

# MelNet update

20 September 2023

## Dermoscopy of Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer online series | 4 October – 22 November 2023

This series will overview the clinical and dermoscopic characteristics of non-melanoma skin cancers with the aim of increasing participants' ability to recognise and detect these cancers early.

Registrants will receive seven weekly emails containing a video presented by Dermatology registrars (supervised by Adjunct Associate Professor Amanda Oakley) and other educational material. The series concludes with a 1-hour live online discussion forum on 22 November.

The cost to attend is \$80 (including GST).

This series has been endorsed by RNZCGP for up to 4.5 CME credits for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) purposes and has been approved in the RACS CPD Program for 5 points in Educational Activities.

[Find out more](#) [Register now](#)

Thank you to our generous sponsors



**NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER DERMOSCOPY**  
An online series hosted by MelNet

*Dermoscopy education delivered right to your inbox*

*Improve your understanding of the clinical and dermoscopic characteristics of non-melanoma skin cancers and increase your ability to recognise and detect these cancers early.*

*For all those involved in the opportunistic detection of skin cancer. The course includes 7 weekly emails containing a video and other supporting educational material, plus a one hour live online discussion forum.*

**4 October - 22 November 2023**  
\$80 including GST | Endorsed for up to 5 CME credits

 Visit [www.melnet.org.nz](http://www.melnet.org.nz) to register

Kindly supported by 

## Missed out on the *Dermoscopy Made Easy* online course held last Saturday?

Did you miss Adjunct Associate Professor Amanda Oakley's online beginners course [Dermoscopy Made Easy](#) held last Saturday, but would have liked to attend? You still have the opportunity to register and receive a link to the recording at the course fee of \$285. Please [email us](#) by **Tuesday 26 September** if you are interested.

Our generous sponsors [Esteem Healthcare](#), [Heine](#) and [Capes Medical](#) have offered some great deals on their dermatoscopes for course participants. Thank you also to MSD for their support of the course.

[Find out more about the course](#)

## Next MelNet AGM | 28 November 2023

The 2023 MelNet AGM will be held via Zoom from 7.30 – 8.00 pm on Tuesday 28 November 2023.

Members are invited to submit nominations for the Executive Committee in writing to the [MelNet Chief Executive](#) no later than 5.00 pm Tuesday 14 November 2023. These should include the nominee's name, a 200-word biography and the signatures of two members.

According to the MelNet rules, the Committee shall comprise at least eight and no more than 15 members, with occupations that span the continuum. Members who will be serving the second year of their two-year term have expertise in general practice, pathology, dermatology, oncology, research and general surgery. Up to nine additional members can be elected to the committee at the AGM. Preference will be given to those with expertise in plastic surgery, primary prevention, nursing and radiology.

Members are also invited to submit remits or other matters to be considered at the AGM to the [MelNet Chief Executive](#) no later than 5.00pm Tuesday 14 November 2023.

Keen to attend? Join via this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4453635635> or email the [MelNet Chief Executive for a calendar invitation](#).

We look forward to seeing you there.

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## National Party's election promise to fund three treatments for melanoma

Should they be elected, the National Party pledges an investment of \$280 million over four years to fund 13 cancer treatments, including three treatments for melanoma. The treatments – funded in Australia but not in New Zealand – have been identified by Te Aho o Te Kahu, the Cancer Control Agency to provide “substantial clinical benefit”.

The treatments for melanoma are:

- Nivolumab or pembrolizumab for melanoma (adjuvant)
- Dabrafenib with trametinib for melanoma (adjuvant)
- BRAF/MEK inhibitors for melanoma (unresectable)

MelNet encourages all political parties to incorporate policies aimed at reducing the incidence and impact of melanoma and other skin cancers in New Zealand.

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## Cancer Society 2023-24 Manifesto | Key asks for next Government to take action against cancer

With the launch of their 2023-24 Manifesto, the Cancer Society is calling the next Government to take action against cancer.

They are posing 12 key asks to decision-makers that will help reduce the incidence and impact of cancer in New Zealand. The Manifesto includes a specific ask for a skin cancer prevention and early detection action plan to be developed by mid-2024, with dedicated funding of \$2 million per annum to support its implementation.

[Find out more](#) [Download manifesto](#) [1-page summary](#)

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## Get Spotted | Melanoma New Zealand's annual melanoma awareness campaign

16 - 22 October 2023 (or another date that works for you)

Melanoma New Zealand is holding its annual Melanoma Awareness campaign between 16 - 22 October. This is a great opportunity to have fun 'getting spotted' while raising awareness of the importance of early detection and prevention of melanoma. You could dress up or decorate your practice in spots, run a special Melanoma Awareness Campaign skin check offer in support of the cause, or any other support you can offer that helps spread awareness.



[Find out more or register your support.](#)

## In the media

### Eight-week wait for skin cancer test results risking lives

As outlined in our [August newsletter](#), MelNet has been advocating for some time for improved funding and resourcing for pathology services nationwide, but particularly in Auckland. MelNet members and skin cancer specialists have spoken out to media about patient lives being put at risk because of delays getting results back from some laboratories.

[Read the article](#)

### Ozone season expected to be early this year

NIWA predicts an early and long-lasting ozone hole in the atmosphere this year due to a combination of climate change and last year's volcanic eruption in Tonga. As a result, people should be even more vigilant with sun protection to avoid getting burnt.

[Read the article](#)

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## Upcoming opportunities and events

### Goodfellow Unit: Primary prevention of UV radiation | 3 October 2023 7.30 – 8.45 pm

In this webinar hosted by the Goodfellow Unit, Dermatologist Dr Monique Mackenzie will overview:

- Understanding the UV spectrum and its effects on skin
- Protecting skin from UV radiation
- Patients for special consideration.

[Find out more](#) [Register now](#)



### ESMO Congress 2023 | 20 – 24 October 2023 | Madrid, Spain and online

The ESMO Congress is the most influential oncology platform for clinicians, researchers, patient advocates, journalists and healthcare industry representatives. ESMO 2023 will disseminate the latest cutting-edge data, provide high quality education and unparalleled networking opportunities for oncologists and other stakeholders from all around the world.

[Find out more](#)

## Other upcoming opportunities and events

### October

#### Dermoscopy of non-melanoma skin cancer online series

4 October - 22 November 2023

Online

[Find out more](#)

#### Certificate of Dermoscopy – Online

20 October 2023

Online

[Find out more](#)

#### Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine

20 October 2023

### November

#### 38th Annual Meeting & Pre-Conference Programs (SITC 2023)

1 – 5 November 2023

San Diego, USA

[Find out more](#)

#### Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine

#### Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery

25 November 2023

Perth, Australia

[Find out more](#)

Online and practical workshop in Christchurch on 18 November

[Find out more](#)

**Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop**

20 – 23 October 2023

Sydney, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine**

**Professional Certificate of Skin Cancer Surgery**

21 October 2023

Melbourne, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine**

22 October 2023

Melbourne, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**Professional Diploma of Skin Cancer Surgery**

22 October 2023

Melbourne, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**WONCA World Conference 2023**

26 – 29 October 2023

Sydney, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**ASCO Quality Care Symposium 2023**

27 - 28 October 2023

Boston, USA

[Find out more](#)

**Advanced Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine**

26 November 2023

Perth, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**Professional Diploma of Skin Cancer Surgery**

26 November 2023

Perth, Australia

[Find out more](#)

**MelNet AGM**

28 November 2023

Online

[Find out more](#)

For more events see the [MelNet events calendar](#)

\*\*\* For **online courses starting any time**, please refer to [Skin Cancer Education for Primary Care Practitioners](#) \*\*\*

### 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.

[Treating the invisible: Subclinical actinic keratosis detected by imiquimod](#)

[Induction of skin cancer by long-term blue light irradiation](#)

[SIRT6 pharmacological inhibition delays skin cancer progression in squamous cell carcinoma](#)

[Triumphs and challenges of targeting immune checkpoint pathways in melanoma](#)

[BRAF status may be important molecular biomarker to guide systemic therapy selection for patients with melanoma brain metastases](#)

[Patients unwilling to accept high severe infection risks from oral nicotinamide for reduced risk of non-melanoma skin cancer](#)

[Systemic Therapy for Melanoma: ASCO Guideline Update](#)

[Necroptosis-related long non-coding RNAs: prognostic model to predict survival of melanoma patients](#)

[Need for improved information about harms and benefits of sun exposure to reflect a modern Australian population](#)

[Post-treatment cancer survivorship should be established as distinct phase of cancer care](#)



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