

# MelNet update

20 February 2019

---

## **There's still time to register for the Goodfellow/MelNet Skin Lesions and Dermatoscopy course**

**10.00 am – 5.00 pm**

**Friday 22 March 2018**

**Vodafone Events Centre, Auckland**

Conducted by Honorary Associate Professor Amanda Oakley, this one-day course addresses 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.

The course will be co-hosted by the Goodfellow Symposium and MelNet and offered as a pre-symposium workshop. It has been endorsed by The Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners and has been approved for up to 6.0 credits CME for General Practice Educational Programme Stage 2 (GPEP2) and Maintenance of Professional Standards (MOPS) purposes.

[Register](#)

[More information](#)

---

## **Latest Health Promotion Agency campaign: What's your look – don't make it #dumbburn**

The Health Promotion Agency has recently launched a new skin cancer prevention campaign, '*What's your look? - don't make it #Dumbburn*', which will run through until mid-March 2019. The campaign targets young people aged 18 to 24 in social or workplace settings.

The key messages of the campaign are:

- Not protecting yourself from ultraviolet radiation gets in the way of fun – it's painful, a real hassle and is not a great look in front of your mates.
- Protect yourself in the sun. Be SunSmart Slip, Slop, Slap and Wrap.
- For more see [SunSmart.org.nz](http://SunSmart.org.nz).



Get behind the campaign by sharing it within your community. Free promotional resources are available for you to use including three video advertisements, posters and online banners.

[Visit the campaign webpage](#)

[Watch the video](#)

[Access campaign resources](#)



## **Auckland Medical Research Foundation Project Grants for melanoma and skin cancer research**

The Auckland Medical Research Foundation (AMRF) is calling for applications for Project Grants to support medical research projects for up to two years duration and a maximum of \$160,000. In addition to their usual funding, specific funds are available for research into melanoma or other skin cancers.

AMRF aims to improve the health of New Zealanders through funding the highest quality medical or health research. Their funding area is limited to recognised tertiary institutions and district health boards in the greater Auckland and Northland regions. AMRF are fortunate to have the support of donors who have a keen interest in melanoma and other skin cancer research and who, through the AMRF, have established the JI Sutherland Fund. This fund has provided a three-year doctoral scholarship for Jennifer Eom (The University of Auckland), and is currently supporting a project grant led by Drs Cherie Blenkiron and Kate Parker (The University of Auckland) who are using state-of-the-art technology to investigate whether tumours of patients with Merkel cell carcinoma would respond to immune checkpoint inhibitors such as Keytruda.

Please direct any questions to the Research Programme Manager on 09 923 1706. Applications must be received by the AMRF on the portal by 5.00pm, 6 March 2019.

[More information](#)

---

### **In the news**

#### **New Zealand melanoma rates no longer worst in world**

Stuff

8 February 2019

Researchers at Australia's QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute have found that since 2011, cases of melanoma have started to decline in New Zealand, while rates in Australia have plateaued. [Read the story](#)

#### **Make sunscreen part of your morning routine: Sun safety experts**

NZ Herald

26 January 2019

Kiwis are being urged to apply sunscreen as part of their morning routine, following new research from the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute which suggests there is clear evidence on the benefits of daily sunscreen use in preventing sun damage. [Read the story](#)

---

### **Upcoming events**

#### **Certificate of Fundamental Dermatoscopy**

2 March 2019

Auckland

For beginners in the field of dermatoscopy and skin cancer. This course, presented by Professor Cliff Rosendahl, Dr Andrew MacGill and Dr Chris Boberg will cover the fundamentals of dermatoscopy in order to help you diagnose or manage skin lesions. This course has been approved by the Royal NZ College of GPs for reimbursement as an approved 'Conference' (up to \$500 excluding GST) for GPEP 1 registrars. All attendees receive a complimentary MoleScope dermatoscope and a free 12 month DermEngine subscription.

[Further information](#)

## **Certificate of Surgical and Medical Management of Skin Cancer**

3 March 2019

Auckland

For beginners to seasoned practitioners. Taught by leading surgeons and GP Skin Cancer Specialists, this practical course will cover the simple ellipse as well as punch biopsy and shave excisions. It will also discuss non-surgical/medical treatments. All participants will receive a free surgical kit and sutures to take home.

[Further information](#)

## **New Zealander's for Health Research: Health and Prosperity through Clinical Trials workshop**

22 March 2019

Auckland

This workshop will review progress in addressing, and resetting, the priorities identified from New Zealander's for Health Research 2017 workshop and seek input into:

- how to maximise the health benefits of clinical trials, including better incentivising participation of publicly funded health providers including DHBs
- how to optimise the economic benefits of clinical trials through ensuring our international competitiveness as an attractive place for commercial investment
- monitoring and measuring clinical trials trends in New Zealand
- the proposed therapeutic products regulatory regime
- the outcome of the NEAC's October 2018 consultation on health research standards.

Representatives from pharmaceutical companies, CROs, private clinical trial sites in New Zealand, DHBs, Ministry of Health, funders of clinical trials, and patient advocacy groups are encouraged to attend.

[Further information](#)

## Other upcoming events

March	April
<p><b>Melanoma World Society 3<sup>rd</sup> International Educational Symposium</b> 1 – 2 March 2019 Cape Town, South Africa <a href="#">Further information</a></p>	<p><b>World Congress on Advanced Treatments and Technologies in Skin Cancer</b> 4 – 5 April 2019 Vienna, Austria <a href="#">Further information</a></p>
<p><b>Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop</b> 8 – 11 March 2019 Sydney <a href="#">Further information</a></p>	<p><b>National Rural Health Conference 2019</b> 4 – 7 April 2019 Blenheim <a href="#">Further information</a></p>
<p><b>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Certificate of Dermoscopy</b> 9 – 10 March 2019 Sydney <a href="#">Further information</a></p>	<p><b>Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine</b> 6 – 7 April 2019 Adelaide <a href="#">Further information</a></p>
<p><b>TROG 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting</b> 12 – 15 March 2019 Melbourne <a href="#">Further information</a></p>	<p><b>Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop</b> 12 – 15 April 2019 Auckland <a href="#">Further information</a></p>
<p><b>20<sup>th</sup> World Dermatology Congress</b> 13 – 14 March 2019 Singapore <a href="#">Further information</a></p>	<p><b>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Certificate of Dermoscopy</b> 13 – 14 April 2019 Auckland <a href="#">Further information</a></p>
<p><b>Australian Skin and Skin Cancer Research Centre Melanoma Screening Summit</b> 25 – 26 March 2019 Brisbane <a href="#">To register interest</a></p>	<p><b>15th European Association of Dermato Oncology (EADO) Congress</b> 24 – 27 April 2019 Paris, France <a href="#">Further information</a></p>

[For more events see the MelNet events calendar](#)

---

## Recent MelNet website postings

[Dung beetle glycosaminoglycan decreases melanoma size in mice](#)

[Mobile technology intervention may improve some sun exposure behaviours in young adults](#)

[Personalised melanoma genomic risk information improves sun protection and skin examination behaviours](#)

[Fatigue in melanoma survivors associated with decreased quality of life](#)

[Sunscreens work well when used properly](#)

[New Zealander's failing to undertake skin cancer prevention activities](#)

[New Zealand children are not sufficiently protected from the sun at school](#)

[Methods of melanoma detection and of skin monitoring for individuals at high risk of melanoma: new Australian clinical practice](#)

---