



MelNet update

20 June 2024

Advocating for improved skin cancer management | Meeting with Minister Reti

Representatives from the MelNet Executive Committee are scheduled to meet with Minister Shane Reti this month to discuss how New Zealand can strengthen its response to skin cancer. Key priorities to be raised are:

- The need for greater focus on and investment in primary prevention
- The development of a national pathway for the early detection and management of skin cancer that is based in primary care and supported by secondary care services
- A structured education programme for healthcare professionals on skin cancer early detection and management, with a focus on those working in primary care
- Funding for adjuvant and neoadjuvant melanoma therapies

Outcomes of this meeting will be shared with the membership in due course.

NZ Skin Cancer Primary Prevention and Early Detection Strategy | Review in progress

MelNet has been commissioned by Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora to coordinate a review of the [NZ Skin Cancer Primary Prevention and Early Detection Strategy](#), a document providing strategic direction and priorities for skin cancer prevention and early detection activities in New Zealand.

The document is currently being drafted. We will notify you of the consultation process in due course. This is expected to commence in July.

Upcoming Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses | 1 November 2024

Friday 1 November 2024

Whenua Pupuke, Waitematā Clinical Skills Centre, Auckland

In case you missed it – a [Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses](#) will be held on Friday 1 November at Whenua Pupuke, Waitematā Clinical Skills Centre in Auckland.

Keep an eye on your inbox - more details will be available in the coming weeks. Registrations are scheduled to open in August.

Introducing the 2024/25 MelNet Executive Committee

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Dr Keith Monnington and Dr Sam Mayhew who have joined the MelNet Executive Committee for 2024/25. Megan Chapman has retired from the Committee after many years of service. We thank her for the significant contribution she made to the organisation during the time she served.

You can find out more about MelNet's 2024/25 Executive Committee [here](#).

Melanoma NZ Research Fund

[Melanoma New Zealand](#) has partnered with [Cancer Research Trust New Zealand](#) to grow melanoma research opportunities for New Zealand clinicians, scientists and researchers. Together, the two organisations aim to improve outcomes for those affected by melanoma by funding groundbreaking research that advances earlier diagnosis, new treatments and better care of people living with melanoma.

[Find out more](#)

[Apply for Research Funding](#)

Auckland Medical Research Foundation | Reminder: Call for applications for melanoma or other skin cancer Fellowship

The Auckland Medical Research Foundation (AMRF) is calling for applications for the J.I. Sutherland Medical Research Fellowship. This Fellowship provides support for graduates who wish to undertake full-time medical research for a PhD or an MD in the field of melanoma or other skin cancers. Applications must be made through the [AMRF portal](#) and received by 5 pm on 7 August 2024. Please direct any questions to the Research Programme Manager on 09 923 1701 or email hannah.gibbons@medicalresearch.org.nz.

[More information](#)

Companion Statement on Vitamin D and Sun Exposure in Pregnancy and Infancy in Aotearoa New Zealand

Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora have published a new national maternity companion statement. It provides information about vitamin D and sun exposure in pregnancy and infancy (0–2 years).

This companion statement supersedes previous versions.

[Read the companion statement](#)

Canterbury Charity Hospital Skin Check Day | Saturday 5 October 2024

The Canterbury Charity Hospital is running a free Skin Check Day on Saturday 5 October 2024 at the Charity Hospital in Christchurch. It is targeted at beneficiaries and low-income earners aged over 50 years who cannot afford to have their skin checked privately.

If you have experience providing skin checks using dermoscopy and would like to support this worthwhile cause, please register your interest by contacting Rosie Graham (Fundraising Co-ordinator at Canterbury Charity Hospital Trust) on 03 360 2266 or email rosie@charityhospital.org.nz.

Upcoming opportunities and events



SKIN CANCER SYMPOSIUMS Skin Cancer diagnosis made EASY!
How to avoid missing a melanoma.

Certificate of Dermatoscopy 2024
27-28th of July 2024
Owen G Glenn Building, University of Auckland
Learn from World-Renowned experts
Professors Cliff Rosendahl and Amanda Oakley

[LEARN MORE](#)

Trustpilot 4.9

Complimentary Molescope and Textbook

Skin Cancer Symposiums [Certificate of Dermatoscopy](#) will be held at the University of Auckland on **27 – 28 July 2024**. With world leading professors and teachers, including Professor Cliff Rosendahl (University of Queensland) and Professor Amanda Oakley (University of Auckland), this interactive two-day course is designed to take GPs and nurses from “zero to hero”.

The **early bird special** is still available so don't hesitate to [register now](#). All participants will receive a free copy of Professor Rosendahl's textbook - Dermatoscopy and Skin Cancer (value \$115) and a complimentary dermatoscope (worth \$500). The course has been endorsed by RNZCGP and is approved for up to 25 CME credits for CPD purposes.

[Find out more](#)



[Early bird registrations](#) are open now for the **Queenstown Research Week 2024**. New Zealand's largest molecular biology conference takes place on **31 August - 5 September**.

Abstract submissions close on 1 July.

Apply for the [Illumina Emerging Researcher Award 2024](#) if you

- have demonstrated emerging research excellence in any medical or biological research area using molecular-based tools
- have published research in high-ranking international journals
- are up to 5 years from your PhD being awarded at the time of application, or equivalent with career interruption.

Apply for the [Thermo Fisher Scientific Award 2024](#) if you

- have demonstrated research excellence in any biological research area using molecular based techniques
- have published research in high-ranking international journals
- are able to demonstrate good citizenship via research impact, dissemination, community outreach/engagement and/or service and community roles
- are between 6 and 12 years from your PhD being awarded at the time of application, or equivalent with career interruption.

A heads up – [Queenstown Research Week 2025](#) will relocate to **Christchurch**.



The [preliminary programme for the 2024 Australasian Melanoma Conference \(AMC2024\)](#) has been released.

Chaired by 2024 Australians of the Year, Prof Georgina Long AO and Prof Richard Scolyer AO, AMC2024 will bring together multidisciplinary healthcare professionals for two days of insightful discussions, presentations and workshops, all aimed towards achieving the goal of zero deaths from melanoma and lowering the burden of disease.

[Register](#) before 30 June to secure your Early Bird Discount.

[Find out more](#)

Other upcoming opportunities and events

July

Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop (Skin Cancer College Australasia)

5 – 8 July 2024

Christchurch

[Find out more](#)

Certificate of Dermoscopy – Online (Skin Cancer College Australasia)

Starts on 12 July 2024

Online

[Find out more](#)

Skin & Skin Cancer Conference and Masterclass

18 - 21 July 2024

Brisbane, Australia

[Find out more](#)

Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine (Skin Cancer College Australasia)

Starts on 19 July 2024

Online & practical workshop in Sydney, Australia

[Find out more](#)

August

Immuno-Oncology Summit 2024

7 – 9 August 2023

Hybrid event: Philadelphia, USA & online

[Find out more](#)

ASCO Breakthrough

8 – 10 August 2024

Hybrid event: Yokohama, Japan & online

[Find out more](#)

NZ Society of Cosmetic Medicine (NZSCM) Conference 2024

15 – 18 August 2024

Queenstown

[Find out more](#)

GP CME South

15 – 18 August 2024

Christchurch

[Find out more](#)

Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine (Skin Cancer College Australasia)

Starts on 16 August 2024

Online & practical workshop in Melbourne, Australia

[Find out more](#)

Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop (Skin Cancer College Australasia)

16 – 19 August 2024

Sydney, Australia

[Find out more](#)

WONCA Asia Pacific Conference 2024

21 – 24 August 2024

Singapore

[Find out more](#)

25th World Dermatology Congress

28– 29 August 2024

Paris, France

[Find out more](#)

UK Certificate of Fundamental Dermoscopy 2024 (Skin Cancer Symposiums)

29 August 2024

Manchester, UK

[Find out more](#)

NZ Dermatological Society Inc (NZDSI) Annual Conference 2024

28 – 31 August 2024

Dunedin

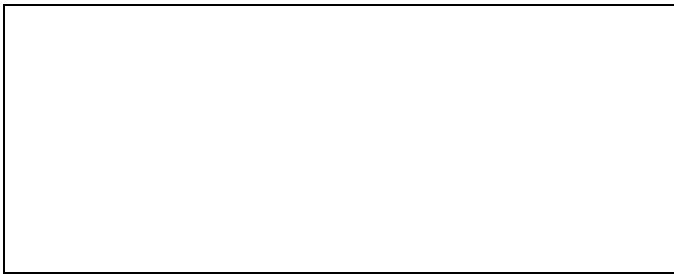
[Find out more](#)

UK Dermoscopy Masterclass 2024 (Skin Cancer Symposiums)

30 August 2024

Manchester, UK

[Find out more](#)



Certificate of Dermoscopy – Online (Skin Cancer College Australasia)
Starts on 30 August 2024
Online
[Find out more](#)
For more events see the [MelNet events calendar](#)

Online skin cancer education courses for Primary Care Practitioners **starting anytime** can be found [here](#).

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.

[T-VEC-pembrolizumab demonstrates antitumor activity and tolerability in PD-1-refractory melanoma](#)

[Five-year analysis of neoadjuvant dabrafenib and trametinib for stage III melanoma](#)

[Effect of neoadjuvant systemic therapy on surgical outcomes after lymph node dissections for stage III melanoma](#)

[Emerging treatment strategies for melanoma beyond checkpoint inhibitor treatments](#)

[Rosacea associated with melanoma in Caucasians](#)

[Role of photodynamic therapy for treatment of Basal Cell Carcinoma](#)

[Analysis of clinical outcomes for patients with invasive melanomas treated with Mohs rather than wide local excision](#)

[Melanoma incidence in NZ in the last decade: invasive melanoma has plateaued; melanoma in situ has increased](#)



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