



MelNet update

20 January 2020

Happy New Year!

We hope you had a wonderful holiday season. We look forward to working with you in 2020 to continue to reduce the impact and incidence of melanoma in New Zealand.

MelNet Skin Lesions and Dermatoscopy course | Build your confidence in diagnosing skin lesions

Friday 27 March 2020

Vodafone Events Centre, Auckland

Conducted by Adjunct 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.

The course is co-hosted by MelNet and the Goodfellow Symposium 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](#)

Skin Cancer Study Days for Nurses | The role of a nurse in a skin cancer patient's journey

Hosted by MelNet and Cancer Nurse Coordinators, these study days are targeted at primary and secondary care nurses and nursing students. They cover skin cancer prevention, early detection, treatment and care, increasing understanding of the journey of a skin cancer patient and the critical role of a nurse.

Registration now at capacity

Friday 21 February 2020 (Manawa Christchurch)

The cost of attending is \$50.00.

[See the programme](#) | [Add me to the waitlist](#)

Save the date: Wellington, Bay of Plenty and Auckland

- **Wellington:** Friday 29 May 2020 (Hutt Hospital)
Registration opens 5 February. Spaces will be limited.
[See the preliminary programme](#)
- **Bay of Plenty:** 12 June 2020 (Tauranga Hospital)
Registration opens February 2020. Spaces will be limited.
- **Auckland: 11 September 2020**
More details coming soon.

[More information](#)

Kindly supported by



Worth a read: BPAC - "Reducing the burden of melanoma in New Zealand"

BPAC has recently released its latest primary care update - a comprehensive article on "Reducing the burden of melanoma in New Zealand".

Part one of the article addresses prevention and risk assessment. It covers topics such as the incidence of melanoma in New Zealand, sun smart principles and application of the Melanoma Risk Predictor Tool in primary care.

Part two of the article looks at early detection, including diagnostic tools to identify melanoma, and management and referral of suspicious lesions.

[Read the article](#)

No one in New Zealand should die from melanoma | Meet MelNet Co-Chair Dr Chris Boberg

MelNet Co-Chair Dr Chris Boberg was recently profiled in the RNZCGP GP Pulse.

Chris is one of New Zealand's leading skin cancer experts and a strong advocate for skin cancer awareness, prevention, early detection and treatment. He firmly believes no one in New Zealand should die from melanoma and one of the keys to achieving this is early detection.

Chris has served on the MelNet Executive Committee since MelNet's inception. We are incredibly proud and grateful for Chris' tireless efforts to reduce the incidence and impact of skin cancer in New Zealand.

[Read the article](#)

Order FREE early detection resources | Early Detection of Skin Cancer Resource and Information Toolkit for Primary Care

Are you looking for resources that promote the importance of the early detection but you're not sure what's out there?

This toolkit brings together resources and information from HPA, Melanoma New Zealand, Cancer Society and MelNet which promote the importance of getting skin changes or moles of concern checked early by a primary care practitioner.

All resources are **FREE** to order by clicking the links provided with each resource.

[See the online version of the Toolkit](#)



PHARMAC parallel assessment of cancer medicines

As of 1 January 2020, suppliers can apply to PHARMAC for funding of cancer medicines with an indication for a cancer treatment, or prevention of cancer recurrence at the same time the medicines are being assessed for regulatory approval by Medsafe.

Previously PHARMAC has not begun the medicine funding assessment process prior to the medicine being Medsafe-registered.

It is predicted that this parallel assessment process will reduce the overall time from submission to Medsafe to ranking by PHARMAC by between 12 to 15 months.

[More information](#)

Skin Cancer Symposiums Certificate of Fundamental Dermatoscopy

29 February 2020
Auckland



Aimed at beginners, this course covers the fundamentals of dermatoscopic diagnosis of skin lesions including the 'Chaos and Clues' algorithm. It has been endorsed by RNZCGP for six hours of CME. All attendees receive a complimentary dermatoscope, DermEngine subscription and a dermatoscopy textbook.

[More information](#)

Skin Cancer Symposiums Certificate of Surgical and Medical Management of Skin Cancer

1 March 2020
Auckland

This practical course covers the simple ellipse, punch biopsy, shave excisions as well as non-surgical/medical treatments options. It has been endorsed by RNZCGP and has been approved for up to 6.00 CME credits for the General Practice Educational Programme (GPEP) and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) purposes. All participants will receive a free surgical kit.

[More information](#)

The banner features a blue background with a city skyline and a wave. The text includes "SKIN CANCER COLLEGE AUSTRALASIA" in the top right, "AUSTRALASIAN SKIN CANCER CONGRESS 10TH" in the center, and "01 - 03 MAY 2020 The Star - Gold Coast, Queensland." below it. The bottom section is orange with white text: "Leading the Wave in Skin Cancer Medicine" on the left, "Early bird registration now open Register today and save" in the middle, and a "CLICK HERE TO REGISTER" button on the right.

Other upcoming events

February
Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Certificate of Dermoscopy 8 – 9 February 2020 Melbourne, Australia Further information
Pigmented Lesions and Other Hot Topics in Dermatopathology 14 – 15 February 2020 Sydney, Australia Further information
Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Certificate of Dermoscopy 22 – 23 February 2020 Brisbane, Australia Further information
Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery 22 – 23 February 2020 Melbourne, Australia Further information

March
Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop 6 – 9 March 2020 Sydney Further information
Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Certificate of Dermoscopy 7 – 8 March 2020 Sydney, Australia Further information
TROG 31st Annual Scientific Meeting 16 – 19 March 2020 Sydney, Australia Further information
RCPA Pathology Update 2020 20 – 22 March 2020 Sydney, Australia Further information
21st World Dermatology Congress 23 – 24 March 2020 Tokyo, Japan Further information
For more events see the MelNet events calendar

Recent MelNet website postings

[Diagnostic suspicion has no influence on preference for partial or excisional biopsy](#)

[Dabrafenib demonstrates durable outcomes in some patients with BRAF-mutant melanoma](#)

[PD-L1 expression on circulating tumour cells may predict response to pembrolizumab in advanced melanoma](#)

[Pathologists' treatment suggestions vary significantly for melanocytic lesions](#)

[Detailed occupational history essential to distinguish occupational from nonoccupational skin cancers](#)

[Algorithm diagnoses skin cancer as accurately as dermatologists](#)

[Interactions between genotype and environment consistent with divergent pathways for melanoma development](#)



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