

MelNet update

21 October 2025

Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses *** Last chance to register ***

Friday 14 November 2025

Clinical Education Centre, Auckland City Hospital

Don't forget to register for the [Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses](#) – a valuable opportunity to deepen your knowledge of skin cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, and care, while highlighting the essential role nurses play at every stage.

Whether you work in primary or secondary care, or you're a nursing student, join us for a full day of learning and connection with colleagues from across the country.

The cost of attending is \$99 (including GST). [Register now](#) before it's too late.

[Find out more](#) | [View the programme](#) | [Register](#)

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Introducing our new Skin Cancer New Zealand Executive

We are delighted to introduce the new Executive of Skin Cancer New Zealand.

This talented and committed group brings together a range of experience and is united by a shared vision to improve skin cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, care and research across New Zealand.

[Meet the new Executive Committee](#)

In the months ahead, the Executive will set the organisation's strategic priorities, strengthen partnerships, and guide the transition to our new identity as Skin Cancer New Zealand.

As part of this next phase, we'll also be establishing several new groups to help drive key areas of our work — and will soon invite expressions of interest from members who would like to be involved. Keep an eye on your inbox for more information.

We look forward to working with the new Executive as they lead Skin Cancer New Zealand into its next chapter, and we extend our thanks to the outgoing Executive for their commitment and contribution during their term.

New Zealand Melanoma Clinical Guidelines | Consultation closes Friday 24 October

The National Melanoma Working Group (NMWG), with support from MelNet, is reviewing the *Quality Statements to Guide Melanoma Diagnosis and Treatment in New Zealand* to ensure they continue to reflect the latest research and best practice. As part of this review, the *Quality Statements* have been renamed the *New Zealand Melanoma Clinical Guidelines* to support easier online searching and implementation.

A comprehensive literature search has been undertaken and suggested updates drafted, with particular focus on neoadjuvant and adjuvant treatment which is now funded in New Zealand.

We are seeking feedback from those with an interest in melanoma on the proposed amendments as well as any other improvements. Please submit your feedback in writing by 5.00 pm Friday 24 October to melnet@melnet.org.nz.

When submitting, please:

- clearly identify the relevant section(s), page number(s), and Good Practice Point(s) your feedback relates to.
- provide references to support your feedback (where relevant).
- include a contact name, phone number, and email address in case further information is required.

[Download the DRAFT Melanoma Clinical Guidelines](#) [Download the change log of proposed amendments](#)
[Further information](#)

Aotearoa's skin cancer crisis: The case for sun safety action | Interesting read

Former MelNet Executive Committee member Dr Bronwen McNoe has authored a noteworthy paper outlining the urgent need for stronger national sun safety action.

Drawing on recent research and recommendations set out in the Skin Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Strategy, the paper highlights key challenges, gaps and opportunities for strengthening sun safety in New Zealand. It calls for stronger enforcement and sustained investment to reduce UVR exposure, improve public health outcomes, and make skin cancer prevention a national priority.

The paper calls for action in several areas, including:

- Embedding UVR protection in health and safety policies across schools, workplaces, local government and sporting organisations.
- Mandating sun protection standards for relevant products.
- Strengthening local government responsibilities for shade provision.
- Banning commercial sunbeds to reduce skin cancer risk.

[Read the briefing](#) [Listen to the Radio New Zealand interview](#)

Did you know ACC provides cover for some work-related skin cancers? Please share with colleagues

ACC may provide cover for skin cancers caused by occupational exposure to ultraviolet radiation under the work-related gradual process injury (WRGPI) pathway.

This includes people who have had long-term exposure to ultraviolet radiation as a result of their job – including outdoor workers, those who work outdoors for extended periods or workers whose work results in episodes of intense intermittent exposure to solar ultraviolet radiation.

To assess whether your patients might meet the ACC criteria:

1. Ask about their work history
2. If there is a history of working outdoors:
 - a. assess whether this exposure may have contributed to the development of their skin cancer. **Employment exposures only need to be a contributing cause** - non-work factors can also play a role.
 - b. determine if the person was at greater risk because of their job compared with someone not exposed.

- c. decide if it is more likely than not (>50%) that the cancer was caused by work-related exposure rather than non-work related exposure.

The main scenario where ACC may decline a WRGPI claim is if non-occupational exposure outweighs occupational exposure. Note, overseas sun exposure is considered non-occupational exposure for ACC purposes.

More information

- [ACC Provider Guide](#) – to assist healthcare professionals in understanding WRGPI.
- [Southern Cross Health Insurance flyer for healthcare providers](#) – outlines WRGPI as well as Personal Injury Caused By Accident (PICBA) and Treatment Injury (TI) pathways.

Please share this information widely with your colleagues to help ensure eligible patients can access the support available.

Special issue “Melanoma: From Molecular Pathology to Therapeutic Approaches, 2nd Edition” | Invitation to submit article

The special issue [Melanoma: From Molecular Pathology to Therapeutic Approaches, 2nd Edition](#) is currently open for submissions of research articles or review articles to the International Journal for Molecular Science (IJMS).

Guest editor Professor Michael Eccles welcomes authors to submit original research and review articles that contribute to a better understanding of molecular pathological biomarkers and mechanisms leading to treatment resistance in melanoma.

Please scroll to the [Special Issue Information](#) for further information including details on how to submit articles.

Total Body Dermoscopy – From Australia to Europe | Worth a watch

In this Photofinder Academy Australian Edition from 26 August 2025, Professor Cliff Rosendahl and Dr Raimonds Karls discuss Total Body Dermoscopy.

Professor Rosendahl (University of Queensland) demonstrates with case studies how photographic technology improves both diagnostic sensitivity and specificity, reducing both excision of benign lesions and melanoma overdiagnosis.

[Watch the recording on the Fotofinder Media library](#)



Tips and tricks: How to approach scalp tumours | Video

Skin tumours of the scalp can present significant diagnostic and management challenges, particularly in elderly patients. In this first part of a short *HealthCert* series on the diagnosis and management of skin tumours in different age groups and body areas, Dr Gabriella Brancaccio explores how age, body site, and histological differentiation impact the way clinicians should approach suspicious lesions.

[Watch the video](#)

Upcoming opportunities and events

2026 events calendar

We regularly update our website with events that may be of interest to members. The [events calendar](#) now includes 2026 events we are aware of – take a look to see what’s coming up.

If you are a Primary Care Practitioner looking to upskill, be sure to visit the [dedicated section](#) on our website.

If you have an event you would like listed, please [get in touch](#).



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) 2025 | 5 – 9 November 2025

This hybrid meeting provides a multidisciplinary educational and interactive environment focused on improving outcomes for cancer patients by incorporating strategies based on basic and applied cancer immunotherapy. The Annual Meeting consists of cutting-edge research presentations by experts in the field, oral and poster abstract presentations and ample opportunity for structured and informal discussions, including important networking opportunities.

[Find out more](#)

Certificate of (Advanced) Skin Cancer Medicine and Surgery | 22 (- 23) November 2025 | Auckland

Skin Cancer Symposiums' [Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Surgery 2025](#) (previously called the *Certificate of Skin Cancer Management*) takes place on day one of the two day [Certificate of Advanced Skin Cancer Medicine and Surgery](#).



The first day has been designed to cater for both beginners and seasoned practitioners.

More experienced practitioners should ideally do both days and register for the two-day course. You can find out more about the contents, eligibility criteria and costs of the advanced two day course [here](#).



MIA Specialists' Symposium: Neoadjuvant Treatment in 2025 | 24 November 2025 | 9pm to 11pm NZDT

Online via Zoom

(or 8pm – 11pm NZDT – In person for dinner at the Hyatt Regency, Sydney)

With neoadjuvant regimens representing a *landmark* shift in treatment that is redefining melanoma care, clinicians now need practical, real-world guidance to implement these therapies effectively within multidisciplinary practice. Join Melanoma Institute Australia for a case-based hybrid symposium hosted by Professor Georgina Long AO and made available via live stream or in person in Sydney.

Gain practical insights on patient selection, treatment timing, toxicity management and pathological assessment — helping you confidently integrate this new standard of care into your clinical practice. Upcoming research efforts to further improve outcomes for patients will also be discussed.

[Find out more and register](#)

Other upcoming opportunities and events

November - January	February
Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop (Skin Cancer College Australasia) 7 – 10 November 2025 Sydney, Australia Find out more 2025 Australasian Ocular Melanoma Alliance (AOMA) Virtual Summit 8 November 2025 Online Find out more Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses (MelNet) 14 November 2025 Auckland Find out more 36th Annual Melanoma and Cutaneous Oncology Symposium 2026 24 – 25 January 2026 San Diego, California, USA Find out more For more events see the MelNet events calendar	Certificate of Dermoscopy – Online (Skin Cancer College Australasia) Starts on 6 February 2026 Online Find out more Advanced Clinical Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine & Surgery (Skin Cancer College Australasia) Starts on 6 February 2026 Online Find out more Advanced Clinical Certificate of Dermoscopy (Skin Cancer College Australasia) Starts on 6 February 2026 Online Find out more IO360° 2026 10 – 12 February 2026 Boston, MA, USA Find out more Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine (Skin Cancer College Australasia) Starts on 20 February 2026 Online and practical workshop in Sydney, Australia Find out more 22nd Annual International Symposium on Melanoma and Other Cutaneous Malignancies 21 February 2026 Beverly Hills, California, USA Find out more

Skin Cancer Education targeted at Primary Care Practitioners can be found [here](#).

Courses starting **anytime**:

Skin Cancer Symposiums

[Advanced Certificate of Dermatoscopy](#)

[Dermatoscopy Masterclass](#)

[Mini course \(free\): Dermatoscopy and Melanomas](#)

[Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Surgery](#)

Skin Cancer College Australasia

[Introduction to Skin Cancer](#)

HealthCert

[Skin Cancer Medicine](#)

[Skin Cancer Surgery](#)

[Dermoscopy](#)

[Medical Certificate of Dermoscopy for Dermatology](#)

[Advanced Certificate of Dermoscopy for Dermatology](#)

[Advanced Certificate of Histopathology for Dermoscopy](#)

[Masterclass in Dermoscopy](#)

Recent MelNet website news postings

Below is a selection of recent news postings on the MelNet website. Please visit the [website](#) to view all the latest news items.

[Pre- and post-treatment care for actinic keratoses: An Australian and New Zealand perspective](#)

[Management of Skin Toxicities in Cancer Treatment: An Australian/New Zealand Perspective](#)

[Interlaboratory variability of SPF results is considerable and likely greater than expected](#)

[Early nicotinamide use reduces risk of aggressive skin cancers](#)

[Need for a coordinated global response to climate change and its impact on skin cancer](#)

[Effective sunscreen application: changes to labelling regulation required to ensure consumers receive clear, accurate and consistent information](#)

[Lessons from neoadjuvant immunotherapy in melanoma: understanding antitumour immunity and tumour escape](#)

[Individualised mRNA vaccines for melanoma: current status and outlook](#)

[Utility of rhenium-SCT as a single-session, non-invasive treatment for non-melanoma skin cancer: 1-year results from EPIC-skin study](#)

[Reduction in survival among melanoma survivors with second primary cutaneous and non-cutaneous melanoma](#)

[Uveal melanoma: a clear need exists to better define local practices and outcomes to inform future surveillance guidelines](#)

[Impact of lidocaine concentration on analgesic efficacy and adverse events in dermatologic infiltrative anesthesia](#)

[Clinical, pathological and molecular characteristics of patients with disease recurrence despite pathologic response to neoadjuvant ipilimumab plus nivolumab in stage III melanoma](#)

[ASPREE trial: Aspirin did not significantly affect keratinocyte carcinoma \(KC\) incidence in older Australians, but decreased the rate of multiple KC](#)

[Commercial sunbeds should be banned in the UK](#)

[Outcomes of solid organ transplant recipients with advanced cancers receiving immune checkpoint inhibitors](#)



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