

MelNet update

20 May 2022

“Understanding the Gap: an analysis of the availability of cancer medicines in Aotearoa”

This report, released by Te Aho o Te Kahu, Cancer Control Agency, analyses cancer medicines publicly funded in Australia compared to New Zealand.

Through this report Te Aho o Te Kahu looks to understand more about the gaps in cancer medicines to inform their work and the advice they give to Government. It found 20 different medicine-indication gaps where the medicines were publicly funded in Australia and not in New Zealand, and where the ESMO-MCBS score indicated that the medicine would offer substantial clinical benefit. Four of these medicine-indication gaps related to stage III or IV melanoma - two gaps were in the curative setting and two in the non-curative setting, and two gaps related to BRAF tumour mutations.

The full report is available [here](#), and related media articles are posted on the [media section](#) of the MelNet website.



Primary prevention | Recently published research

University of Otago Social and Behavioural Researcher and highly valued MelNet Executive Committee member Dr Bronwen McNoe has been involved in more interesting research in the field of primary prevention.

“What can Aotearoa New Zealand learn from the Australian Sunsmart Story? A qualitative study” explores the skin cancer primary prevention views of stakeholders in Australia and identifies successful strategies that may be translatable to other jurisdictions. It concludes that key strategies used to gain momentum in achieving Australia's comprehensive Sunsmart programme encompassed: strong leadership, legislation including banning solarium and workplace health and safety legislation, a critical mass of key advocates from a range of disciplines including clinicians and patients, and the advantageous use of media to drive change. The challenge for other nations is to apply the lessons learnt in Australia to our own jurisdictions.

[Read the article](#)

“National Sporting Organisation policies: A health promotion opportunity?” investigates whether National Sporting Organisations (NSOs) had policy documentation on healthy behaviours such as smokefree, sun-protection, healthy food/beverages and alcohol, and if so, whether this was in line with current scientific evidence of past best practice in cancer prevention. The authors conclude that although many NSOs lack adequate health-related policies, this was often due to a lack of resources, other priorities, or they had not considered developing policies in these areas.

[Read the article](#)

CPD Collective now live



cpdcollective.com

CPD Collective brings CPD providers and health professionals together to support ongoing education. It is a free resource to help New Zealand health professionals find the latest CPD activities available to them from a variety of organisations.

[Find out more](#)

Upcoming opportunities and events

Webinar: WHAT'S NEW in Auckland Region Community Healthpathways | 21 May 2022

Hurry and **register today** for this free webinar being held tomorrow, 21 May. Hosted by the Auckland Faculty of the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners, it features clinical updates on the Auckland Community Healthpathways.

MelNet Executive Committee Co-Chair Dr Chris Boberg will give a dermatology update on melanoma and skin lesions.

[More information](#)

[Register now](#)



NZMA Rotorua GP CME | In-person conference 9 – 12 June 2022

Rotorua GP CME 2022 will provide a general practice update with short, sharp and to the point clinical content, including key take home messages to change practice behaviour immediately.

Skin cancer is a key feature in the programme – you won't want to miss these skin cancer related sessions:

- **Pre-conference workshop: *Dermoscopy*** (Adjunct Associate Professor Amanda Oakley)
- **Workshop: *Preventing Skin Cancer - What Does the Evidence Show?*** (Professor David Whiteman)
- **Plenary session: *The Skin Cancer Pandemic***
 - *The size of the problem* (Professor David Whiteman)
 - *Non Melanoma Cancers* (Dr Niyati Sharma)
 - *Melanoma - An Ever Increasing Problem* (Dr Andrew MacGill)
 - *Effective Diagnosis and Screening* (Adjunct Associate Professor Amanda Oakley)
 - *Surgical Issues* (Dr Chris Boberg)
 - *Modern Systemic Therapies - How Good Are They?* (Dr Jody Jordan)
- **Workshop: *No-One Should Die of Melanoma*** (Dr Chris Boberg, Dr Andrew MacGill)
- **Workshop: *Overdiagnosis in Skin Cancer: What Does This Really Mean, and the Way Forward?*** (Professor David Whiteman)
- **Nurses programme: *Skin Cancer on the Rise*** (Dr Chris Boberg, Dr Andrew MacGill)

[More information](#)

[View the programme](#)

[Register now](#)

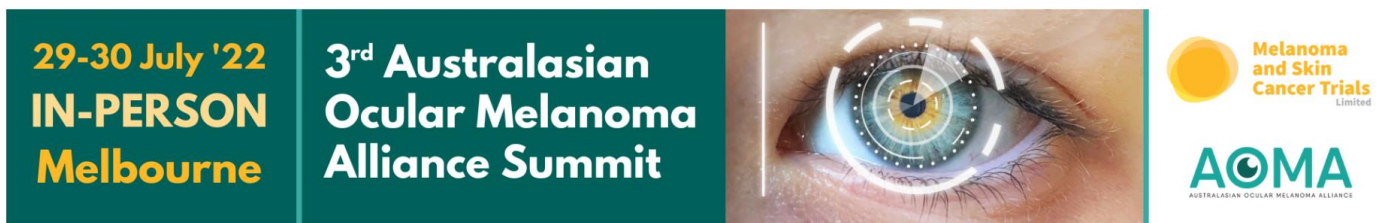


This interactive hybrid congress offers a comprehensive overview of new developments in melanoma diagnostics and therapy. International key opinion leaders on melanoma will present latest clinical trial results and discuss exciting new drugs.

[More information](#)

[View the programme](#)

[Register now](#)



Australasia's premier ocular melanoma cross-disciplinary meeting, this in-person event brings together healthcare professionals, researchers and consumers in ocular melanoma.

[More information](#)

[Register now](#)

Other upcoming opportunities and events

June

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

2 – 3 June 2022

Online

[Find out more](#)

2022 ASCO Annual Meeting

3 – 7 June 2022

Hybrid Conference: Chicago, USA and Virtual

[Find out more](#)

Certificate of Dermoscopy - Online

3 June - 15 July 2022

Online

[Find out more](#)

**Professional Certificate 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](#)

Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine

25 - 26 June 2022

Perth, Australia

[Find out more](#)

July

Certificate of Dermoscopy - Online

15 July - 26 August 2022

Online

[Find out more](#)

Skin and Skin Cancer Conference and Masterclass

21 - 24 July 2022

Brisbane, Australia

[Find out more](#)

Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop

29 July - 1 August 2022

Brisbane, Australia

[Find out more](#)

Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine

30 - 31 July 2022

Brisbane, Australia

[Find out more](#)

[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.

[STARBOARD trial evaluates efficacy of encorafenib + binimetinib + pembrolizumab for first-line metastatic/unresectable BRAF V600-mutant melanoma](#)

[Early detection of skin cancer in Australia – current approaches and new opportunities](#)

[Integrating shade provision into the healthy built environment agenda: the approach taken in NSW, Australia](#)

[Regulation essential to ensure high-quality, safe and effective sunscreen products are available](#)

[Recommendation of population-based cancer registries working towards statutory notification and routine reporting of keratinocyte cancer in Australia](#)

[Better, more consistent guidance and advice about the risk and benefits of sun exposure required in Australia and New Zealand](#)

[Higher polygenic risk for melanoma is associated with improved survival](#)

[PET may have utility in predicting long-term benefit and help guide discontinuation of therapy in metastatic melanoma](#)

[Patient-led surveillance after treatment of localized melanoma appears to be safe, feasible, and acceptable](#)

[Association between melanoma detected during routine skin checks and mortality](#)

[Ferroptosis-related gene prognostic model can predict prognosis of melanoma patients](#)

[See-and-treat model to offer earlier skin cancer diagnosis and treatment reduces wait times and cost](#)

[Characterisation of the treatment-naive immune microenvironment in melanoma with BRAF mutation](#)

[Neoadjuvant immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy in melanoma: efficacy, safety and timing](#)

[Impact of wide local excision on melanoma patient survival: a population-based study](#)

[Potential role of Instagram as platform for improving awareness of skin cancer risks and benefits of prevention practices](#)



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