

New Zealand has highest melanoma death rate in the world | Recent research

According to recent research, New Zealand had the world's highest death rate from melanoma in 2020. University of Otago social and behavioural researcher Dr Bronwen McNoe, who also sits on the MelNet Executive Committee, says high rates of melanoma in New Zealand are primarily due to higher levels of exposure to UVR and a high number of people having fair skin. Dermatologist and University of Auckland Adjunct Associate Professor at the Department of Medicine Amanda Oakley, who is also a MelNet Executive Committee member, explains that we have a burgeoning ageing population of white New Zealanders (baby boomers) that baked in the sun during their youth or have worked outdoors with little protection from sunburn or daily relentless ultraviolet radiation. Added to that our health services are under a great strain with far too few dermatologists, surgical specialists, and GPs to effectively manage our skin cancer epidemic.

A link to the research can be found <u>here</u> and related media articles are posted on the <u>media section</u> of the MelNet website.

Estimated healthcare costs of melanoma and keratinocyte skin cancers in Australia and Aotearoa New **Zealand in 2021** | More recent research

Recent research estimates the total cost to New Zealand in 2021 for new patients with melanoma was \$51.2 m, and for keratinocyte skin cancer \$129.4 m, with a total combined cost of \$180.5 m. These up-to-date national healthcare costs of melanoma and other skin cancer accentuate the savings potential of successful prevention strategies for skin cancer.

Researchers involved in this study include Associate Professor Louisa Gordon and Professor David Whiteman who both spoke at the New Zealand Melanoma Summit in February, and MelNet Executive Committee member Dr Bronwen McNoe.

Read the article

Sunscreen (Product Safety Standard) Bill passed

The Sunscreen (Product Safety Standard) Bill has passed its third reading and on 8 March 2022 was given Royal assent. This means sunscreens will be regulated under the Fair Trading Act and it will be mandatory for products to meet the Australian and New Zealand sunscreen standard. Companies that breach the requirements may face fines of up to \$600,000.

The Bill will become law by 8 September 2022.

Read more or read the Bill

Cancer Care and COVID-19 | Impact of COVID-19 on cancer services to end of February

The Cancer Control Agency Te Aho o Te Kahu continues to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on cancer diagnostic and treatment services. The most recent report includes DHB data up until the end of February 2022. It looks at the number of cancer diagnoses and treatments to end of February 2022, compared to the same time period in the previous year/s.

View the report

View the full series

Melanoma 101: From detection to survivorship | Recorded nurse webinar

This webinar hosted by Cancer Nurses Society of Australia in collaboration with <u>Melanoma Institute Australia</u> will provide an overview of the latest understanding of melanoma. It covers detection, early and late-stage disease management, up-to-date research on emerging treatments and caring for patients through the survivorship phase.

You can watch the recording on MIA's Melanoma Education Portal (free registration required).

Please note there may be differences between Australia and New Zealand for some content.

Free short course in dermoscopy

Offered by HealthCert and presented by pioneers in the field, this series of six online video lectures will provide valuable insights and refresh your knowledge in skin cancer screening and diagnosis.

More information

Upcoming opportunities and events



Australasian Skin Cancer Congress 20 – 22 May 2022 Gold Coast, Queensland or virtual

Join Skin Cancer College Australasia in-person or virtually at this year's Australasian Skin Cancer Congress. The programme will include presentations from primary care practitioners, oncologists, researchers and pathologists, many of whom are global thought leaders in skin cancer medicine. The 10 important session themes include *Setting up your Clinic for Surgery, The Cost of Skin Cancer, Surgical Repairs on Ears, Field Cancerisation* and more. Standard rates close 30 April.

Register now



June 3-7, 2022 • McCormick Place • Chicago, IL & Online



Join more than 40,000 oncology professionals from around the world at the 2022 ASCO Annual Meeting. Stay up to date on new clinical cancer advances in every area of cancer research, gain real-time insights from world-renown faculty, and connect with one of the largest, most diverse audiences in global oncology – in person or online. Earlybird registration closes on 27 April.

More information Register now

May

RACS ASC 2022

2 – 6 May 2022 Brisbane, Australia

Find out more

Melanoma Focus Virtual Regional Meeting

13 May 2022

Online

Find out more

3rd Edition of International Conference on Dermatology and Cosmetology (IDC 2022)

18 - 19 May 2022

Online

Find out more

For more events see the MelNet events calendar

June

ICMDD 2022: 16th International Conference on Melanoma Diagnosis and Dermatology

2 – 3 June 2022

Online

Find out more

Certificate of Dermoscopy - Online

3 June - 15 July 2022

Online

Find out more

Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery

4 June 2022

Perth, Australia

Find out more

Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery

5 June 2022

Perth, Australia

Find out more

23rd World Dermatology Congress

20 - 21 June 2022

Paris, France

Find out more

Recent MelNet website postings

Below is a selection of recent **news postings** on the MelNet website. Please visit the <u>website</u> to view all the latest news items.

<u>Trial evaluating spartalizumab plus dabrafenib and trametinib for BRAF V600-mutant unresectable or metastatic</u> Melanoma

Effects of workplace skin cancer screenings on preventive and risk behaviour

Current evidence for neoadjuvant systemic therapy in stage III melanoma

Promising effects of digital interventions on improving sun protection or skin self-examination

Pathologic response of index lymph node may be considered reliable indicator of entire therapeutic lymph node dissection after neoadjuvant checkpoint inhibitor therapy in stage III melanoma patients

Banning commercial indoor tanning across England with accompanying public information campaign effective use of healthcare resources

Antifibrotic drugs as therapeutic tools in resistant melanoma

Implication of LZTR1 as key tumor promoter and therapeutic target in acral melanoma

Adaptive translational reprogramming of metabolism limits the response to targeted therapy in BRAFV600 melanoma

Steroid exposure within 3 months of initiating ICIs associated with increased mortality up to 6 months after ICI

"She'll Be Right, Mate": Study of Australian farmers' engagement with skin cancer prevention behaviours



