



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences

2010

Clinical Research in Oncology

Specialist Certificate in Clinical Research (Oncology)

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.

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.

Please consult www.mccp.unimelb.edu.au/oncology for more information including workload expectations and information regarding assessment

DATES

Part 1 - Monday 12, Tuesday 13, Thursday 15 & Friday 16 April 2010

Part 2 - Monday 21, Tuesday 22, Wednesday 23 & Friday 25 June 2010

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

VENUE

Graduate House, Carlton

FEES

Specialist Certificate in Clinical Research (Oncology) - \$4,400

REGISTRATION

Closing date for applications is Friday, 12 March 2010

PLACES ARE STRICTLY LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF 20



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, clinical consultant with the Cancer Information and Support Service (a unit of Cancer Council Victoria) and an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Melbourne.

He completed medical oncology training in 1999. He also holds a PhD from the University of Melbourne (2002) and Masters degrees in Health Services Management (2003) and in Public Health (2006) from Monash University.

Assoc Prof Jefford maintains senior leadership roles in several state and national organisations. Amongst these, he is a member of the Board of Management of BreastScreen Victoria and a member of the Executive Committee of the Victorian Cooperative Oncology Group (Cancer Council Victoria). He is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Australasian Gastrointestinal Trials Group (AGITG) and the national Psycho-oncology Cooperative Research Group. He chairs the AGITG Quality of Life Committee. He has previously held senior roles with the Medical Oncology Group of Australia and the Specialist Advisory Committee in Medical Oncology (Royal Australasian College of Physicians).

In his seven years at Peter Mac he has been awarded over \$6m in research funding (listed as a Chief / (co) Principal Investigator). This has included funding from the NHMRC; Victorian Cancer Agency, state Cancer Councils, the Commonwealth Government, Leukaemia Foundation and the Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation. His research interests focus on supportive care and patient-centred outcomes and on the management of people with gastrointestinal cancers. He has published over 65 peer-reviewed manuscripts and has presented work at several international meetings covering cancer control, clinical oncology and psycho-oncology.

Assoc Prof Jefford has led the development of this program, coordinating the team appointed to deliver different aspects of the course and is coordinating all assessments.

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
- Clinical research in oncology in Australia
- What is a clinical trial concept outline?
- Endpoints

Day Two

- Careers in research
- Translational research
- Types of studies
- Critical appraisal of research literature

Day Three

- Process of new drug development
- Regulatory issues
- Ethics
- Consent

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 assignments and overview of part two
- Imaging
- Palliative care - issues when conducting research/examples of current research areas
- Radiation oncology - issues / areas of research
- Publishing

Day Six

- Quality of life
- Research in supportive care
- Cohort studies
- Studies in cancer prevention - behavioural approaches
- Translational research at the Ludwig Institute

Day Seven

- Health economics
- Statistics
- Biogrid Australia
- Pharmacokinetic, pharmacodynamic endpoints
- Surgical oncology - issues / areas of research

Day Eight

- Cancer Biobank
- Researching complementary and alternative medicines
- Surviving and success in clinical research
- Nursing research - issues/areas of 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.

Expressions of Interest

I am interested in the Clinical Research in Oncology course I am interested in the Graduate Programs in Clinical Research

Please tick for Business details Please tick for Home details

Title: Name:

Employer: Position:

Address: Street:

City: State: Postcode:

Telephone: Email:

How did you hear about this course?

Please contact Danielle Boardman, T: +61 3 9810 3250, F: +61 3 9810 3149, E: oncology@mccp.unimelb.edu.au