

MelNet update

20 October 2020

Multi-disciplinary management of complex stage III and IV melanoma of the head and neck | Join our webinar

Join this interactive webinar and be part of a multi-disciplinary meeting looking at the clinical management of complex stage III and IV melanoma of the head and neck.

Our panel of melanoma experts will help to increase your understanding of the value of multi-disciplinary care and its application to specific cases.

Spaces are limited so register early to avoid disappointment.

[Register now](#) | [More information](#)



Thank you to MSD for their generous support of this event.

MelNet

Multi-disciplinary management of complex stage III and IV melanoma

Join NZ experts in this **FREE** webinar

7.30 - 8.30 pm
4 November 2020

Register

Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting

10.30 am – 1.00 pm

Friday 27 November 2020

To be held virtually via Zoom

For health professionals and researchers with a special interest in melanoma research and therapy.

Topics on the (draft) agenda include:

- Advocating for funded adjuvant treatment in New Zealand
- Melanoma research: an update from MASC Trials

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

[More information about the group](#)

Notice of MelNet AGM | 27 November 2020

The MelNet AGM will be held via Zoom from 1.00 – 1.30 pm on Friday 27 November 2020, immediately following a meeting of the Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group.

Members are invited to submit nominations for the Executive Committee in writing to the [MelNet CEO](#) no later than 5.00 pm Friday 13 November 2020. These should include the nominee's name, a brief biography and the signatures of two members.

According to the MelNet rules, the Committee shall comprise at least eight and no more than ten members, with occupations that span the continuum of melanoma management. Members who will be serving the second year of their two-year term have surgical, health promotion and oncological expertise. Up to five additional members can be elected to the committee at the AGM. Preference will be given to those with experience in the areas of dermatology, research, nursing, general practice and pathology.

Members are also invited to submit any remits or other matters to be considered at the AGM to the [MelNet CEO](#) no later than 5.00 pm 13 November 2020.

[RSVP now](#)

PHARMAC proposal to decline active funding applications: Ingenol mebutate for solar (actinic) keratosis lesions

PHARMAC have identified inactive funding applications for a number of different medicines that they are proposing to decline. Those that relate to skin cancer are **ingenol mebutate for solar (actinic) keratosis lesions**.

For each medicine:

- clinical advice on the application was received at least 12 months ago.
- assessment has determined that the medicine would provide no additional benefits over treatments already funded.
- from subsequent assessment including communications with applicants and suppliers, it has been determined that the price of the medicine would not be the same, or less expensive than, the funded alternative treatment.

PHARMAC are seeking feedback on their proposal. Consultation closes at **5pm Friday 30 October 2020**. Feedback can be emailed to applicationfeedback@pharmac.govt.nz.

Worth a read: 'Saving our Skins' by Dr Richard McKenzie



MelNet member Dr Richard McKenzie recently published his new book 'Saving our Skins: Atmospheric reflections from a Lauder Stargazer'. It's an insider's account of the most successful international environmental action ever undertaken: the Montreal Protocol on Protection of the Ozone Layer. 'Saving our Skins' is the story of how McKenzie and his colleagues at NIWA in Lauder - a research laboratory housed on a sheep and cattle station at the bottom of the country - helped ensure the success of the Montreal Protocol.

"Saving our Skins... is a must read for any clinician involved in skin cancer care as this book is a crucial tool of the atmospheric science connection as to why we have the high rates of skin cancer in this country." - Trish Baker, Healthbox

Upcoming opportunities and events

Skin Cancer College of Australasia: Virtual Skin Symposium

13 – 14 November 2020

Register now for Skin Cancer College of Australasia's first ever Virtual Skin Symposium. Being held over two days, this virtual event will showcase the best speakers in primary care skin cancer medicine and provide delegates with multiple networking and connection opportunities.

[Register now](#) | [More information](#)

VIRTUAL SKIN SYMPOSIUM

A world-class, fully interactive virtual symposium for primary care skin cancer medicine practitioners

Enjoy engaging speakers, full interactivity with your peers, presenters and sponsors and the same positive energy found at any college event - but it's all online!

- Friday evening keynote & virtual welcome drinks
- Multiple stream program on Saturday & dedicated networking opportunities
- Full access to the recorded program for 12 months after the event
- Explore latest products & services available to primary care practitioners in 2020

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE | Friday Evening - 13th November
Full day Saturday - 14th November

REGISTER NOW →

Melanoma Awareness Week | Don't forget to get spotted

19 – 25 October 2020

Encourage your team, patients and communities to have fun while raising awareness of the importance of skin checks and early detection.

Upload photos or videos of your "Get Spotted" activities to your social channels. Tag @Melanoma New Zealand with the hashtags #GetSpotted #EarlyDetectionSavesLives.

[More information](#)



Other upcoming events

November	December
<p>Clinical Oncology Society of Australia Annual Scientific Meeting 11 - 13 November 2020 Brisbane, Australia Further information</p> <p>Certificates of Skin Cancer Medicine Certificates of Skin Cancer Surgery 21 – 22 November 2020 Brisbane, Australia Further information</p> <p>Certificates of Skin Cancer Medicine Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery 28 - 29 November 2020 Perth, Australia Further information</p>	<p>Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop 4 - 7 December 2020 Auckland 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.

[Atezolizumab, vemurafenib, and cobimetinib effective first line treatment for BRAF V600 mutation-positive advanced melanoma](#)

[Nivolumab a more efficacious adjuvant treatment for patients with resected high-risk melanoma than ipilimumab](#)

[Use of combinatorial treatment approach would delay the emergence of resistance to targeted therapy in melanoma patients](#)

[Extracapsular spread significant survival indicator in sentinel lymph node positive melanoma patients](#)

[UV sensors may improve use of sunscreen and sunglasses in adolescents](#)

[Artificial intelligence can improve diagnostic performance when classifying dermoscopic images of melanoma and nevi](#)

[Renal immune-related adverse events attributable to steroid responsive acute tubulointerstitial nephritis in metastatic melanoma patients undergoing immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy](#)

[Perspectives in melanoma: meeting report from the 2019 “Melanoma Bridge” \(Naples, Italy\)](#)

[Australian Government expand PBS listing of pembrolizumab for adjuvant treatment of melanoma](#)

[Adjuvant dabrafenib plus trametinib in Stage III melanoma results in longer duration of survival without relapse](#)



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