



31 August 2025

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## MelNet's new website is up and running

It has been a long time in the making. MelNet's new website is now live!

Have a look – <https://melnet.org.nz>. We hope you find it easy to navigate, and that it provides a useful tool and reference guide for your work. If there is anything else you would like to see on the website, or if you have any comments, [get in touch](#).

Please note that the membership integration is still under development.

We are very grateful to [everyone who helped make this website possible](#), and thank you for your patience during its development.

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## Notice of Special General Meeting | 14 October 2025

**Date:** Tuesday 14 October 2025

**Time:** 7.30 – 8.00 pm

**Location:** Via [Microsoft Teams](#) | Meeting ID: 412 097 314 024 7 | Passcode: 8Sm2WJ6p

The Executive Committee have called this Special General Meeting to:

1. **Adopt an updated Constitution.** This revised document will reflect our rebrand to Skin Cancer New Zealand Incorporated, modernise our governance structures, and improve compliance with the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. Full details of the proposed changes will be shared with members ahead of the meeting.
2. **Announce the results of the election of the inaugural Executive** of Skin Cancer New Zealand. The election will be held via online ballot ahead of the Special General Meeting; however, the results will stand only if the revised Constitution is adopted.

These decisions will set the foundation for strong governance, clear direction, and the future growth of Skin Cancer New Zealand. We encourage all members to participate.

Please save the details above in your diary or email the [Chief Executive](#) to request a calendar invitation.

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## Nominations for the Skin Cancer New Zealand Executive are now open!

In anticipation that the revised Constitution is adopted, members are invited to submit nominations for election to the inaugural Skin Cancer New Zealand Executive.

This is your opportunity to shape the future of Skin Cancer New Zealand, contribute your expertise and guide our mission to prevent skin cancers, improve outcomes, and save lives.

### How to apply

Please complete the [nomination form](#) and submit it to [Katrina Patterson, MelNet Chief Executive](#), no later than 5.00 pm Sunday 14 September 2025.

Under the new Constitution, a maximum of six members can be elected, with consideration being given to ensuring collective representation across primary and secondary care, regional and rural locations and the North and South Islands of New Zealand.

Elected members will either serve a one- or two-year term under transitional arrangements.

If you have any questions about the nominations process, please contact [Katrina Patterson](#).

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## Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses | Registration is now open

**Friday 14 November 2025**

**Clinical Education Centre, Auckland City Hospital**

We are pleased to announce that registration for this year's Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses is now open.

Head over to the [study day page](#) on MelNet's new website to [view the programme](#) and [register](#).

The study day is targeted at primary and secondary care nurses and nursing students. It provides an overview of skin cancer prevention, early detection, treatment and care. Participants should gain an increased understanding of the journey of a skin cancer patient and the critical role of a nurse throughout this journey.

The cost of attending is \$99 (including GST).

[Find out more](#)

[View the programme](#)

[Register now](#)

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## Celebrating achievements | Congratulations to Dr Sam Mayhew



MelNet Executive Committee member Dr Sam Mayhew is one of twelve GPs awarded the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners Community Service Medal for outstanding contributions to general practice and rural hospital medicine.

Sam is a GP and sports doctor who has represented New Zealand internationally and provided medical care to national sports teams. Beyond his contributions to sport, Sam continues to focus his skills on skin cancer detection and treatment.

The awards were presented by College President Dr Luke Bradford at a ceremony in Ōtautahi Christchurch on 26 July. Congratulations Sam!

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## SolarCareB3 Tablets order process | Bernier Pharmaceuticals

SolarCare B3 Tablets are a vitamin B3 (niacinamide) supplement that supports skin health and DNA repair, reducing the risk of sun-related skin damage. They are particularly beneficial for individuals with a history of sun damage or higher risk of skin cancers.

**Important:** SolarCare B3 Tablets are not currently available at pharmacies. They can only be supplied under s.29, meaning a prescription is required. This arrangement will continue until Bernier Pharmaceuticals' medical licence is approved early next year, after which tablets will once again be available without a prescription.

### To order stock for your clinic:

1. Place your order by emailing [sally@bernierpharmaceuticals.co.nz](mailto:sally@bernierpharmaceuticals.co.nz). The number of units supplied must be in the same zone as the number of orders received.
2. For each bottle ordered, complete an s.29 form and submit it to Bernier Pharmaceuticals for MedSafe reporting. The form will be provided with your first order.
3. Orders in multiples of 12 bottles (full carton) qualify for free freight; smaller orders incur a shipping fee.

If you don't want to stock tablets onsite, you can still authorise supply for a patient by providing a prescription for them to take to their local pharmacy.

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## News from MASC Trials | IMAGE trial achieves follow-up milestone

MASC Trials are proud to announce the successful completion of 24-months of follow-up for the IMAGE trial, a landmark study evaluating the role of Melanoma Surveillance Photography (MSP) in improving early detection of melanoma among high and ultra-high-risk patients. This milestone marks a significant step in assessing the long-term impact of MSP on reducing unnecessary biopsies and improving diagnostic accuracy.

With further analysis underway, data from the trial, sponsored by Monash and coordinated by the MASC Research Centre, will be instrumental in informing future recommendations for melanoma care and guiding decisions around public funding for MSP services.



[Find out more](#)

## DermNet PRO | DermNet for healthcare professionals

DermNet's platform for healthcare professionals DermNet PRO now offers access to journals. Currently the British Journal of Dermatology is available, with more journals being included over the coming weeks.

To access the journals, navigate to the Journals page under Resources on the side bar menu (or top right menu on mobile).

To request access to DermNet PRO, visit <https://pro.dermnetnz.org/>. You will need to provide your professional registration number when signing up.



## Prof Cliff Rosendahl on chaos, clues | Valuable dermoscopy insights

### Chaos, Clues and Exceptions – new update released

The diagnostic posters "Chaos, Clues and Expectations" and "Prediction without Pigment" have recently been updated, marking their first revision in 10 years.

Developed by Professor Cliff Rosendahl and colleagues, these posters provide a framework for the accurate diagnosis of skin lesions when a confident, specific, benign, pattern-recognition diagnosis cannot be made.

You can download a copy of the updated posters from the [resources section on the MelNet website](#).

### Chaos, Clues and Exceptions (2025): YouTube video

In this video, Professor Cliff Rosendahl presents the updated version of the poster "Chaos, Clues and Exceptions" (2025) by Rosendahl, Marozava, Hassani and Clark.

[Watch the video](#)



## HealthCert podcast: Chaos, clues & clinical change: Conversation with Prof Cliff Rosendahl

In this podcast episode, A/Prof Dicker speaks with Prof Cliff Rosendahl about the evolution of skin cancer medicine in general practice, told through Cliff's unique journey from GP to educator, researcher, and co-creator of one of the world's most used dermoscopy frameworks. It's a conversation about how ideas become practice, and how individuals can shape an entire field.

[Listen to the podcast](#) (free login required)



## Worth a read: Diagnosis of dysplastic naevus has no clinical relevance

Professor Cliff Rosendahl et al have recently published an interesting review about the diagnosis of dysplastic naevi. They assert, based on current knowledge, that irrespective of whether it exists as a histological entity, and regardless of its persistence in practice, a diagnosis of dysplastic naevus by pathologists has no clinical relevance and that it does harm, by unnecessarily complicating the therapeutic decision-making role of clinicians.

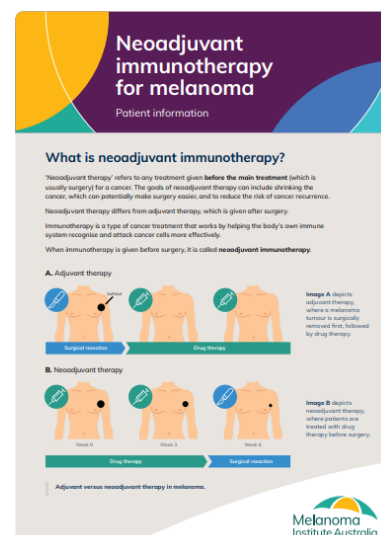
[Read the full review](#)

## Neoadjuvant immunotherapy for melanoma | Patient information brochure

Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA) has developed a patient information brochure on neoadjuvant immunotherapy for melanoma. The downloadable brochure will provide your patients with an overview of what this treatment is, why it has been recommended, what to expect and common side effects.

Please note that the contacts for clinical trials, information and support supplied in the brochure are only available for Australian patients. New Zealand patients are advised to contact their treating team or access the support services listed on the [Resources for patients page](#) of our website.

[Download brochure](#) (free login required)



## Upcoming clinical education session: Rhenium-SCT for non-melanoma skin cancers

A topical radioactive isotope treatment (Rhenium-SCT) is emerging internationally as a potential option for selected patients with non-invasive, non-melanoma skin cancers, particularly those for whom surgery may be challenging.

Canopy Cancer Care Hawke's Bay are hosting an online clinical education session from 6.00 pm - 7.30 pm on Monday 15 September to share the early findings, practical considerations, and the potential role of Rhenium-SCT in New Zealand.

[Register to attend the webinar](#)

[Read the clinical paper summary](#)

## Upcoming opportunities and events



[Register today](#) for this FREE upcoming public plenary discussing **Speaking up and speaking out: advancing science in a polarised world**.

**When:** 8th October 2025, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

**Where:** St David's Lecture Theatre, University of Otago, Dunedin

In a world that is increasingly embracing populism and the impacts of a polarised media and hyper partisan political system, the role of independent experts in science has never been more important to safeguard the public interest.

The New Zealand Society for Oncology is proud to present an open public plenary as part of its annual meeting, bringing together Dr Ashani Weeraratna – a leading science advisor in the Biden administration, and VC Hon Grant Robertson – former MoF who helped lead NZ's science-informed COVID response, discussing the role of independent science advice in making decisions that affect the future, health and well-being of our population.

Moderated by Professor Chris Jackson, you'll leave this evening with fresh insights and a deeper appreciation for the important role science plays in our community.

[Learn more and register](#)

### **New course: Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Surgery | 22 November 2025 | Auckland**

Skin Cancer Symposiums' newly named [Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Surgery 2025](#) (previously called the *Certificate of Skin Cancer Management*) is 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.

Seasoned 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](#).

### **Other upcoming opportunities and events**

September	October
<b>Surgery 2025</b> 4 – 5 September 2025 Wellington <a href="#">Find out more</a>	<b>New Zealand Society of Oncology (NZSO) Conference 2025</b> 9 – 11 October 2025 Dunedin <a href="#">Find out more</a>
<b>WONCA World Conference 2025</b> 17 – 21 September 2025 Lisbon, Portugal <a href="#">Find out more</a>	<b>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine</b> (Skin Cancer College Australasia) Starts on 10 October 2025 Online and practical workshop in Sydney, Australia <a href="#">Find out more</a>
<b>RCPA NZ ASM 2025</b> 19 – 21 September 2025 Wellington <a href="#">Find out more</a>	<b>ESMO Congress 2025</b> 17 – 21 October 2025 Berlin, Germany <a href="#">Find out more</a>
<b>Advanced Skin Surgery Workshop</b> (Skin Cancer College Australasia) 19 – 22 September 2025 Brisbane, Australia <a href="#">Find out more</a>	<b>Certificate of Dermoscopy – Online</b> (Skin Cancer College Australasia) Starts on 17 October 2025 Online <a href="#">Find out more</a>
<b>Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine</b> (Skin Cancer College Australasia) Starts on 26 September 2025 Online and practical workshop in Christchurch <a href="#">Find out more</a>	For more events see the <a href="#">MelNet events calendar</a>

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

*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](#)  
[Certificate of Case Management: 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 that have accumulated so far this year.

[Impact of personalized response-directed surgery and adjuvant therapy on survival after neoadjuvant immunotherapy in stage III melanoma: Comparison of 3-year data from PRADO and OpACIN-neo](#)

[Relapse-free survival with adjuvant dabrafenib/trametinib therapy after relapse on a prior adjuvant CPI in BRAF V600-mutated stage III/IV melanoma](#)

[Circulating tumor DNA assessment shows promising results in predicting and reflecting disease status during adjuvant therapy](#)

[0.8-mm threshold for guiding the care of patients with thin primary melanomas](#)

[Effectiveness of cross-sector collaboration in strategy implementation and impact: Evaluation of the NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy 2016-2022](#)

[Consistently younger age at melanoma diagnosis of women vs. men suggests a need for tailored approaches to melanoma control](#)

[Patients' perceptions and attitudes regarding the use of AI in skin cancer screening and diagnosis](#)

[Patients with resected stage IIB/C melanoma treated with adjuvant nivolumab demonstrated stable health-related quality of life, minimal bother from side effects](#)

[Significant reduction in surgical interventions for melanoma in upcoming years](#)

[Cost-effectiveness analysis of 3D total-body photography for people at high risk of melanoma](#)

[Nurse-led models of service delivery for skin cancer detection demonstrate potential for high diagnostic accuracy, effective treatment delivery and enhanced patient education on skin self-examination](#)

[Wide local excision does not significantly improve recurrence-free survival in patients with completely excised cutaneous superficial spreading and nodular melanoma on trunk or extremities](#)

[Genetic test for skin cancer shows potential for accelerating early personalized chemoprevention in ultra-high risk transplant patients](#)

[Sun safety policy implementation in Aotearoa New Zealand: current landscape and progress](#)

[Upskilling primary care nurses working in regional Australia in skin cancer prevention education and early detection provides innovative solution to meet screening needs of high-risk individuals](#)



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