

Spotlight
on



August 2026

Petition to ban sunbeds in New Zealand: Add your voice and sign now

Help us call for a ban on sunbeds in New Zealand

Skin Cancer NZ is supporting a petition calling for a national ban on commercial sunbeds in New Zealand.

UV radiation from sunbeds is classified as carcinogenic to humans. Evidence shows that sunbed use increases the risk of melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers, with the risk of melanoma increasing with more frequent use and younger age at first use.

A national ban on sunbeds is one of the 12 evidence-based recommendations in the Skin Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Strategy, developed by Skin Cancer NZ in collaboration with experts and stakeholders across the sector. While sunbed use by people under 18 is already prohibited in New Zealand, commercial sunbeds remain available to adults, with limited regulation.

Add your voice - please sign and share the petition with your networks. Every voice adds to the call for stronger action on skin cancer prevention in New Zealand.

The petition is open until **30 September 2026**.

[Sign the petition on the New Zealand Parliament website](#)

Skin cancer treatment expands into GP clinics: Government investment

\$23 million Government investment to expand community-based healthcare

Skin Cancer NZ welcomes the Government's \$23 million investment in community-based healthcare, with the first phase focused on improving access to skin cancer assessment, detection and treatment through general practice.

The investment will improve access to services and strengthen primary care capability through dermoscopy and skin excision training. Together, these measures have the potential to improve patient outcomes and support more equitable care across Aotearoa New Zealand.

The announcement aligns with Skin Cancer NZ's Skin Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Strategy 2024–2028 and reflects years of advocacy to strengthen skin cancer prevention, early detection and treatment across New Zealand.

[Find out more](#)

Cancer Trials NZ transitions to Human Health Research Services

CTNZ will conclude its operations as a standalone organisation

After more than 20 years supporting cancer clinical trials and research collaboration across Aotearoa New Zealand, Cancer Trials New Zealand (CTNZ) has concluded its operations as a standalone organisation and is now part of Human Health Research Services (HHRS), hosted by the University of Auckland's Liggins Institute. The change coincides with the establishment of the University of Auckland's new Department of Cancer Sciences, providing a connected platform for cancer research, education and clinical expertise.

Spot on Insights: HealthCert Podcasts

Who should be doing skin checks? Rethinking roles in skin health

This podcast explores how the skin health workforce is evolving in response to growing demand for skin cancer prevention and early detection. Practice operations expert Matt Woollard speaks with dermatology nurse Jennifer Hookham about changing roles across nursing, dermal practice and general practice, and the importance of clear scopes, appropriate training and effective collaboration.

[Listen to the podcast via HealthCert's podbean](#)

(free login required)

How the nurse-melanographer model is reshaping skin cancer care

This episode discusses the nurse-melanographer model, where trained nurses work alongside GPs to support skin cancer assessment and management. Experienced melanographer Lynette Hooper explores the role in practice, including conducting and documenting skin checks, using dermoscopy and communicating findings with GPs.

[Listen to the podcast via HealthCert's podbean](#)

(free login required)

Please note: Some aspects of the above podcasts may differ in New Zealand practice.

Spot on Insights: Resources from Melanoma Institute Australia

Podcast - From collaboration to innovation: How multidisciplinary teams and clinical trials are transforming melanoma care

A recent episode of MIA's *Melanoma Insights for Professionals* podcast explores the important role of multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) in contemporary melanoma care. Experts discuss how MDTs bring together different areas of expertise to manage complex cases, navigate treatment pathways and identify opportunities for patients to participate in clinical trials.

The panel also considers how clinical trials have shaped current melanoma treatment standards and explores emerging developments that could influence the future of melanoma care.

Search "Melanoma insights" on your favourite podcast app or [listen via the MIA Education Portal](#) (free login required)

Please note: Some aspects of the podcast may differ in New Zealand practice.

ASCO updates

Catch up on the latest advances presented at the 2026 ASCO Annual Meeting with two expert interviews featuring Prof Georgina Long AO and Prof Bart Neyns. The video discussions, available through the MIA Education Portal, unpack the latest evidence and explore implications for clinical practice. A free login is required to access the videos.

Long-term outcomes with nivolumab–relatlimab in advanced melanoma

Advancing neoadjuvant therapy in resectable Stage III melanoma

Please note: Some aspects of the videos may differ in New Zealand practice.

In the spotlight: Congratulations to Founding Member Ryan Fox

Winner of Open Championship

Skin Cancer NZ extends our heartfelt congratulations to our Founding Member Ryan Fox on his remarkable victory at The Open Championship, claiming his first major title with a dramatic birdie on the final hole.

We are incredibly proud to see Ryan achieve this milestone and grateful for his ongoing support of Skin Cancer NZ. As a professional golfer who spends much of his career outdoors, Ryan helps highlight the importance of sun protection and early detection of skin cancer.

SkinWise: What's on

In New Zealand

- **NZ Society of Cosmetic Medicine Conference** – 17-20 September, Queenstown

Hybrid

- **World Cancer Congress 2026** – 24-26 September, Hong Kong
- **Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine** – starts on 25 September, Skin Cancer College Australasia, with practical workshop in Sydney
- **EADV Congress** – 30 September - 3 October, Vienna, Austria

See the Skin Cancer NZ calendar for [more information about these events and other upcoming events](#).

[Email us](#) if you'd like us to add your event.

Skin Matters: In the News

Keep up to date with the latest skin cancer news. Read these articles and more on our [website](#):

- *Australian study finds little change in sentinel lymph node biopsy uptake for melanoma*, Surgical Oncology [Read article](#)
- *New tool developed to measure public awareness of melanoma*, NIHR Open Research [Read article](#)
- *'Housekeeping' immune cells shown to suppress melanoma growth*, Journal of Experimental Medicine [Read article](#)

**Please support our work to help save
New Zealanders from skin cancer.**

Click [here](#) to donate now



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