



MelNet update

20 September 2020

Managing Skin Cancer in Primary Care | Webinar content now available

MelNet's first webinar "Managing Skin Cancer in Primary Care" was held on 15 September. Thank you to our members who attended the webinar.

If you were unable to join the live webinar, you can now [view it here](#).



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

MelNet has moved to Christchurch | Please update your records with our new address

MelNet's head office has relocated from Wellington to Christchurch. Please update your records with our new address:

P O Box 37411
Halswell
Christchurch 8245

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](#)

Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting | Save the date

10.00 am – 1.00 pm
Friday 27 November 2020
Via Zoom

More details to follow.

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PHARMAC amendments | Specified dose regimen for pembrolizumab and nivolumab to remain

During COVID-19, PHARMAC removed the specification of dose regimen from the Special Authority criteria for funded nivolumab and pembrolizumab. This change was made to ensure practical access to treatments as needed. It meant that all patients could be administered treatment at fixed doses and extended intervals.

Following sector consultation, PHARMAC have decided to make this change permanent, continuing to allow flexibility of pembrolizumab and nivolumab dose administration.

During this time, radiological response monitoring requirements were also removed, however the requirement for radiological response as part of renewal applications will be reinstated. This will not be done prior to 1 December 2020 and at least one month's notice will be given prior to the change being implemented.

[More information](#)

Recently released: Melanoma Risk Calculators | Developed by the Melanoma Institute of Australia

Researchers at the Melanoma Institute of Australia have recently released two melanoma risk calculators:

1. [First primary melanoma risk calculator](#): Generates a patient's risk of developing a first primary invasive melanoma during the rest of their life.
2. [Subsequent primary melanoma risk calculator](#): Generates an estimation of a patient's risk of developing another primary melanoma over the 10 years following their most recent melanoma.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- These tools are based on Australian data and may not perform reliably when applied to a NZ population.
- If you choose to use the first primary melanoma risk calculator, it is recommended you select Tasmania as your region as this most closely correlates to NZ data.
- A NZ melanoma risk predictor tool which calculates a patient's risk of developing a first primary invasive melanoma in the next five years is available through [BPAC](#). We encourage you to use this tool where possible.

These tools are designed to inform discussions between clinicians and patients and help ensure tailored skin surveillance programs are implemented for early detection according to the specific patient risk.

Upcoming opportunities and events

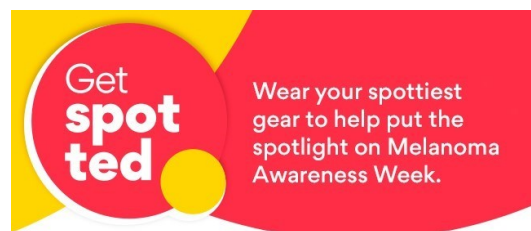
Melanoma Awareness Week | Show your support and get spotted

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.

Get involved by:

1. [Registering](#) your support.
2. Holding a 'Get Spotted' event or fundraiser - dress up in spots, decorate your practice or give your patients another reason to check their skin this October by offering a special Melanoma Awareness Week skin check offer in support of the cause.
3. Uploading photos or videos of your "Get Spotted" activities to your social channels. Tag @Melanoma New Zealand with the hashtags #GetSpotted #EarlyDetectionSavesLives.



[More information](#)



Join us on facebook

Other upcoming events

October	November
<p>Certificate of Dermoscopy 9 October 2020 Online Further information</p>	<p>WONCA Asia Pacific Regional Conference 2020 5 - 7 November 2020 Aotea Centre, Auckland Further information</p>
<p>Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery 10 – 11 October 2020 Brisbane, Australia Further information</p>	<p>Clinical Oncology Society of Australia Annual Scientific Meeting 11 - 13 November 2020 Brisbane, Australia Further information</p>
<p>16th European Association of Dermato Oncology (EADO) Congress 12 – 14 October 2020 Online Further information</p>	<p>Certificates of Skin Cancer Medicine Certificates of Skin Cancer Surgery 21 – 22 November 2020 Brisbane, Australia Further information</p>
<p>MASC 2020 AGM and Annual Scientific Meeting 23 - 24 October 2020 Online 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>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine 24 – 25 October 2020 Sydney, 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.

[Melanoma in situ lesions increase in morphological complexity over time](#)

[Proposal for consensus definitions for the concepts of rechallenge and retreatment in melanoma](#)

[Melanoma brain metastases have unique molecular profile](#)

[EADO recommends dermatology-oncology as specific sub-specialty in the management of skin cancer](#)

[Head and neck mucosal melanoma: The United Kingdom national guidelines](#)

[New type of immunotherapy shows promise for advanced metastatic melanoma](#)

[Use of topical imiquimod for treatment of local metastatic melanoma should be considered in palliative settings](#)

[Sentinel node status the most important prognostic information for stage IIB and IIC melanoma patients](#)

[Gene expression profile tests poor at identifying recurrence in patients with stage I melanoma](#)