction tool for melanoma is now available as part of *bestpractice* Decision Support by BPAC Inc. The tool was developed in collaboration with Dr Mary Jane Sneyd and the Health Promotion Agency.

You can find further information, including how to access the tool, here <http://www.melnet.org.nz/resources/melanoma-risk-calculator-clinical-decision-support-tool>

## **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:

Factors to consider in surveillance of high risk individuals

Promoting sun protection among student athletes

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Do patients with melanoma of unknown primary have better survival than patients with melanoma of known primary?

Need for improved recognition of atypical melanomas

Proximity of the primary tumour to the lymph node basin and sentinel node positivity

Do  $\beta$ -blockers protect patients with thick melanomas from disease recurrence?

In-flight UV radiation on commercial airlines

Role of UV in uveal melanoma

Significant impact on quality of life of melanoma-related lymphoedema

Is melanoma treatment in New Zealand failing national standards?

Immunotherapy response of melanoma patients with NRAS mutations

High risk for tanning-associated skin cancer among US tertiary students

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