



MelNet update

20 July 2020

Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group | Outcomes of 26 June meeting

Thank you to those who attended the virtual Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting on 26 June 2020.

With three fantastic presentations, the agenda generated lively and productive discussion. Topics discussed were:

- National melanoma immune checkpoint inhibitor database
- Feedback on PHARMAC Special Authority criteria: Temporary removal of specified dose regimen for nivolumab and pembrolizumab during COVID crisis
- Melanoma research: an update

Highlights and outcomes from the meeting are available on the [MelNet website](#).

The next meeting is scheduled for **10.00 am Friday 27 November**.

Would you like to be part of a pilot study? | Retrospective analysis of 100 metastatic melanoma patients

Following the Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting, MelNet is seeking expressions of interest from clinicians to participate in a retrospective review of 100 New Zealand metastatic melanoma patients.

This review would be in collaboration with the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI) and funded by pharma.

Findings from the review would be used to inform the melanoma tumour stream of the Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT NZ) project, led by the Cancer Control Agency.

If you or your cancer centre are interested in participating, please complete this [short survey](#) before Friday 24 July.

For further details, see the [notes](#) from the Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting.

The results are in | MelNet membership survey

Thank you to those who completed the MelNet membership survey during March and April.

This is what you told us.

If you have any further comments or suggestions, we encourage you to please [share them with us](#) before 14 August 2020.

Your feedback will be analysed alongside a range of other data to inform MelNet's direction over the coming years and help ensure we are delivering relevant, high-quality services that meet your needs.

Congratulations to Ella Maclean

Ella was our lucky survey respondent who won a copy of Professor Cliff Rosendahl's latest book, "Dermatoscopy and Skin Cancer: A Handbook for Hunters of Skin Cancer and Melanoma".

Thank you to Skin Cancer Symposiums for generously donating this prize.

Update on Skin Cancer Study Days for Nurses | Bay of Plenty cancelled

Due to extenuating circumstance, the Bay of Plenty Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses which was scheduled to take place in Tauranga on 30 October 2020 has been cancelled.

We apologise to those who were interested in attending. We hope to be able to host this event in the Bay of Plenty in future.

NZMA South GP CME | Christchurch, 13 – 16 August 2020

South GP CME 2020, a conference for primary health care practitioners, will be held at Horncastle Arena, Christchurch from 13 – 16 August 2020.



Skin cancer is well represented in this year's programme:

- 1. Skin Cancer Surgical Basic and Advanced Skills** (pre-conference workshops)
8.30 – 10.30 am / 11.00 am – 1.00 pm, Thursday 13 August 2020
Presented by Natalie Jamieson, Rebecca Stack, Dylan James, Jane Young
- 2. Dermoscopy part 1 and 2** (pre-conference workshop)
2.00 – 4.00 pm / 4.30 – 6.30 pm, Thursday 13 August 2020
Presented by Amanda Oakley
- 3. Managing skin cancer**
11.00 – 11.55 am / 12.05 – 1.00 pm, Saturday 15 August 2020
Presented by Amanda Oakley, Chris Boberg, Andrew MacGill, Jody Jordan
- 4. No one should die of melanoma**
8.30 – 9.25 am / 9.35 – 10.30 am, Sunday 16 August 2020
Presented by Chris Boberg, Andrew MacGill

[View programme](#) | [Register now](#)

Recent NZ publication: SunSmart accreditation and use of a professional policy drafting service

This recent New Zealand study, published by researchers at the Cancer Society Social and Behavioural Research Unit, investigates two internationally relevant sun protective interventions as predictors of hat policy strength:

- (1) skin cancer primary prevention programme membership
- (2) use of a professional policy drafting service.

Results showed that SunSmart accredited schools and those utilising a policy drafting service were significantly more likely to obtain the most protective hat scores.

[Read the study](#)

Upcoming opportunities and events

2020 Kantar New Zealanders for Health Research (NZHR) opinion poll presentation events

Attend one of the following free presentations to hear about what New Zealanders think, have your say and understand NZHR's response to the challenges that face our health research sector.

Auckland	Wellington	Dunedin	Christchurch	National Zoom
20 July 2020 12.00 – 2.00 pm	23 July 2020 11.30 am – 2.00 pm	24 July 2020 12.00 – 2.00 pm	27 July 2020 9.30 – 10.30 am	29 July 2020 11.00 – 12.00 pm

AMRF: Call for applications for a melanoma or other skin cancer Fellowship

The Auckland Medical Research Foundation (AMRF) is calling for applications for the **Jl Sutherland Medical Research Fellowship**. This inaugural Fellowship is open to medical or science graduates who wish to undertake full-time medical research for a PhD or an MD in the specific field of melanoma or other skin cancer research.

Applications must be received through the AMRF portal **by 5.00 pm, 5 August 2020**.

[More information](#) | [Contact](#)

Red Whale GP Update Webinar Series – 7.30 pm on 2, 9, 16 and 23 September 2020

A comprehensive update for primary healthcare professionals, Red Whale 2020 will be a webinar series presented over four nights in September. New Zealand specialists will be online to answer questions.

[More information](#)

Other upcoming events

August	September
<p>NZMA GP CME 13 – 16 August 2020 Christchurch Further information</p>	<p>Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop 18 - 21 September 2020 Brisbane, Australia Further information</p> <p>ACCO Dermoscopy Workshop 19- 20 September 2020 Melbourne, Australia Further information</p> <p>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Certificate of Dermoscopy 19 – 20 September 2020 Brisbane, Australia Further information</p> <p>Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery Complex Workshop of Skin Cancer Surgery 19 – 20 September 2020 Sydney, Australia Further information</p>

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

Recent MelNet website postings

Below is a selection of recent news postings on the MelNet website. Please visit the [website](#) to view all the latest news items.

[Reduced stage-adjusted follow-up schedule safe for AJCC stages 1B to 2C melanoma patients](#)

[Neoadjuvant studies in melanoma have promising clinical and biomarker results](#)

[Radiation before immunotherapy may prolong lives of patients with melanoma that has spread to the brain](#)

[Long-term outcomes after treatment discontinuation of anti-PD-1 therapy](#)

[A risk prediction model for the development of subsequent primary melanoma](#)

[Anatomic distribution of cutaneous melanoma and its variation by patient characteristics, subtype and Breslow thickness](#)

[Optimal treatment strategy for metastatic melanoma patients with BRAF-V600 mutations](#)

[Cluster of pregnancy-associated melanoma: A case report and brief update](#)

[Melanoma Institute Australia's Sentinel Node Metastasis Risk Calculator](#)



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