

MelNet update

20 July 2022

2022 NZ Melanoma Summit session recordings | Platform for on demand content closing soon

If there are any session recordings from the 2022 NZ Melanoma Summit that you would still like to watch, don't delay – the platform for on demand content is closing on **12 August**.

You can access the recordings with the log-in details you were given to attend the Summit. Please [contact us](#) if you need the log-in details again.

Exciting new research | Personalisation of cancer treatment in the future?

Professor Mike Eccles and his team at Otago University are undertaking research to better understand what makes melanoma one of the most aggressive cancers.

Using melanoma cell lines generously donated by cancer patients, they have sequenced the RNA content of each and are analysing this for clues and pathways that affect the behaviour of melanoma cells.



To assist non-bioinformatician scientists to query RNA sequencing data easily and quickly, they have developed a platform called a Shiny app to aid individuals in their analysis. This platform is available to researchers across New Zealand at www.CancerHub.net.

Eccles and his team have found different clues underlying specific signatures of DNA and RNA sequences that are associated with resistance to Keytruda. With the assistance of Government funding, further research into sequences like these will be undertaken with the hope of using the findings to help personalise cancer treatment in the future by matching the right drugs to each patient's cancer.

Immunotherapy Outcomes Prediction calculator | New clinical tool



Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA) have developed a new clinical tool to help oncologists more accurately determine if their patients will respond to immunotherapy before starting treatment. By using routinely collected clinical factors available at consultation – like blood parameters and site of metastases – clinicians will be able to better profile patients' likelihood of response to checkpoint inhibitor immunotherapy prior to commencing treatment.

Since anti-CTLA4 treatment is not funded in New Zealand, use of the tool may be limited to guide patients who can self-fund combination therapy of anti-PD-1/anti-CTLA4.

[Access the tool](#)

Check the [Resources](#) page on the MelNet website for other useful tools and resources.

Tips and tricks from MIA

Pathology podcast

Featuring Professor John Thompson AO, Professor Fergal Moloney and world's leading melanoma pathologist Professor Richard Scolyer AO. Topics include the role of AI and computing in pathology, overdiagnosis of melanoma and borderline lesions.

[Listen to the podcast](#) via the Melanoma Education Portal or search for "Melanoma Insights for Professionals" in your favourite podcast app.

Skin cancer prevention webinar

MIA's dermatologist Dr Niamh-Anna O'Sullivan provides practical advice to help educate your patients and change your own sun-safe behaviour.

[Watch the recording](#) on the Melanoma Education Portal

New early detection skin cancer campaign targeting regional and rural Australians

MASC Trials and Melanoma Patients Australia have launched a public awareness and education campaign 'Self-Skin Checks, No Regrets'. Targeted at regional and rural Australians aged 60+ - a population at increased risk of developing skin cancer - the campaign encourages regular self-skin checks and raises awareness of prevention and early detection skin cancer resources and support services.

[Find out more](#)

New surgical facilities for skin cancer patients | MoleMap now providing skin cancer treatment options

MoleMap are making some additions to their services. They will now offer:

- immediate surgical treatments to patients with malignant skin lesions following their diagnosis
- counselling services for those diagnosed with skin cancer
- an advanced training programme for melanographers to upskill them in the provision of non-surgical treatment options at the point of diagnosis for a range of precancerous skin lesions.

[Read the media article](#)

Upcoming opportunities and events

"Primary Care Skin Imaging Options Without the High-tech Setup"

Hosted by Skin Cancer College Australasia, this **free webinar** on Wednesday **27 July** will focus on:

- How to incorporate total body photography into your primary care work flow;
- Clinical and dermatoscopic images;
- The most cost effective way of implementing skin imaging.

[More information and to register](#)

Due to the increasing COVID cases in Australia, MASC Trials have changed the **AOMA Summit** from a hybrid event to online only. The event will still be held on Saturday 30 July from 11am – 6.30pm NZST (9am – 4.30pm AEST).

Registration is free.

[More information and to register](#)



Goodfellow Unit Primary Care Update: Webinar on Saturday 27 August 2022

At this year's online Update Day from the Goodfellow Unit, 16 experts will discuss New Zealand specific updates in dermatology, cardiology, ORL, sexual health and more. Registration includes ongoing access to online archives of the presentations.

[More information](#)

[Register now](#)

Other upcoming opportunities and events

August

**Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine
Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery
Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine
6 – 7 August 2022**

Adelaide, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**NZMA South GP CME
11 – 14 August 2022**

Christchurch

[Further information](#)

**Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine
Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery
Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery
Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine
Professional Diploma of Skin Cancer Surgery
13 – 14 August 2022**

Brisbane, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**New Zealand Dermatological Society Incorporated
Conference and AGM
17 – 20 August 2022**

Auckland

[Find out more](#)

**New Zealand Dermatology Nurses' Society (NZDNS)
conference
18 - 19 August 2022**

Auckland

[Find out more](#)

**Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine
20 - 21 August 2022**

Sydney, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**NZSCM Conference
25 – 27 August 2022**

Queenstown

[Find out more](#)

**New Zealand Association of General Surgeons
(NZAGS) Annual Conference
27 – 28 August 2022**

Wellington

[Find out more](#)

**Queenstown Research Week 2022
29 August - 1 September 2022**

Queenstown

[Find out more](#)

**31st Queenstown Molecular Biology Meeting
31 August - 1 September 2022**

Queenstown

[Find out more](#)

September

**Certificate of Dermoscopy - Online
2 September - 14 October 2022**

Online

[Find out more](#)

**European Society for Medical Oncology
Congress (ESMO)**

9 – 13 September 2022

Paris, France

[Find out more](#)

**Dermatopathology for Skin Cancer Clinicians
9 September - 21 October 2022**

Online

[Find out more](#)

**Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine
Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery
Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery
Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine
Professional Diploma of Skin Cancer Surgery
10 – 11 September 2022**

Sydney, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**ASCO Quality Care Symposium 2022
30 September – 1 October 2022**

Chicago, USA

[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.

[Personalized response-directed surgery and adjuvant therapy after neoadjuvant ipilimumab and nivolumab in high-risk stage III melanoma: the PRADO trial](#)

[Melanoma-specific survival rates in two CMMR cohorts across stages I and II less favorable than published in AJCCv8](#)

[Benefits of pembrolizumab versus placebo as adjuvant therapy in completely resected stage IIB or IIC melanoma](#)

[Baseline clinical factors predict response and survival outcomes of patients with metastatic melanoma treated with immunotherapy](#)

[Analysis of T cell receptor signal strength, and its manipulation, can provide powerful metrics for monitoring outcomes to immunotherapy](#)

[New microbiopsy device could change the way skin cancers are diagnosed](#)

[Requirement to upskill preservice health and PE teachers to improve sun safe HPE pedagogies and school sun protection routines](#)

[Further primary care interventions may be required to standardise melanoma risk assessment and management processes](#)

[Clinical and histological features of lesions that share many similar features with melanoma](#)

[Challenges, demands and opportunities in improving analytical methods for sunscreen testing](#)



Support our work. Donate to MelNet



Join us on facebook