



Australasian Melanoma Conference in Sydney this October

28 October 2016 – Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA), a global pioneer in melanoma research and treatment, is bringing together some of the world’s leading melanoma researchers and clinicians for the [Australasian Melanoma Conference](#).

The conference in Sydney on the 28th and 29th October will showcase global best practice and research innovation, and foster partnerships for better patient outcomes.

MIA’s Associate Professor Robyn Saw, Chair of the Australasian Melanoma Conference, said this year’s event is an opportunity for physicians and researchers to learn about ground-breaking research and revolutionary melanoma treatment.

“The conference is a truly unique opportunity to build strong Australasian collaboration and to acquire information and knowledge to use in every day practice,” Associate Professor Saw said.

“This is a must attend event for researchers, primary care and specialist clinicians, nurses and allied health workers interested in any aspect of melanoma treatment, patient care or research,” she said.

The Conference will see MIA’s Associate Professor Jonathan Stretch AM launch the new eBook *Melanoma Principles & Practice*, an interactive multi-touch e-textbook on melanoma care and treatment aimed at specialists.

Written and designed by MIA, the eBook is set to become an ultimate resource on melanoma, delivering specialists a seamless experience that supplements the text with interactive visual supports to build a multi-dimensional level of understanding that would not be possible from a printed book.

The Conference features a number of international keynote speakers. Dr Vernon Sondak from the Moffitt Cancer Center in the US will discuss melanoma in children and how to improve diagnosis and management, as well as communication with the young patient and their family.

Associate Professor Jennifer Wargo from MD Anderson Cancer Center will discuss her research on how gut flora – known as the microbiome – play a role in determining how well a patient responds to treatment.

“There is emerging evidence regarding the role of the microbiome in response to melanoma therapy, and it is quite likely that we will modify the microbiome to enhance responses to therapy in the upcoming months and years,” said Associate Professor Wargo.

“I am looking forward to meeting with my global colleagues in melanoma therapy to understand recent advances and to work as a team to strategically plan next steps in advancing the field,” she said.

The Australasian Melanoma Conference will hear from more than 30 speakers, including a contingent of MIA experts such as Professor John Thompson AO, Professor Richard Scolyer and Professor Georgina Long, as well as other eminent Australians in the field such as Professor Grant McArthur and Dr Mark Shackleton from the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. **More speakers can be found [here](#).**

Delegates are encouraged to share insights and key learnings on social media throughout the day using the hashtag #MelanomaConf2016.

The Australasian Melanoma Conference is proudly sponsored by Bristol-Myers Squibb, MSD, Novartis, Sonic Healthcare, Amgen, Lavery Pathology and Pierre Fabre Australia.

The Australasian Melanoma Conference takes place on Friday 28th and Saturday 29th October at Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, 61 Phillip Street, Sydney. Registration opens at 7:45am on Friday 28th October and 7:30am Saturday 29th October. For further information on the forum or to register to attend, please visit www.melanoma2016.com.au, email melanoma2016@arinex.com.au or call +61 2 9265 0700.

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About Melanoma Institute Australia

Melanoma Institute Australia is a non-profit Australian organisation. MIA's core purpose is to prevent and cure melanoma through innovative, world-class research, treatment and education programs. Find out more at www.melanoma.org.au