



MelNet update

22 April 2024

Melanoma Mini-Summit and pre-Summit workshop | 10 – 11 May 2024, Christchurch

*** Register now before it's too late ***

Melanoma Mini-Summit | Saturday 11 May 2024 | 8.30 am - 5.00 pm Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre, Christchurch

Time is running out to register for this critical education opportunity. With less than three weeks to go, don't hesitate - [sign up now](#).

- Discuss the latest developments in melanoma prevention, diagnosis, clinical management, and research
- Connect with melanoma professionals across the country
- Hear from a strong and diverse line-up of speakers, including Hon. Dr Shane Reti, Minister of Health and Professor David Whiteman, Medical Epidemiologist at the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research in Queensland
- Earn 6.25 CME credits (RNZCGP CME endorsed, RACS CPD can self-report at 1 point per hour, certificate of attendance provided for nurses)

The cost of attending is \$375 for medical doctors and \$250 for all other health professionals, scientists, students et al. All health professionals are invited to attend.

[View the programme](#)

[Find out more](#)

[Register now](#)

Beginners' Skin Lesion and Dermoscopy course | Pre-Summit workshop

Friday 10 May | 12.00 – 4.30 pm Turanga Christchurch Central Library

Presented by Adjunct Associate Professor Amanda Oakley, this beginners' Skin Lesion and Dermoscopy interactive workshop will describe the typical clinical and dermoscopic characteristics of common benign and malignant skin lesions. It aims to increase participants' confidence in evaluating and referring skin lesions. Attend whether or not you've already purchased a dermatoscope.

There is no requirement to attend the Melanoma Mini-Summit – you can sign up for this course only.

The course has been endorsed by RNZCGP for up to 4 CME credits. RACS CPD participants can self-report their activities at 1 point per hour. Nurses will be provided with a certificate of attendance as evidence for their professional development portfolio.

The cost of attending this course is \$345.

[Find out more](#)

[Register now](#)

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Reminder of MelNet AGM | 11 May 2024

The MelNet AGM will be held at Te Pae Convention Centre, Christchurch from 2.10 – 2.25 pm on Saturday 11 May 2024, as part of the Melanoma Mini-Summit.

Members are invited to submit nominations for the Executive Committee to the [MelNet Chief Executive](#) no later than 5.00 pm Monday 29 April 2024, using the prescribed [nomination form](#).

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 nursing, surgical, oncological, and primary prevention expertise. Up to nine additional members can be elected to the committee at the AGM. Preference will be given to those with expertise in general practice, pathology and dermatology.

Members are also invited to submit remits or other matters to be considered at the AGM to the [MelNet Chief Executive](#) no later than 5.00 pm Saturday 27 April 2024.

Nurses in Skin Cancer Special Interest Group | Seeking expressions of interest

Nursing plays a crucial and multifaceted role in the comprehensive management of skin cancer, and New Zealand nurses have an increasingly active role in the prevention, detection and management of this disease.

The Nurses in Skin Cancer Special Interest Group is an exciting opportunity for nurses working in skin cancer to come together in a collaborative and supportive environment. The group aims to help grow the number of nurses working in skin cancer and develop and support those already working in this area.

Interested in being part of this group?

[Find out more](#) | [Register your interest](#)

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

MelNet has been commissioned by Te Whatu Ora – Health NZ to coordinate a review of the [NZ Skin Cancer Primary Prevention and Early Detection Strategy](#).

This document has provided strategic direction and priorities for skin cancer prevention and early detection activities since 2001. It is hoped that a refreshed document will provide a strong case for greater investment in skin cancer prevention and early detection interventions.

It is anticipated that a draft document will be released to the sector for feedback in June 2024.

Interesting read: Research on teledermatology

MelNet Executive Committee member Adjunct Associate Professor Amanda Oakley has co-authored an interesting study about teledermatology. The study looked at an e-referral pathway for general practitioners to get advice and treatment recommendations from dermatologists by sending close up and dermoscopic images of lesions suspicious of skin cancer. The study shows that with a multispecialty approach, skin cancer may be diagnosed and excised promptly. Surgery can be undertaken in primary care within a month of a teledermatology diagnosis and excision recommendation.

[Read the research article](#)

It is worth noting that the authors have reported in a [separate study](#) that there is an increased risk of the surgery being incomplete when performed in primary care, necessitating further treatment. Low-risk SCCs and BCCs should be excised with a surgical margin of 4mm, and the surgical margin should be increased to 6mm for high-risk SCCs.

6th International Conference on UV and Skin Cancer Prevention | Abstract submissions closing soon

Researchers policy makers, practitioners, regulators and students are encouraged to submit abstracts to be presented at the [6th International Conference on UV and Skin Cancer Prevention](#) in Brisbane in September.

Abstract submissions will close on 26 April. Themes to be addressed at the conference, and for which abstracts are sought, include:

- Epidemiology and burden of skin cancer
- Sunscreens
- Social media
- Skin of colour
- Genetics of skin cancer
- Settings and policy (e.g. schools, workplace, sports, recreation)
- UVR measurement (including wearables and crowd-sourced data)
- The impact of climate change
- Behaviour change
- Shade, fashion, design

[Find out more](#)

Education update from Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA)

New educational resources are available on MIA's Education Portal (free log in required). Please remember that some of the content may vary from Australian to New Zealand practice.

Webinar recordings:

[Current approaches in acral melanoma diagnosis and management](#)

[The role of surgery in the management of advanced NMSC in the era of effective systemic therapies](#)

[Beyond the surface: Navigating unmet frontiers in BRAF-mutant melanoma](#)

Podcast:

[Spotlight on mucosal melanoma: Head and neck](#)

Upcoming opportunities and events

2024 ASCO[®]
ANNUAL MEETING

May 31 - June 4, 2024 • McCormick Place •
Chicago, IL & Online

#ASCO24

Attend the 2024 ASCO Annual Meeting and be part of the most significant gathering of oncology professionals worldwide, making connections and forging collaborations that can change the landscape of cancer care.

Early registration closes on 24 April.

[More information](#)

Other upcoming opportunities and events

May	June
<p>Australasian Skin Cancer Congress 2024 3 - 5 May 2024 Hybrid event: online & Gold Coast, Australia Find out more</p>	<p>GP CME 6 – 9 June 2024 Rotorua Find out more</p>
<p>RACS 92nd Annual Scientific Congress 2024 6 – 10 May 2024 Christchurch Find out more</p>	<p>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine Starts on 7 June 2024 Online & practical workshop in Christchurch Find out more</p>
<p>MelNet Skin Lesion and Dermoscopy course 10 May 2024 Christchurch Find out more</p>	<p>2024 AOMA Virtual Summit 15 June 2024 Online Find out more</p>
<p>Melanoma Mini-Summit 11 May 2024 Christchurch Find out more</p>	<p>5th Edition of International Conference on Dermatology and Cosmetology 24 – 26 June 2024 Hybrid event: Paris, France & online Find out more</p>
<p>The Australasian College of Dermatologists 56th Annual Scientific Meeting 11 - 13 May 2024 Perth, Australia Find out more</p>	<p>For more events see the MelNet events calendar</p>
<p>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine Starts on 17 May 2024 Online & practical workshop in Brisbane, Australia Find out more</p>	
<p>Certificate of Dermoscopy – Online Starts on 31 May 2024 Online Find out more</p>	

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.

[Pembrolizumab versus placebo as adjuvant therapy in resected stage IIB or IIC melanoma: Benefit of pembrolizumab largely consistent with overall study population regardless of histopathologic characteristics](#)

[Adjuvant mRNA-4157 plus pembrolizumab prolonged recurrence-free survival versus pembrolizumab monotherapy in patients with resected high-risk melanoma](#)

[Superior antitumoral response in melanoma patients receiving radiotherapy with immunotherapy versus radiotherapy only](#)

[Effectiveness of immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy for advanced cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma](#)

[Clinically meaningful antitumour activity of cemiplimab in patients with metastatic basal cell carcinoma after hedgehog pathway inhibitors](#)

[High dose radiation therapy for treating metastatic lesions in melanoma demonstrates excellent local control](#)



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