



THE AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF DERMATOLOGISTS

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Dermatology Australasia and Australasian College of Dermatologists

Course outline:

Melanoma and Other Skin Cancers

2025



Dermatology
AUSTRALASIA

1. Course information

1.1 Course aims

The Australasian College of Dermatologists Position Statement on Skin Cancer in Australia states that Australia and New Zealand have the highest rates of melanoma in the world. The vast majority of this is treated within general practice. Crucial to management of skin malignancy is accurate diagnosis.

This course will provide General Practitioners with the skills and knowledge on how to identify, differentiate and evaluate melanoma and other skin cancers. The course is delivered in a self-paced online learning mode over 12 weeks and you will be required to complete the weekly topic case scenarios, a case study and a final online exam. These assessments will ensure that participants have a wide range of clinical experience on which to draw upon when managing their own patients.

1.2 Learning Outcomes

At the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify and describe cutaneous changes that may be associated with Melanoma and Other Skin Cancers
2. Critically analyse clinical cutaneous observations and/or investigations to diagnose Melanoma and Other Skin Cancers
3. Plan and develop treatment and management regimens appropriate to Melanoma and Other Skin Cancers
4. Assess when to refer a patient on to a specialist

1.3 Learning and teaching activities

The course is organised into five components.

- **Pre-learning activities:** are completed prior to starting the course and include a self-rating of your current skills and knowledge about melanoma and other skin cancers.
- **Self-paced online modules:** There are four self-paced online modules. At the end of each module participants will need to complete the Topic Scenarios which consist of case studies with T/F or multiple choice questions.
 - Melanoma
 - Basal Cell Carcinoma
 - Squamous Cell Carcinomas
 - Less Common Skin Malignancies
- **Case Discussion Forum:** This is a forum where students list differential diagnosis, treatment and management options on various case studies. Lecturers and other students can provide feedback for discussion. This is an interactive course component.
- **Webinars:** 4 live webinars are held as part of this course. Attending the interactive virtual teaching sessions (webinars) is a compulsory component of the course and it is expected that a minimum attendance rate of 50% (2 out of 4 webinars) is maintained.
- **Case Study Submission:** In approximately 500 – 600 words students need to submit a case from their practice that is relevant to melanoma and other skin cancers. They need to present:
 - Clinical finding of the case
 - Any investigations
 - Description of the management
 - Photos of the clinical case (if possible)
 - Summary of the case – therefore a reflection of the main learning points; how the patient was managed, rationale as to why this particular patient was managed in this way or in retrospect what could you have done differently and any other significant learning points. Please include a reference to a literature review.
- **Final Assessment:** The final assessment for the subject is an online 2-hour examination.

Clinical scenarios are the main teaching and assessment tool across all learning modes of the course. They illustrate the essential content in the online modules. They are used to assess the application of knowledge and skills in the end-of-topic tests and final examination.

2. Course structure and content

This course is delivered over a 16 - week period and is self-paced.

The course consists of a total of approximately 30 hours of student effort. This is broken down into the following:

- 2 hours orientation/planning/pre- and post-reflection exercises
- 16 hours online learning
- 4 hours of webinars
- 3 hours Case Discussion Forum
- 2 hours Case Study
- 2 hours Final Online Exam
- 1 hour additional reading

CPD Hours

	Total Hours	Educational Activities	Performance Review Activities	Outcome Measurement Activities
RACGP CPD Hours	30	19	9	2
ACRRM PDP Hours	30	19	9	2

The four topics within this module have been organised in the following structure:

1. Melanoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk factors • Pigmented lesion consultation • Melanoma • Melanoma management
2. Basal Cell Carcinoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basal Cell Carcinoma • Treatment options
3. Squamous Cell Carcinomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Squamous Cell Carcinoma • Keratocanthoma • Actinic Cheilitis
4. Less Common Skin Malignancies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paget's Disease • Cutaneous T Cell Lymphoma • Other Cutaneous Lymphomas • Merkel Cell Carcinoma • Cutaneous Metastasis

3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment tasks

Topic	Assessment Task	Time	Weighting
1. Melanoma	30 minutes (not timed) 20 MCQ 8 scenarios/ 2 attempts	At end of module	75% pass mark 10% weighting
2. Basal Cell Carcinoma	30 minutes (not timed) 20 T/F or MCQ 7 scenarios/ 2 attempts	At end of module	75% pass mark 10% weighting
3. Squamous Cell Carcinoma	30 minutes (not timed) 20 MCQ 6 scenarios/ 2 attempts	At end of module	75% pass mark 10% weighting
4. Less Common Skin Malignancies	30 minutes (not timed) 20 MCQ 7 scenarios/ 2 attempts	At end of module	75% pass mark 10% weighting
Case Discussion Forum	Reply to at least 6 cases	Throughout enrolment	5% weighting
Webinars	4 live webinars per Trimester	See Important Dates section	5% weighting
Case Study Submission	500-600 words on relevant BPL case	No later than 2 weeks before Trimester end	75% pass mark 20% weighting
Final Online Exam	100 MCQ 2 hrs to complete – timed 2 attempts to pass	After all modules completed	75% pass mark 30% weighting

3.2 Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

Be sure to provide a list of references whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research to inform your own work. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Please read the '[ACD Academic Misconduct policy.](#)' This policy is available on the ACD Website.

4. Readings and resources

Reading and Resources for examinable material will be provided within the course content. Some extended readings and resources need to be independently sourced.

5. Administrative matters

Please see our Terms and Conditions [here](#).

For further information or questions about the course, please contact enquiries@dermatologyaustralasia.com.au.

The Australasian College of Dermatologists complies with the requirements of the Federal Privacy Act and the National Privacy Principles. A full copy of the College's privacy policy is available [here](#).

Acknowledgements

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- Dr Benjamin Carew
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- Dr Simon Lee
- Dr Victoria Mar
- Dr Jim Muir
- Dr Adam Sheridan
- Associate Professor Peter Soyer

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