

# Stocktake of Melanoma Research in New Zealand

MelNet

Linking professionals in  
melanoma in New Zealand

# The Stocktake

- Stocktake of melanoma epidemiological and treatment-related research
  - Including clinical trials, molecular testing and tissue banking
  - Seeking to develop a comprehensive list of melanoma research being undertaken in NZ and by whom
- Identified by researchers and clinicians as a vital first step in enabling MelNet to promote collaboration and coordination of such activities, with a view to establishing an integrated approach to melanoma translational research in New Zealand

# What we did

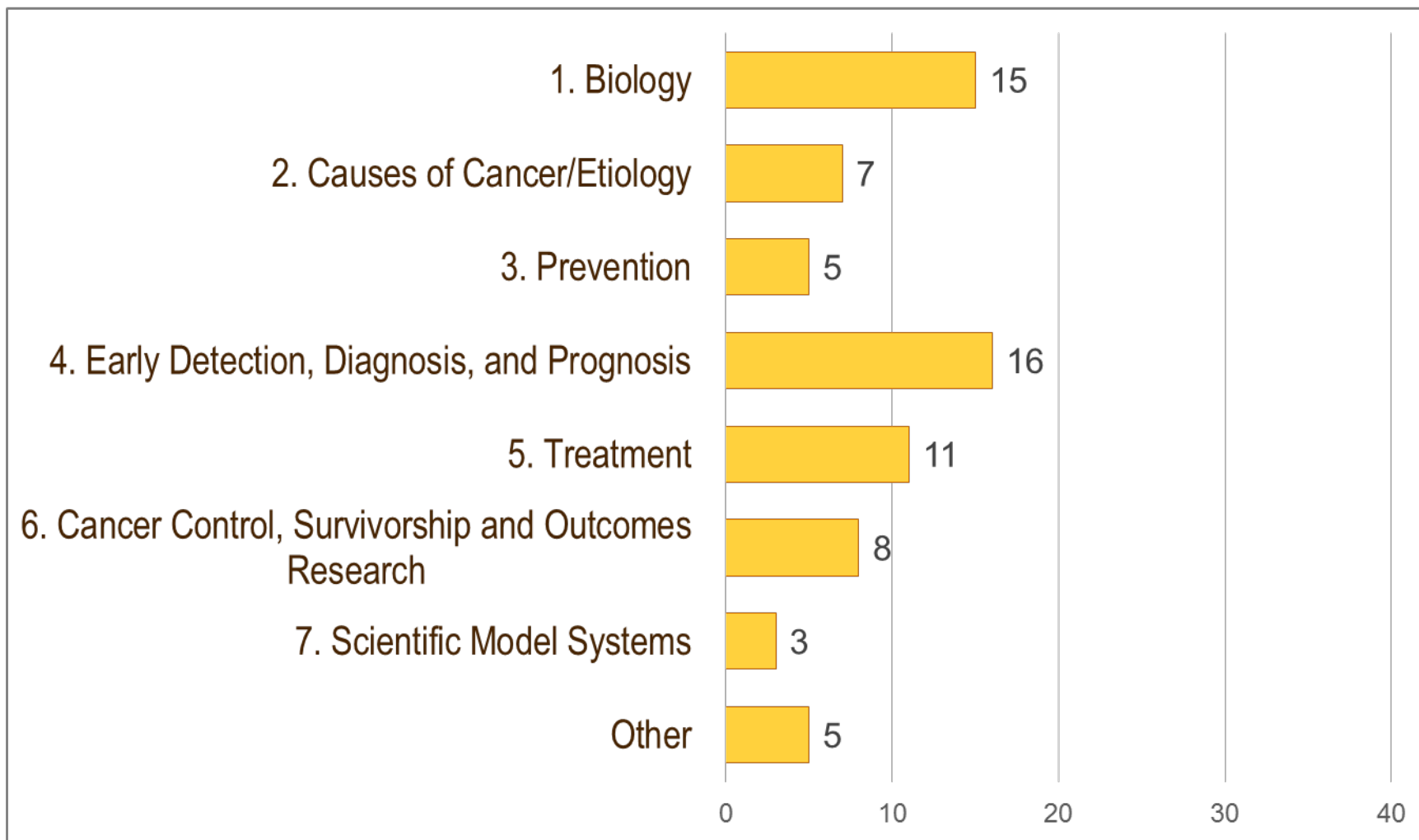
- Developed questionnaire based on consultative input from researchers
- Participation invited and actively sought from all 750 MelNet members
- Stocktake to be used
  - As a database searchable by all those who participated
  - To provide a statistical summary of key aspects of melanoma research in New Zealand

Total MelNet members invited to take part	750
Total who responded to this invitation	60
Have been personally involved in any research into the control or understanding of melanoma over the last two years, i.e. since July 2013. This could include pre-2013 completed field work or experimental research used as a basis for publication, new applications etc.	28
Not personally involved in research (One of the people above was able to provide the name of another researcher they felt could be included in the Stocktake. This person had already participated directly.)	32
The 28 researchers active in melanoma research:	
Providing information about their research:	
Provided information	19
Did not provide information	9

<b>Number of research projects/programmes reported by each researcher</b>	
1	7
2	9
3	-
4	2
5	1
<i>Average</i>	2.0
<i>Total research projects/programmes reported</i>	38
<b>Principal Investigator provided the information in the Stocktake</b>	27
Information provided by a person other than the Principal Investigator	11
(Note possibility of small degree of double counting of research projects/programmes because of reporting of same research by different people)	

# Statistical Summary of Key Aspects of Melanoma Research in New Zealand

# Broad categories of research



Base: 38 research projects/programmes  
Categories based on ICRP classifications  
Some research fitted >1 category, average 1.8 categories

# Detailed categories of research – Example 1

<b>1. Biology</b>	<b>15</b>
1.1 - Normal Functioning	0
1.2 - Cancer Initiation: Alterations in Chromosomes	0
1.3 - Cancer Initiation: Oncogenes and Tumor Suppressor Genes	4
1.4 - Cancer Progression and Metastasis	10
1.5 - Resources and Infrastructure Related to Biology	2
1.6 - Cancer Related Biology	9



# Detailed categories of research – Example 2

<b>4. Early Detection, Diagnosis, and Prognosis</b>	<b>16</b>
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4.1 - Technology Development and/or Marker Discovery	5
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4.2 - Technology and/or Marker Evaluation with Respect to Fundamental Parameters of Method	0
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4.3 - Technology and/or Marker Testing in a Clinical Setting	5
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4.4 - Resources and Infrastructure Related to Early Detection, Diagnosis or Prognosis	7
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# Multidisciplinary and collaborative research

This research is **multidisciplinary**

26

## **Collaboration:**

Does this research involve collaboration with other researchers/institutions ...

In New Zealand

19

In Australia

13

Other international

7

Any of these types of collaboration/collaborators

26

# Articles, conferences and websites

## Have any articles been published about this research ...

In peer-reviewed journals	11
In other publications	7

## Has this research been presented at any conferences ...

In New Zealand	19
In Australia	10
Other international	8

<b>Further details about this research are available on a website/websites</b>	<b>14</b>
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The full Stocktake contains the details of all of the above

# Articles, conferences and websites

(expanded table including *net* and *intersect* counts)

## **Have any articles been published about this research ...**

In peer-reviewed journals	11
In other publications	7
<i>Published in EITHER of the above</i>	14

## **Has this research been presented at any conferences ...**

In New Zealand	19
In Australia	10
Other international	8
<i>Presented at ANY conference</i>	21

*Published anywhere AND presented at any conference* 12

*Published anywhere OR presented at any conference* 23

## **Further details about this research are available on a website/websites** 14

*Published, presented at a conference, OR details available on a website* 26

# What sources of funding contribute to the conduct of this research?

Health Research Council	1
District Health Board	7
A Government ministry	4
University	10
NGO	4
Industry such as a pharmaceutical company	5
No specific funding	9
Other	15
<i>Average number</i>	<i>1.4</i>

# Organisation/Institution

	Researchers	Research projects/ programmes
ADHB	1	2
Capital and Coast DHB	1	1
CMDHB, University of Auckland, NZMU	1	4
Da Vinci Clinic	1	2
Health Promotion Agency	1	1
Hugh Adam Cancer Epidemiology Unit University of Otago	1	2
Malaghan Institute of Medical Research	1	2
Melanoma unit	1	1
Skin Surgery Clinic; Universities of Auckland/ Queensland	1	2
Skinspots skin cancer clinics	1	2
University of Otago	6	15
Waikato DHB	1	2
<i>Total where this was specified</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>36</i>

# Occupation

	<b>Researchers</b>	<b>Research projects / programmes</b>
Dermatologist	2	4
Epidemiologist	1	5
General Practitioner	1	2
Molecular Biologist	6	12
Nurse	0	0
Oncologist	1	2
Pathologist	2	3
Plastic Surgeon	1	4
Social and Behavioural Researcher	1	1
Statistician/bioinformatician	2	3
Other	5	9
<i>Total where occupation was specified</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>45</b>

# Tissue, samples and data that could be used for ethically approved research

<b>Do you or does your organisation hold any of the following?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
Banked melanoma tissue	6	5	4
Banked blood samples	4	6	4
Research data that could be made available to other researchers	9	4	3



# Comments from participants in Stocktake

- What do you see as priorities for research into the control or understanding of melanoma in New Zealand?
- In your opinion, are there gaps in the research to control or understand melanoma in New Zealand, or areas and topics that are not being sufficiently researched in New Zealand? What are they?
- What do you see as the most significant obstacles to melanoma-related research in New Zealand?
- See handout

# Points for discussion

- Points arising from comments from participants in Stocktake
- To what extent does the Stocktake represent all Melanoma research in New Zealand?
- What are the gaps / surprises in terms of:
  - Topics/research identified by the Stocktake?
  - Institutions represented?
- Would it be useful for the Stocktake to be more comprehensive? How could this best be done?
- Who should get access to the full contents of the Stocktake? How?
- How can this facilitate more communication and collaboration between researchers?

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