

Specialist Certificate in Clinical Research (Oncology)

Knowledge & Innovation

Your career and our future health depend on it.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Clinical research in oncology is an enormous field that integrates the efforts of a broad multi-disciplinary team; including medical, nursing, allied health, laboratory and other professionals. The Specialist Certificate in Clinical Research (Oncology) has been designed to bring together this multi-disciplinary group to give them a better understanding of all types of research conducted in oncology as well as provide an understanding of the essential components and features of successful research activities and research careers.

Students will gain an understanding of the breadth of research in oncology and the range of career opportunities. They will be presented with some of the ethical and legal considerations relevant to clinical research in oncology. They will learn of the many different outcomes assessed by oncology clinical trials, including how and why these might differ from other disciplines. Students will gain an appreciation of how to develop a research proposal/study protocol and will develop skills in critically appraising presentations and publications concerning oncology research. Students will also be exposed to many of the current active areas of research in clinical oncology research.



Picture from Peter Mac

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

People currently working in oncology or other health services. The course and the award will be particularly useful for oncologists in training (medical, surgical and radiation oncology), clinical trials nurses and those working in the pharmaceutical industry or contract research groups. The course will assume familiarity with clinical oncology.

EXPERT SPEAKERS

This course is offered in partnership with the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. Over half of the expert speakers will be representing Peter Mac. Other speakers will be from:

- Royal Melbourne and Western Hospitals
- Cancer Council Victoria
- Austin Hospital / Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research
- St Vincent's Hospital
- Various pharmaceutical / biotechnology companies



Picture from Peter Mac

SUBJECT COORDINATOR

Associate
Professor
Michael Jefford

(MBBS, MPH, MHithServMt,
PhD, MRACMA, FRACP)

Associate Professor
Michael Jefford is a

consultant medical oncologist at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Senior Clinical Consultant at Cancer Council Victoria and a Principal Fellow with the University of Melbourne. He is Director of the Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre. He completed a laboratory-based PhD (Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research / University of Melbourne) and also holds Masters degrees in Health Services Management and in Public Health (Monash University). His clinical practice, and part of his clinical research, focuses on the management of people with gastrointestinal cancers. He also has extensive experience designing interventions to improve the psychological wellbeing and supportive care outcomes of people affected by cancer. He has published over 80 peer-reviewed manuscripts / book chapters and has presented work at several international meetings covering cancer control, clinical oncology and psycho-oncology.



TESTIMONIALS

Radiation Oncology Registrar

"I would thoroughly recommend the course to any medical or radiation oncology trainee or anyone interested in research oncology. In fact, it should be compulsory."

Pharmacist

"Integrated well into the Masters Program and comprehensive as a stand alone course."

Research Assistant

"Very relevant for science based researchers eager to shift toward a more clinically based project/area. I certainly feel that on finishing this course I have come away with a relevant, substantial certificate."

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PART ONE

This week provides key principles and fundamental knowledge that anyone involved in clinical research in oncology should have.

Day One

- Overview of the course
- Cancer as a global issue
- Development of the HPV prophylactic vaccine
- Research in Oncology in Australia
- Cancer Trials Australia overview
- Victorian Cancer BioBank
- Endpoints

Day Two

- Process of new drug development
- Translational research
- Critical appraisal of research literature
- Types of studies

Day Three

- Imaging/PET
- Elements of a clinical trial protocol and a concept outline
- Publishing
- Ethics / HREC
- Regulatory issues
- Consent / PICF

Day Four

- Good Clinical Practice
- The CONSORT statement

PART TWO

This week expands on principles described in part one and provides illustrations of research in various areas.

Day Five

- Review of assignment and overview of Part
- Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamic Endpoints
- Understanding the CRO's Brief on oncology clinical studies
- Site assessment
- Researching complementary and alternative medicines.
- Health economics

Day Six

- Quality of life
- Palliative care examples of current research in the area
- Large cohort studies in cancer epidemiology
- Studies in cancer prevention - behavior approaches
- Translational research at the Ludwig Institute

Day Seven

- Research in supportive care
- Statistics
- Biogrid Australia / informatics
- Radiation oncology
- Surgical oncology - issues / areas of research

Day Eight

- Elements of a full study protocol
- Haematology
- Surviving and success in clinical research
- Supportive care & Intervention research

ASSESSMENT

On successful completion of four assignments and one multiple-choice examination, a Specialist Certification in Clinical Research (Oncology) will be awarded.

PATHWAYS TO FURTHER STUDY

Participants who are interested in undertaking this course as a pathway to further study will be eligible for 25 points credit towards the Graduate Diploma and Masters Programs in Clinical Research. Further details about pathways are available on request.

GRADUATE ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must meet the English language requirements of The University of Melbourne to be eligible to be offered a place. Details are on The University of Melbourne website, <http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/entry-requirements/language-requirements>

APPLICATION

Details of the Application Process can be found at website: www.mccp.unimelb.edu.au/oncology

Alternatively, email oncology@commercial.unimelb.edu.au for the application form.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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DISCLAIMER

The information in this brochure was correct at the time of printing. The University reserves the right to make changes as appropriate. Students will be advised of changes as soon as practicable.

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DATES

Part 1

Monday 26, Tuesday 27, Thursday 29 & Friday 30 March

Part 2

Monday 9, Tuesday 10, Wednesday 11 & Friday 13 July

VENUE

Graduate House, Carlton, VIC

FEES

\$4,700 per person

(GST added for non-award course attendants)

REGISTRATION

Closing date for applications is Monday, 27 February 2012