

## Summit calls for sunbed regulations

Leading melanoma health professionals attending the MelNet summit last week called for the New Zealand government to follow the World Health Organisation's guidelines, which have been adopted by many other countries.

The Cancer Society is one of the organisations supporting the following four point joint statement.

### **Call for government action on sunbeds**

Exposure to UV radiation from sunbeds significantly increases the risk of melanoma.

Currently there are no regulations governing sunbed use in New Zealand, unlike in Australia, the United Kingdom and many parts of Europe and other OECD countries.

New Zealand needs to protect its young people from the harms of sunbed use.

We call on the New Zealand government to follow the World Health Organization's guidelines, which include banning:

access to sunbeds for those under the age of 18 years  
unsupervised operations.

Organisations that support this statement include:

Cancer Society of New Zealand - [www.cancernz.org.nz](http://www.cancernz.org.nz)  
Cancer Society Social and Behavioural Unit, University of Otago -  
[dnmeds.otago.ac.nz/departments/psm/research/sbru/index.html](http://dnmeds.otago.ac.nz/departments/psm/research/sbru/index.html)  
Consumer NZ - [www.consumer.org.nz](http://www.consumer.org.nz)  
Melanoma Foundation of New Zealand - [www.melanoma.org.nz](http://www.melanoma.org.nz)  
MelNet - [www.melanoma.org.nz/melnet](http://www.melanoma.org.nz/melnet)  
New Zealand Dermatological Society Incorporated - [www.dermnetnz.org](http://www.dermnetnz.org)

For further information contact:

Dr Judith Galtry  
Skin Cancer Advisor  
Tel: (04) 494 7196 Mobile: 0274 583 484