Plan to attend next year’s Annual Meeting in Washington DC, March 24-27, 2011
Pre-meeting activities begin Wednesday, March 23rd

Pain Medicine, D.C.
The Governing Voices of Pain: Medicine, Science, and Government

27th Annual Meeting
March 24 - 27, 2011

SAVE THE DATE DC

Be Immersed in the Leading Thinking and Knowledge of the Emerging Specialty of Pain Medicine

October 26, 2010 - Your Latest News on the Specialty of Pain Medicine

LATEST NEWS from the American Academy of Pain Medicine

Top Stories
Practice Management & Coding Updates
Annual Meeting
Pain Research in the News
Pain Treatments/Trials in the News
Substance Abuse & Addiction Research
Ethics
Industry News
FDA News, Warnings & Recalls
Patient Education
Pain News
AAPM Member Honors & Distinctions
Pain Abstracts in the News
PubMed Pain Abstracts
NIH Clinical Studies & Trials

Top Stories

Actavis Inc. Issues a Voluntary Recall of 18 Lots of Fentanyl Transdermal System 25 mcg/h
October 21, 2010 [Source: PR Newswire]
Actavis Inc. announced a voluntary recall to the wholesale and retail levels only of 18 lots of Fentanyl Transdermal System 25 mcg/hour C-II patches manufactured for Actavis by Corium International in the U.S. Full story...

Opioid Safety is Focus of $1 Million-a-Year Educational Initiative
October 25, 2010 [Source: Amednews.com]
The new PainSAFE™ initiative of the American Pain Foundation educates people in pain and health care professionals about the appropriate and safe use of pain management therapies in an effort to reduce risk and improve access to quality pain care. Part of the initiative, AAPM's Treasurer, Lynn Webster MD, will present a one-hour live educational webinar, Safe Prescribing of Opioids: Zero Unintentional Deaths, on November 3 and 4. Full story...
For more information on the webinar, visit www.safeprescribing.com.

Noridian Approves Coverage Policy for Facet Injections
October 11, 2010 [Source: Rerun from AAPM E-news]
AAPM and other Pain Medicine groups succeeded in preventing Medicare carrier, Noridian, from placing facet joint injections on its list of non-covered services. Noridian accepted the majority of the coalition's recommendations, ensuring that patients receive appropriate pain medications. Full story...

Back to top
Read this month's President's Message

AAPM Releases Pain Position Paper

Plenary Proceedings of the 24th Annual Meeting

CODING & REIMBURSEMENT UPDATES

Using Modifier 50 for Bilateral Procedures
Emily Hill, PA

Certain procedural services may be performed on both the right and left sides of the body or anatomic site. When these services are almost always performed bilaterally at the same session, the CPT codes are often developed and valued for the performance of two procedures.

Read more...

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

E-Prescribing Growing in Popularity Across the Country
October 11, 2010 [Source: AmedNews]

According to a recent national report on electronic prescribing, one in every three physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants in the U.S. is using electronic prescribing, with 77 percent of e-prescribers using electronic medical records (EMR) to prescribe. Full story...

Back to top

Annual Meeting

AAPM's 27th Annual Meeting
Pain Medicine, D.C.
The Governing Voices of Pain: Medicine, Science, and Government
March 24 - 27, 2011 in Washington, DC
Pre-meeting activities begin Wednesday, March 23rd

New Preconference Session—Cadaver Workshop
AAPM adds this highly desired Cadaver Workshop to this year’s preconference sessions. Due to the high demand and complexity of such a session, space will be limited, and registration will be on a first come, first served basis. Watch your mail for more information regarding this new session.

New Patient-Centered Care Track
New to the conference this year, the Patient-Centered Care Track offers a renowned patient-centered approach to advancing and improving the continuum of pain care. These patient-centered scientific sessions will bridge the most advanced medical management therapies and protocols of specific pain disease conditions to the very latest advancements on the interventional pain frontier.

Prebook your Hotel Reservations now.

Also, watch for Annual Meeting Registration to go live in the beginning of November.

Back to top

Pain Research in the News

Love Takes Up Where Pain Leaves Off, Brain Study Shows
October 13, 2010 [Source Stanford University School of Medicine]

Results from a recently released study from the Stanford University School of Medicine found that intense, passionate
PATIENT INFORMATION

Patient Education Videos Now Available Online
Online videos are now available in the Patient Portal section of the AAPM website for your patients to view:

View "Finding Relief: Pain Management for Older Adults" video

View "Managing Chronic Pain, A Guide for Patients" video

Educational Booklet and DVD
Copies of the new educational booklet and DVD, Finding Relief: Pain Management for Older Adults are available to members free of charge, with the addition of a modest shipping fee. To request copies of this resource email: info@painmed.org.

UPDATES

The AAPM Power Point Presentation on the Federal Regulations for Prescribing has been updated effective 11/01/2010.
View this new presentation.

Revised AAPM Ethics Charter
Includes statement on conflicts of interest.

Need Facts on Pain?
Updated: Visit AAPM's "Facts on Pain" section in the Patient Center of the AAPM website, which now

feels of love can provide amazingly effective pain relief, similar to painkillers. Senior author of the study, AAPM's Director at Large, Sean Mackey MD PhD, comments, "We're beginning to tease apart some of these reward systems in the brain and how they influence pain."

Full story... View original article in PloS ONE...
View television interview with Dr. Mackey on CBS San Francisco...
View related article in Journal of Neurophysiology...

Yale University Researchers Find Key Genetic Trigger of Depression
October 17, 2010 [Source: Yale University]
Researchers at Yale University identified gene MKP-1, which seems to be a key contributor to the onset of depression and may lead to a new class of antidepressants. The gene was increased more than two-fold in the brain tissues of depressed individuals, and according to researchers, "this gene inactivates a molecular pathway crucial to the survival and function of neurons, and its impairment has been implicated in depression as well as other disorders. Full story...
View related article at PubMed Central (Drug Discov Today Ther Strateg.)...
View related article at PubMed Central (Neuropsychopharmacology)...

New Report Reveals Two-thirds of Spinal Osteoporotic Fractures Remain Undiagnosed and Untreated
October 14, 2010 [Source: International Osteoporosis Foundation]
A report issued by the International Osteoporosis Foundation, The Breaking Spine, indicates that only about 40 percent of older women with spinal fractures visible on X-ray are tested for osteoporosis, and less than 20 percent of men are tested. Often dismissed as simple back pain or arthritis, osteoporosis frequently remains undiagnosed and untreated. Full story...
View Screening for Osteoporosis at U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Evidence Syntheses...
View related article in BMB Reports..

Americans Seek Massage for Pain Relief
October 12, 2010 [Source: Massagemag.com]
A recently released survey by the American Massage Therapy Association found that 15 percent of Americans had a massage in the past 12 months to reduce pain or manage pain. Full story...
View 2010 Massage Therapy Consumer Survey Fact Sheet...
View related article in Annals of the Royal College of Surgeons of England...
View related article in Evidence-based Complementary and Alternative Medicine (eCAM)...

Physical Symptoms Prevalent No Matter What Stage of Cancer Including Remission
October 12, 2010 [Source: Indiana University School of Medicine]
Researchers at the Regenstrief Institute and the Indiana University schools of medicine and nursing, studied 22 physical symptoms associated with cancer, and found that among the study’s participants whom had pain, depression or both, experienced substantial disability. On average, they reported on average 17 of the past 28 days as either bed days or days in which they had to cut down on activities by at least 50 percent. Full story...
View related article at NIH Public Access in Gen Hosp Psychiatry...
View at PubMed Central (Psychooncology)...

Chronic Pain Part of Life for Many Americans, Survey Finds
October 12, 2010 [Source: HealthDay News]
A survey by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) found that nearly 70
includes detailed references to each fact. These are helpful to have on hand for media calls. Read more...

Affiliate Membership
Are the members of your pain team AAPM members? Affiliate membership information...

The American Board of Pain Medicine (ABPM) is committed to the certification of qualified physicians in the field of Pain Medicine. Visit abpm.org to view ABPM's mission, vision, and objectives.

Pain Medicine: October, 2010

Highlights:

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE
Neurosteroids and Self-Reported Pain in Veterans Who Served in the U.S. Military after September 11, 2001

SPINE SECTION
Interlaminar versus Transforaminal Epidural Steroid Injections for the Treatment of Symptomatic Lumbar Spinal Stenosis

PALLIATIVE CARE SECTION
Cancer Pain: An Age-Based Analysis

FORENSIC PAIN MEDICINE SECTION
Medical Malpractice Allegations of Iatrogenic Addiction in Chronic Opioid Analgesic Therapy: Forensic Case Reports

NEUROPATHIC PAIN SECTION
Associations between Heat Pain Perception and Pain Severity among Patients with Chronic Pain

View all topics slated for the next issue of Pain Medicine Journal or go to the Library section of the AAPM website for more information.

MEMBERSHIP

AAPM Membership Renewals
Membership renewals are currently being sent out. Don't miss the opportunity to continue being a part of the primary organization for physicians practicing in the specialty of pain medicine. As a member you will continue to receive the AAPM E-News, Pain Medicine, the official percent of Americans say that they or someone they care for experienced pain in the previous 30 days. Other findings showed that 36 percent would refuse doctor-recommended or doctor-prescribed pain medication for fear of becoming addicted, while 34 percent believe that the side effects caused by pain medication are worse than the pain itself. Full story... View related article at Journal of Rehabilitation Research & Development...

Back to top

Pain Treatments/Trials in the News

Adolor Corporation Initiates Phase 2 OIC Study of ADL5945
October 19, 2010 [Source: BioSpace]
A successful Phase 1 study of ADL5945 (single-ascending dose in healthy volunteers, and multiple-ascending dose study in opioid-induced constipation (OIC) patients with chronic non-cancer pain) had results that were highly encouraging in the PK profile, tolerability and efficacy. The Phase 2 proof-of-concept study will evaluate two doses of ADL5945 (0.10mg and 0.25mg given twice daily) versus placebo with OIC over a four-week period. Full story... View related article in International Journal of Clinical Practice...

Diamyd Medical: Diamyd Trial in Chronic Pain Shows Pain Relief
October 19, 2010 [Source: BioSpace]
Diamyd Medical’s Phase I, open-label, dose escalation trial investigating NP2 Enkephalin, showed a substantial and sustained reduction in pain scores in the middle and high doses cohorts. Patients in the study suffered with chronic pain despite maximum tolerated doses of standard pain medications. NP2 Enkephalin is an opioid peptide that is delivered through the company’s proprietary Nerve Targeting Drug Delivery System specifically to nerves experiencing pain from cancer. Full story... View related article at NIH Public Access in Pain...

Nektar Presents Data of NKTR-181 Mu-Opioid Analgesic Candidate at Pain 2010 Symposium
October 18, 2010 [Source: News-Medical.net]
Nektar presented preclinical studies of NKR-181 that demonstrated full suppression of pain symptoms comparable to oxycodone. NKR-181 is the first mu-opioid analgesic with a novel molecular structure specifically engineered to eliminate the euphoric high and the serious CNS-related side effects of respiratory depression and sedation. Full story...

Botox Shots Approved for Migraine
The FDA approved Allergan’s Botox as a treatment to prevent chronic migraines. The company reports that patients who received Botox injections typically experienced about 2.3 fewer headache days than the placebo group. Full story... View related article in Neurol Sci...

Archimedes Pharma Announces Publication of Long-Term Safety and Tolerability Clinical Study of Fentanyl Pectin Nasal Spray (FPNS) in the Journal of Opioid Management
October 12, 2010 [Source: MedPage Today]
Phase III trials results of Archimedes Pharma’s fentanyl pectin nasal spray (FPNS) in the treatment of breakthrough cancer pain (BTCP), demonstrated that FPNS was acceptable and generally well tolerated in patients suffering from BTCP. Ninety-four percent of BTCP episodes were successfully treated by a single dose of FPNS and did not require additional rescue medication within 60 minutes of FPNS. Full story...
Ibuprofen With or Without an Antiemetic for Acute Migraine Headaches in Adults
October 6, 2010 [Source: Cochrane Reviews]
According to a Cochrane Review, a single oral dose of ibuprofen 200 mg or 400 mg is effective in relieving pain, functional disability and associated symptoms of migraine headaches. Pain was reported to be reduced from moderate or severe, to no pain by 2 hours in just over 26 percent taking 400 mg of ibuprofen, compared to 12 percent taking the placebo. 

Back to top

Substance Abuse & Addiction Research

Titan Pharmaceuticals (TTP)'s Implanted Addiction-Drug Device Works Better Than Placebo in Study
October 13, 2010 [Source: ClinicaSpace]
Results from a Phase 3 randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trial of Titan Pharmaceutical's Porphine implant, showed that patients receiving the implant had significantly less illicit opioid use, experienced fewer symptoms of withdrawal and craving, stayed in treatment longer and had greater overall improvement when compared to placebo patients over the course of the 24-week study. The study appeared in a recent issue of JAMA.

Vivitrol Approved to Prevent Opioid Relapse
October 13, 2010 [Source: HealthDay News]
The FDA approved Vivitrol (naltexone extended release) to treat and prevent relapse among opioid-dependent people who have completed a detoxification program. The once-monthly treatment blocks the brain receptors for opioids, including morphine and heroin.

Barriers Remain for Primary Care Treatment of Addicts
October 11, 2010 [Source: MedPage Today]
Buprenorphine was approved in 2002 as an addiction treatment and SAMHSA reports that in 2009, only 19,000 U.S. physicians were certified to prescribe it, and about 640,000 patients are currently receiving treatment. Researchers report that barriers still exist from non-coverage by insurance carriers to apprehension by primary care physicians to treat addicts. Researchers continue to search for solutions, including telemedicine and websites matching patients with doctors certified to prescribe buprenorphine.

Ethics

Report Slams Pharma/Physician Collaboration
October 19, 2010 [Source: MeetingsNet]
The recently released "Dollars for Docs" project centers on a database with details about payments made to 17,700 healthcare professionals by seven pharmaceutical companies in 2009 and 2010. 

View comments by Perry Fine MD in a NPR article...

Back to top

Industry News

Pfizer to Buy King Pharma for $3.6 Billion in Cash
October 12, 2010 [Source: Reuters]
Pfizer's purchase of King's pain portfolio includes Lyrica, Celebrex, and Avinza's Flector patch and Embeda. King also has other abuse-resistant pain products in
FDA News, Warnings & Recalls

FDA Declines Approval of Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (JAZZ) Drug JZP-6 for Fibromyalgia; FDA Suggests Need for More Studies
October 11, 2010 [Source: ClinicaSpace]
The FDA has issued a complete response letter that they cannot approve Jazz Pharmaceutical’s NDA for JZP-6 (sodium oxybate) for the treatment of fibromyalgia in its present form. The letter indicated the need for additional clinical studies, the appropriate patient population, methods for ensuring safe use, and the proposed REMS, concentration and trade name for the product. 
Full story...

Medwatch: Safety Label Changes for Combunox (Oxycodone HCl/ibuprofen) Tablets
October 20, 2010 [Source: FDA]
Medwatch issued safety label changes to the warnings and precautions sections of Combunox (Oxycodone HCl/ibuprofen) tablets. To view specific changes...

Patient Education

Opioid Education Lags as Abuse Climbs
October 18, 2010 [Source: PR Newswire]
A recent survey conducted by the American Chronic Pain Association (ACPA) reports that only 28 percent of patients were asked to sign an opioid agreement, and of those who did, 10 percent indicated that they received no counseling, and 45 percent had less than 15 minutes to discuss it with the healthcare professional. Full story...

Pain News

Recommendation To Phase Out Codeine
October 5, 2010 [Source: Medical News Today]
An editorial in the Canadian Medical Association Journal suggests that it is time "to phase out the use of codeine as a pain reliever because of its significant risks and ineffectiveness as an analgesic.” Full story...
Read editorial in the Canadian Medical Association Journal...
View article at PubMed Central (Br. J. clin. Pharmac.)...

October 8, 2010 [Source: Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report]
As reported in Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report, a new CDC report indicates that approximately one in five (49.9 million) adults in the United States reported doctor-diagnosed arthritis during 2007-2009, and 21.1 million adults reported arthritis-attributable activity limitations (AAAL). Full story...

AAPM Member Honors & Distinctions
Philipp M. Lippe Receives Gary Krieger Speaker’s Recognition Award

AAPM past president (1988) and the American Board of Pain Medicine’s Executive Vice President, Philipp M. Lippe MD, was the recipient of the Gary Krieger Speaker’s Recognition Award at the California Medical Association’s (CMA) 139th annual House of Delegates session. The award honors the outstanding contributions of a present or former member of the CMA’s House of Delegates. Dr. Lippe has been a CMA member for 46 years and a delegate to its House of Delegates for 33 years, and previously served on the organization’s governing board for eight years. James T. Hay MD, Speaker of CMA House of Delegates and President-Elect of the CMA, presented the award to Dr. Lippe. Congratulations Dr. Lippe!

Back to top

Pain Abstracts in the News

Smoked Cannabis for Chronic Neuropathic Pain: a Randomized Controlled Trial
October 5, 2010 [Source: CMAJ]
Background: Chronic neuropathic pain affects 1%–2% of the adult population and is often refractory to standard pharmacologic treatment. Patients with chronic pain have reported using smoked cannabis to relieve pain, improve sleep and improve mood.
Read more...
View full text...
View related article in Neuropsychopharmacology...
View related article in JAMA...

Should Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) be Prescribed to the Older Adult?
October 1, 2010 [Source: Drugs & Aging]
Abstract: The prevalence of chronic pain increases with age, exceeding 50% in individuals aged ≥65 years. Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) are a mainstay of chronic pain management but carry significant dose-related risks of cardiovascular, renal, haematological and other systemic adverse events (AEs).
Read more...
View related article in Health Technology Assessment...

Interleukin-2 Gene Expression in Different Phases of Episodic Cluster Headache – a Pilot Study
September 29, 2010 [Source: Acta Neurologica Scandinavica]
Abstract: Background – The pathophysiology of cluster headache (CH) is still largely unknown. Immunological mechanisms have been suggested to be of importance.
Read more...

Change in Cancer Pain Management in Korea Between 2001 and 2006: Results of Two Nationwide Surveys
September 28, 2010 [Source: Journal of Pain and Symptom Management]
Abstract: Context: In Korea, many health care professionals have shown increased concern about the management of cancer pain. Five years after a pain management guideline was distributed to Korean physicians, the Korean Society of Hospice and Palliative Care evaluated the change in cancer pain
The period evaluated was between 2001 and 2006.

PubMed Pain Abstracts

The following abstracts are posted at PubMed.gov

Tanezumab for the Treatment of Pain from Osteoarthritis of the Knee
Lane NE, Schnitzer TJ, Birbara CA, Mokhtarani M, Shelton DL, Smith MD, Brown MT.
Department of Medicine, University of California at Davis Medical School, Sacramento, CA 95817, USA.
Abstract: BACKGROUND: Increased expression of nerve growth factor in injured or inflamed tissue is associated with increased pain. This proof-of-concept study was designed to investigate the safety and analgesic efficacy of tanezumab, a humanized monoclonal antibody that binds and inhibits nerve growth factor.
PMID: 20942668 [PubMed - in process]
Read more...
View related article in Arthritis & Rheumatism...

Effects of Lidocaine Patch on Intradermal Capsaicin-Induced Pain: A Double-Blind, Controlled Trial
J Pain. 2010 Oct 2. [Epub ahead of print]
Lam VY, Wallace M, Schulteis G.
Clinical Research Coordinator, Division of Pain Medicine, University of California, San Diego, California.
Abstract: This study evaluated the effects of topical lidocaine on skin sensation and on intradermal capsaicin-induced pain and hyperalgesia. A randomized, double-blinded, placebo controlled methodology was used. After baseline sensory testing, a placebo patch and a lidocaine patch were randomized to the volar aspect of the left or right forearm for 4 hours.
PMID: 20889387 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]
Read more...

Efficacy and Safety of Combined Prolonged-Release Oxycodone and Naloxone in the Management of Moderate/severe Chronic Non-Malignant Pain: Results of a Prospectively Designed Pooled Analysis of Two Randomised, Double-Blind clinical Trials
Mundipharma Research GmbH & Co, KG, Hoehenstrasse, Limburg (Lahn), Germany. Abstract: BACKGROUND: Two randomised 12-week, double-blind, parallel-group, multicenter studies comparing oxycodone PR/naloxone PR and oxycodone PR alone on symptoms of opioid-induced bowel dysfunction in patients with moderate/severe non-malignant pain have been conducted.
PMID: 20920236 [PubMed - in process]
Read more...
Free PMC Article

Back to top

NIH Clinical Studies & Trials
The following studies and trials are posted at ClinicalTrials.gov

Pain Assessment and Quality of Life in Back Pain Patients: Role of Milnacipran
This study is currently recruiting participants.
First Received: October 14, 2010
Sponsor: Brigham and Women’s Hospital
Collaborator: Forest Laboratories
Information provided by: Brigham and Women’s Hospital
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01221740
Stated Purpose: 1.) To show that patients with greater pain sensitivity will show greater improvement in their symptoms (self-reported pain intensity, mood, sleep, and quality of life) than those with lower pain sensitivity, based on QST, after taking milnacipran. 2.) To compare outcome differences (pain intensity, mood, activity interference, sleep, and side effects) with those patients who are either taking or not taking opioids for their pain 10 weeks after being prescribed milnacipran. 3.) To show that patients who are older, male, with more medical comorbidities, greater disability, and longer pain duration will report less improvement (pain, mood, sleep, health-related quality of life) and treatment satisfaction while taking milnacipran compared with others without such characteristics.
Read more...
View related article in Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment...

Study to Evaluate the Long-Term Safety of Hydrocodone Bitartrate Extended-Release Tablets (CEP-33237) in Patients Who Require Opioid Treatment for an Extended Period of Time
This study is currently recruiting participants.
First Received: October 15, 2010 Last Updated: October 18, 2010
Sponsor: Cephalon
Information provided by: Cephalon
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01223365
Stated Purpose: The primary objective of this study is to evaluate the safety of hydrocodone extended-release tablets when used over a 12-month period in patients with chronic pain, as assessed by adverse events, clinical laboratory results, vital signs measurements, electrocardiogram results, physical examination findings, pure tone audiometry, and concomitant medication usage.
Read more...

Study on the Effect of a Beta Blocker on Increased Sensitivity to Pain in Humans Caused by Opioids
This study is currently recruiting participants.
First Received: October 14, 2010 Last Updated: October 15, 2010
Sponsor: Stanford University
Principal Investigator: Dr Larry Fungen Chu, Stanford University
Information provided by: Stanford University
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01222091
Stated Purpose: This research study explores whether a beta-blocker can prevent a person from becoming more sensitive to pain after administration of an opioid. Beta blockers inhibit the sympathetic (fight or flight) response and are often used to treat angina and high blood pressure. In a previous study in human volunteers, the investigators demonstrated an increased sensitivity to pain after a 60-minute infusion of the opioid remifentanil. The goal of this study is to identify a possible inhibitor of this phenomenon.
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View related article at NIH Public Access in Anesthesiology...
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