

## SKIN CANCER AUDIT RESEARCH DATABASE

### 'SCARD for Life'

**SCARD** is an internet based surgical log program and was designed by the **Skin Cancer College of Australia & New Zealand**. It is available completely free to any skin cancer clinician in the world. Its main purpose is to safely track excised specimens, but there are a multitude of other benefits available to participants.

Using **SCARD** is extremely simple and quick. Information such as lesion location, provisional diagnosis and whether the lesion is being excised to exclude melanoma or NMSC, is entered at the time of surgery. This information is encoded and sent to a central server. The histopathology result is entered and the case kept highlighted in red until all treatment is finalized. The doctor is then able to view a report detailing a wide range of useful information such as diagnostic accuracy, adequacy of excision margins and number of lesions excised to find one melanoma.

Not only can the clinician view his own results but he can also compare his results to those of the pooled data of all participants and hence privately assess his own level of competence. All results and data remain completely confidential at all times.

## HOW TO REGISTER:

To register to receive this program (free) go to the website:

**[www.skincanceraudit.com](http://www.skincanceraudit.com)**

Click on "Register for the Audit" on the left hand side, complete all the details and click Submit.

Once you have registered you will be notified when your registration details have been processed.

## CONTACT THE AUDIT TEAM FOR MORE INFO:

To contact the Audit web team complete your details on the "Contact Us" page on the website or email direct to **[admin@skincanceraudit.com](mailto:admin@skincanceraudit.com)**

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AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND



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# SKIN CANCER AUDIT RESEARCH DATABASE

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## BENEFITS OF USING SCARD:

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- unprecedented ease of tracking your specimens safely
- confidential feedback about your level of competence and expertise
- comparison of your own results with the pooled data of your peers (completely confidential)
- opportunity to participate in a huge world-class research project

## FULLY SECURE USING 256BIT SSL CERTIFICATE:

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The On-line version has all the software and data on a central server. All data including patient identity is encrypted during transfer and on the central server. Security of data is through the use of a 256bit SSL certificate (twice the encryption strength of that used by the Australian Taxation Office [128bit] and the ANZ Bank [128bit]).

The participating doctor holds a password key, chosen and held only by him or her, which enables him or her to unlock the encryption. The On-line version has been developed because of difficulty with the software on some computers and also to allow access to a particular doctor's data from different locations. It also permits the use of different systems such as Mac.

## TRACKING & REPORTS FEATURES:

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As well as tracking of specimens this project also facilitates the generation of a confidential report on your computer. You are able to obtain a breakdown of your specimen management details including a breakdown by diagnosis, the number of new lesions sampled to exclude melanoma to find one melanoma, the percentage of new lesions treated to exclude non-melanoma skin cancer which are malignant, your diagnostic accuracy, the percentage of definitive managements which achieve adequate margins and other relevant details. This project also give you the opportunity to upload de-identified data to our website to produce a report using pooled results. This report is then made available to you on our website for the purpose of comparison to your own confidential report generated on your own computer.

## RESEARCH PROJECT AIMS:

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A further feature of this project is a research project in which pooled results are being analysed with the intention of producing research papers. One of the planned purposes of the research project is to evaluate the impact of dermoscopy. The other intention is to examine the patterns of skin cancer and its management in the Australasian setting hopefully in the future with comparison to international settings. Approval has been granted by the Ethics Committee of the RACGP. Collection of data for the research project commenced at the beginning of 2008 and data collection for the currently approved research phase of the project will end on December 31, 2010. The first paper titled "Measuring Performance in Skin Cancer Practice: The SCARD Initiative" is currently in press with the International Journal of Dermatology.

## EARN QA&CPD POINTS:

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### APPLICABLE TO AUSTRALIAN DOCTORS ONLY

This project has been approved by RACGP for 30 category 1 Clinical Audit points in the current triennium (2008-2010). To obtain these points you are required to collect data for 2 months, generate a confidential report on your own computer, submit your de-identified data for the purposes of obtaining a "pooled report", then collect data for another 2 months and repeat the reporting process. You are asked to submit your CME number when you register to participate in the audit project.

Although SCCANZ Surgical Audit Project is proceeding as a 2 month plus 2 month audit with respect to CME points, we would encourage you to use it as an ongoing permanent surgical log and self-audit tool.

The Audit has been developed by Dr Cliff Rosendahl and Tobias (Toby) Wilson as an on-line system (no software installation required) that can provide users with reports on the collective results.