



MelNet update

20 May 2020

Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group

10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Friday 26 June 2020

To be held virtually via Zoom

For melanoma health professionals and researchers, this meeting will discuss:

- National melanoma immune checkpoint inhibitor database
Presentations from Associate Professor Peter Gibbs (Royal Melbourne Hospital) and Alexander Dunn (Cancer Control Agency). This will be followed by a discussion to tease out requirements for a melanoma immunotherapy database in New Zealand and how these needs can be met through existing projects.
- Melanoma research: an update
Presentation from Professor Cristin Print (University of Auckland) on blood DNA sequencing for stage III and IV melanoma patients undergoing immunotherapy, and research addressing artificial intelligence, big data and melanoma genomes. To be followed by discussion.

Please RSVP to [Marion Peat](#) for details on how to connect to the meeting.

[More information about the group](#)

Update on Skin Cancer Study Days for Nurses | Auckland postponed until 7 May 2021

Due to COVID-19, the Auckland Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses which was scheduled to take place at Auckland Hospital on 11 September 2020, has been postponed until **Friday 7 May 2021**. Save the new date now. Further details will follow closer to the time.

Check our [website](#) for further updates and information.

NZMA Rotorua GP CME | Virtual Conference 12 – 14 June 2020

Rotorua GP CME 2020, a conference for primary health care practitioners, will now be held as a virtual meeting from 12 – 14 June 2020. It offers clinic-transforming updates as well as the chance for in-depth discussions with experts and networking opportunities with peers.

MelNet will be represented by Co-Chair Dr Chris Boberg who is presenting at 11.50 am on Sunday 14 June about how “No one should die of melanoma”. Chris is one of New Zealand’s leading skin cancer experts and a strong advocate for early detection.

Show your support and get along.

[View programme](#)

[Register now](#)



MelNet membership | Thank you for your feedback + we’re updating our database

The MelNet membership survey is now closed. Thank you to those who completed it - we appreciate your valuable feedback. Results will be shared in due course.

We will be getting in touch over the coming weeks to confirm your membership details. The core of MelNet is its membership, so we want to make sure the information we have on file is up to date.

MelNet's Givealittle page | Help us help you

Thank you for the generous donations we have received so far.

If you or anyone you know would like to give to MelNet, the easiest way to donate is through our [Givealittle page](#). Your kindness will help us continue to advocate for improved melanoma prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment and research, and provide you with skin cancer education opportunities, information, research and best practice.

MelNet is registered with the IRD as a donee organisation so you can claim tax credits for donations of \$5 or more.

[Make a donation](#) or [share via social media](#)

We want to hear from you | Tell us about the great work you're doing

We are always keen to showcase the great work you are doing to support skin cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, care and research. If there is something you would like to share with colleagues around the country, [send us an email](#) – we are excited to hear from you!

World Melanoma Awareness Month | 2020 Melanoma Skin Cancer Report - Stemming the global pandemic

May is World Melanoma Awareness Month and at the heart of this campaign is the newly released report "2020 Melanoma Skin Cancer Report - Stemming the global epidemic". This is a global campaign expected to reach millions of people across 50 countries.

There are three key messages in this report:

- Improving public awareness of skin cancer risk factors
- Reducing intentional tanning
- Making self-skin checks a regular habit – and using the once a month occurrence of a full moon as a reminder

New Zealand data is not included in the report; however, it's still an interesting read.

[Read the report](#)

Upcoming events

There have been many changes to in-person events because of COVID-19. We try our best to update the events section on our website with the latest information, however we recommend contacting event organisers directly for any events you're interested in to be sure you have the most up to date information.

June	July
<p>NZMA Rotorua GP CME 12 – 14 June 2020 Virtual Conference Further information</p> <p>Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting 26 June 2020 Via Zoom videoconference Further information</p>	<p>10th European Post-Chicago Melanoma/Skin Cancer Meeting 9 - 10 July 2020 Virtual meeting Further information</p> <p>Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop 17 – 20 July 2020 Melbourne, Australia Further information</p> <p>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Certificate of Dermoscopy 18 - 19 July 2020 Melbourne, Australia Further information</p> <p>For more events see the MelNet events calendar</p>

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.

[Aspects of immunotherapy with checkpoint inhibitors in melanoma: achievements, reasons for failure, overcoming resistance](#)

[Fatal thin melanoma: thickness of 0.80–1.00 mm are more hazardous thin lesions](#)

[Molecular subtype, biological sex and age shape melanoma tumour evolution](#)

[Counterpoint views on topical issues in melanoma: The Great Debate at “Melanoma Bridge” in Naples, December 2019](#)

[Blockade of C reactive protein \(CRP\) as therapeutic strategy to enhance immune checkpoint therapies in cancer](#)

[Molecular profiling of driver events in metastatic uveal melanoma](#)

[Communicating risk of skin cancer may be most effective to reduce indoor tanning among young white women](#)

[Drugs that target TGF \$\beta\$ signaling pathways may be effective future therapeutic strategies for melanoma patients](#)

[Advances in lymphedema prevention, detection and management](#)

[Local excision with adjuvant brachytherapy provides good tumour control in patients with limited conjunctival melanoma](#)

[GPs could benefit from teledermoscopy to improve their diagnostic accuracy and confidence](#)

[Advisory statement for NZ Skin Cancer practice during COVID-19](#)

[Development of a new method to calculate individuals' melanoma risk](#)



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