

Melanoma:

Understanding Treatments and Implications for Nurses

Speaker Profiles

CEO Carole Renouf

Carole was appointed as the inaugural Chief Executive Officer of Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA) in 2016. Carole has dedicated most of her career to the not-for-profit sector, specialising initially in health education, consumer advocacy, marketing, communications and fundraising before transitioning to senior executive management and leadership roles.

CNC Georgia Cairns

Georgia has been employed as a Clinical Nurse Consultant (CNC) at MIA since November 2014. In Georgia's current role, she educates surgical and medical patients about how to manage their care and toxicities related to systemic treatment, namely targeted therapy and immunotherapy.

Georgia has her Masters in Acute Care Nursing and has special interests in adult education, lymphoedema and wound care.

CNC Nicole Taylor

Nicole has been the Melanoma CNC at Westmead Hospital since September 2015. She has been at Westmead in the Cancer Care Centre since 2012 and previously at Nepean Cancer Care. Her position covers co-ordination, symptom control and education for patients having immunotherapy and targeted therapy. She works closely with the clinical trials and radiotherapy teams.

Dr Linda Martin

Linda is a dermatologist at MIA and is interested in the early diagnosis of melanoma in high risk individuals and skin care while on targeted and immunotherapy for metastatic melanoma. Her research focuses on moles and melanoma in pregnancy. Linda is committed to educating patients about skin cancer prevention.

Dr Peter Ferguson

Peter joined MIA in 2017 as a Pathology Fellow. Peter completed his medical training and PhD in New Zealand. He has a special interest in melanoma research.

A/Prof Robyn Saw

Robyn is an Associate Professor in Surgery at The University of Sydney. She is a Surgical Oncologist with MIA and also a General Surgeon and Head of the Department of Melanoma and Surgical Oncology at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPA). Robyn has a specific interest in the surgical management of melanoma and other skin cancers.

CNC Natalie Foster

Natalie has worked at RPAH since 2007 and is currently employed as the Melanoma CNC. Natalie provides expert nursing support and education to health professionals, patients and their significant others. Natalie has a special interest in the management of patients with complex post-operative care needs.

<p>Dr Teresa Lee</p> <p>Teresa is a physiotherapist who specialises in lymphoedema and musculoskeletal problems related to cancer care. She obtained her PhD in physiotherapy in 2008 and is actively involved with the Australasian Lymphology Association and Australian Physiotherapy Association.</p> <p>Teresa's clinical interest includes the use of bioimpedance to assess limb extracellular fluid impedance ratios before and after surgery and/or radiotherapy. Her aim is to improve the management of patients at risk of, or who have, lymphoedema secondary to melanoma treatment.</p>	<p>A/Prof Alex Guminski</p> <p>Alex trained in medical oncology and completed a PhD in Sydney followed by post-doctoral research in the UK. He currently works at Royal North Shore and Mater Hospitals and MIA. He has interests in advanced melanoma, non-melanoma skin cancer and head and neck cancers.</p>
<p>CNC Therese Nielsen</p> <p>Theresa has her masters in Oncology/Haematology nursing. She has worked in the Melanoma Unit at RPAH since February 2014 as a Melanoma CNC. During this time she has been involved in the care, management and support of patients with unresectable Stage III and Stage IV melanoma.</p> <p>Theresa has experience with the different systemic treatment options for patients with melanoma including targeted therapies and immunotherapies and has spoken on this topic at multiple events.</p>	<p>CNC Lydia Visintin</p> <p>Lydia has been employed as a CNC in melanoma since 2004. Lydia has worked at multiple sites including: RPAH, The Chris O'Brien Lifehouse, MIA and Westmead Hospital. Lydia completed her Masters in Cancer and Haematology Nursing in 2014.</p> <p>Lydia has comprehensive knowledge and experience managing patients with complex care needs and is very experienced with the different systemic treatment options for melanoma including targeted and immunotherapies.</p>
<p>RN/Manager Maria Gonzalez</p> <p>Maria has a combined Bachelor degree in Nursing/Arts and a Masters of Health Science. She has held nursing positions at RPAH in cardiology and surgical oncology.</p> <p>Maria is currently employed as the Clinical Trials Manager at MIA, where she leads a team of trial nurses and science graduates responsible for the co-ordination of surgical, medical and radiation clinical trials at the Poche Centre and RPAH. She currently also works on the development of adjuvant systemic therapy trial protocols investigating the use of targeted and immunotherapy treatments following and preceding complete lymph node dissection for Stage III metastatic melanoma.</p>	<p>A/Prof Nadine Kasparian</p> <p>Nadine is Associate Professor in Medical Psychology at UNSW. Nadine has several current senior roles in psychology across multiple specialty areas including: Secretary, International Psycho-Oncology Society Fear of Cancer Recurrence Working Group (2016–present).</p> <p>Nadine's research focuses on improving the health and well-being of infants, children, adults and families affected by critical or chronic illness. Nadine has worked in the field of medical psychology research for over 13 years, and has led the development and trial of several psychological interventions for people with melanoma.</p>
<p>Jay Allen</p> <p>Jay is a 9-year Stage III melanoma survivor and Community Co-ordinator at MIA.</p>	<p>James McCarthy</p> <p>James has Stage IV melanoma and despite being on immunotherapy continues to live a very full and active life.</p>