



MelNet update

20 June 2019

Registration now open for Auckland Regional Skin Cancer Study Day for nurses

9.00 am – 5.00 pm

Friday 6 September 2019

Whenua Pupuke, North Shore Hospital

Registration is now open for this one-day study day targeted at primary and secondary care nurses and nursing students in the Auckland region. The day will cover skin cancer prevention, early detection, treatment and care, helping attendees to better understand the journey of a skin cancer patient and the critical role of a nurse throughout this journey. It is also an excellent chance to network with colleagues across the region, fostering new connections and identifying opportunities for collaboration and sharing of resources.

The cost of attending this course is \$50.00.

[Register now](#)

[More information](#)

[See the preliminary programme](#)

Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting – 14 June 2019

Thank you to those who attended the Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting on 14 June 2019 at Middlemore Hospital, Auckland. Special thanks also to MSD for their generous support of this meeting.

With three fantastic presentations and lively, productive discussion, our two topics generated a set of recommendations that MelNet will look to progress over the coming months.

Topics discussed were:

- **Clinical trials in New Zealand:** how can we improve the number of trials in New Zealand and the access to those trials?
- **Immune checkpoint inhibitor data:** how does New Zealand coordinate auditing and standardisation of outcomes across DHBs and how can we draw DHBs together to reach similar outcomes?

Keep an eye out on the MelNet website - a summary of the discussion and recommendations will be available soon.

KEYTRUDA now registered for adjuvant treatment of stage III resected melanoma

Anti-PD1 immunotherapy KEYTRUDA (pembrolizumab) is now registered in New Zealand for the adjuvant treatment of patients with melanoma with lymph node involvement who have undergone complete resection. This is in addition to the September 2015 registration of Keytruda as a monotherapy for the treatment of unresectable or metastatic melanoma in adults. KEYTRUDA was reimbursed for stage III or IV, unresectable, metastatic melanoma in September 2016.

This decision was based on the phase three KEYNOTE-054 study, where investigators concluded that KEYTRUDA as an adjuvant therapy for patients with resected, high-risk stage III melanoma was associated with a significantly longer recurrence-free survival than placebo and had a safety profile consistent with the toxicity spectrum that has already been defined for KEYTRUDA.

[More information](#)

Congratulations to Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials (MASC Trials)

Congratulations to MASC Trials who hosted a successful inaugural Australasian Ocular Melanoma Summit in collaboration with The Australasian Ocular Melanoma Alliance in Sydney this May. The video recordings from the Summit are available on YouTube.

[Day 1: Scientific Program - Friday May 3rd 2019](#)

[Day 2: Patient Focused Program - Saturday May 4th 2019](#)

Supported by Cancer Australia, MASC Trials is the bi-national collaborative group in melanoma and skin cancer trials. They support their membership to develop and participate in innovative investigator-initiated clinical trials and research, offering expertise in all aspects of protocol development (including statistical support), grant application, site feasibility, trial and data management and publication services.

MASC Trials membership is free. To join contact admin@masc.org.au.

Have you got your application in yet?

AMRF Melanoma or other skin cancer Fellowship

The Auckland Medical Research Foundation (AMRF) is calling for applications for the JI Sutherland Medical Research Fellowship to support a science or medical graduate in the greater Auckland or Northland region who wishes to undertake full-time medical research for a PhD in the field of melanoma or other skin cancers. Applications must be received by the AMRF on the portal by **5.00 pm 7 August 2019**.

[Full details on eligibility, entitlements and requirements](#)

Further questions should be directed to the [Research Programme Manager](#).

Roche Translational Cancer Research Fellowship

Valued at \$30,000, this fellowship is for NZ cancer research teams to up-skill an integral team member so that the team can work together more effectively to improve research output. Applications close **Friday 30 August**.

[Full details on eligibility, favoured recipients and requirements](#)

Upcoming events

NZMA GP CME General Practice Conference

8 – 11 August 2019

Christchurch

This conference will provide a general practice update, short, sharp and to the point clinical content and key take home messages to help change practice behaviour immediately.

Sessions of interest include:

- **Dermoscopy workshop: Thursday 8 August**
In this workshop Adjunct Associate Professor Amanda Oakley will address clinical and dermoscopic diagnosis of common benign and malignant skin lesions, particularly pigmented lesions.
- **Skin cancer surgical basic skills workshop: Thursday 8 August**
This workshop will be presented by two experienced surgeons, Dr Rebecca Stack and Mr Dylan James.

[Further information](#) | [Registration](#)

14th NZ Dermatology Nurses Conference

22 – 23 August 2019

Te Papa, Wellington

Sessions of interest include:

- Lessons learnt around guidelines for management of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma: Dr Raj Mallipeddi
- The skin examination and dangers of misdiagnosing melanoma: Dr Giri Raj
- Effective communication with radiation oncology for adjunctive treatment of high risk skin cancers: Dr Neil Mortimer

[Further information and to register](#)

Other upcoming events

July	August
<p>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Certificate of Dermoscopy 6 – 7 July 2019 Cairns, Australia Further information</p>	<p>Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA) Nurse Conference - Melanoma in Practice 1 August 2019 Sydney, Australia Further information</p>
<p>Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners Annual Conference 26 – 28 July 2019 Dunedin Centre, Dunedin Further information</p>	<p>NZMA GP CME General Practice Conference 08 – 11 August 2019 Christchurch Further information</p>
<p>Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop 26 – 29 July 2019 Melbourne, Australia Further information</p>	<p>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Certificate of Dermoscopy 17 – 18 August 2019 Novotel Cathedral Square, Christchurch Further information</p>
<p>Certificate of Advanced Dermatoscopy 27 - 28 July 2019 Auckland Further information</p>	<p>New Zealand Dermatological Society Incorporated Conference and AGM 21 – 24 August 2019 Wellington Further information</p>
<p>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Certificate of Dermoscopy 27 – 28 July 2019 Melbourne, Australia Further information</p>	<p>14th NZ Dermatology Nurses Conference 22 – 23 August 2019 Te Papa, Wellington Further information</p>
	<p>Skin Cancer Summit and Masterclasses 22 – 24 August 2019 Brisbane, Australia Further information</p>

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

Recent MelNet website postings

[NSW farmers practice sun-protective behaviours less than half the time](#)

[Skin cancer prevention interventions needed at varying levels of health literacy as well as populations](#)

[Australian-licensed commercial pilots have modestly raised risk of in situ melanoma](#)

[Melanoma risk may be mitigated by parental intervention](#)

[Sunscreens can work their way into the bloodstream](#)

[E-training programme targeted at massage therapists may contribute to skin cancer risk reduction](#)

["Designing out skin cancer" in Australia through improved design of shade in public spaces](#)

[Non melanoma skin cancer patients have relative risk for melanoma of 25:1](#)
