AAPM E-NEWS

AAPM's Annual Meeting Feedback
See what attendees from the 2010 AAPM Annual Meeting said about the sessions
View: part 1 part 2 part 3

AAPM Members’ Community
Click Here to join forums, special interest groups and more

REGISTER NOW
for AAPM’s 27th Annual Meeting in National Harbor, MD March 24-27, 2011
Pre-meeting activities begin Wednesday, March 23rd

AAPM’s Annual Meeting co-chairs—Tim J. Lamer, MD, associate professor at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; and Sunil J. Panchal, MD, president of the National Institute of Pain and The COPE Foundation in Tampa, FL—have designed a program that will provide exclusive educational opportunities to physicians from all backgrounds and levels of pain care. The range of educational offerings includes hands-on workshops, lectures and debates on key issues in pain medicine, and mock trials. The co-chairs have specifically designed a curriculum that will meet the

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 National Harbor, MD
Pre-meeting activities begin Wednesday, March 23rd

Register Now

There’s Still Time to Pre-Register for AAPM Satellite Symposia
AAPM will be offering satellite symposia during breakfast, lunch and dinner hours at the 27th Annual Meeting, March 24-27, 2011 and Preconference sessions. Read more....

Pre-register for AAPM Satellite Symposia....

Pain Medicine Network Newsletter Interviews Annual Meeting Co-Chairs

AAPM’s Annual Meeting co-chairs—Tim J. Lamer, MD, associate professor at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; and Sunil J. Panchal, MD, president of the National Institute of Pain and The COPE Foundation in Tampa, FL—have designed a program that will provide exclusive educational opportunities to physicians from all backgrounds and levels of pain care. The range of educational offerings includes hands-on workshops, lectures and debates on key issues in pain medicine, and mock trials. The co-chairs have specifically designed a curriculum that will meet the
Pain Medicine, D.C.
The Governing Voices of Pain: Medicine, Science, and Government

AAPM Online Medical Education Now Available
From the 26th Annual Meeting
Advancing the Science and Practice of Pain Medicine in a Changing Healthcare Environment
♦ Quality PRA Category 1 Qualified Pain Education by Top Experts and Researchers in the Field of Pain Medicine.
For more information...

Need to add a Pain Physician to your practice?
Post your ad with AAPM's Career Center and reach more than the 2,400 members of AAPM. The network reaches beyond 30,000 professionals in healthcare.

FEATURED JOBS:
Medical Management Physician/Pain Management
Danville, Pennsylvania
Clinical Pain Research Fellowship
Natick, Massachusetts
Pain Management ARNP
Seattle, Washington

Read this month’s President’s Message
by Perry G. Fine MD, President-Elect, American Academy of Pain Medicine

Visit PainPoints
Pain Medicine's new blog, and read posts by AAPM's Director at Large, Gilbert Fanciullo MD, MS.

AAPM Releases Pain Position Paper

Plenary Proceedings of the 24th Annual Meeting
Plenary Proceedings of the 24th Annual Meeting contains exciting, forward thinking perspectives currently driving the emerging field of pain medicine.

Order your copy TODAY
Price: $79

needs of interventional pain physicians while also focusing on the patient-care model and demonstrating how it will help all pain medicine physicians improve their practice in the future. "Any [physician] who deals with pain will find compelling and interesting topics at this meeting," says Dr. Lamer. View entire interview...

Regina E. Herzlinger to Deliver Keynote Plenary Address at AAPM's 2011 Annual Meeting
Regina E. Herzlinger, Professor at the Nancy R. McPherson Professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School, will deliver the keynote plenary address at the American Academy of Pain Medicine's 27th Annual Meeting. Professor Herzlinger is widely recognized for her innovative research in health care. Read more...

Speaker Search Now Available
Quickly search the name(s) of the Annual Meeting Faculty to find out session topics, dates, and times.

AAPM Annual Meeting Highlights
Preconference Sessions include Practice Management Opportunities for Interventionalists.

Register Now for the 2011 Annual Meeting

Hotel Reservations

Download 2011 Annual Meeting Brochure
Back to top

Pain Treatments/Trials in the News

KemPharm, Inc. Announces Initiation of Phase 1 Trial of KP201 for Pain
February 22, 2011 [Source: BioSpace]
A Phase 1 clinical trial of KemPharm's KP201, a novel abuse deterrent prodrug of hydrocodone for pain, has begun after preclinical studies suggest that it may have reduced abuse potential and lower incidence of constipation when compared with currently approved narcotic treatments for pain. Full story...

QRxPharma Granted FDA Pre-NDA Meeting, Further Phase II Data Released
February 20, 2011 [Source: News-Medical.net]
Results from QRxPharma's MoxDuo study 009 compared a flexible dose regimen (range: 6 mg/4 mg to 24 mg/16 mg) for managing moderate to severe pain following total knee replacement surgery and found that patients receiving the flexible dose treatment achieved significantly superior pain reduction (p<0.02) compared to those receiving the lower dose. MoxDuo is a patented 3:2 ratio fixed dose combination of morphine and oxycodone. Full story...

Cumberland Pharmaceuticals (CPIX)' Caldolor(R) Rapid Infusion Shown to be Safe and Well Tolerated in Newly Published Clinical Study
February 15, 2011 [Source: ClinicaSpace]
A clinical trial evaluating the pharmacokinetics, safety and tolerability of a rapid infusion of Caldolor® (ibuprofen) Injection demonstrated that the maximum plasma concentration (Cmax) of IV ibuprofen when administered over five to seven minutes was approximately twice that of oral ibuprofen. Full story...
Alkermes Announces Positive Preliminary Results from Phase 2 Study of ALKS 37 for Treatment of Opioid-Induced Bowel Dysfunction  
February 15, 2011 [Source: Business Wire]  
Results from a phase 2, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled clinical study of ALKS 37, an orally active, peripherally restricted opioid antagonist for the treatment of opioid-induced bowel dysfunction (OBD), showed that it significantly improved GI motility and increased the frequency of bowel movements in patients with OBD, while simultaneously preserving the analgesic effects of opioid treatment. Full story...  
View related article in Mayo Clinic Proceedings...

Pain Research in the News

Higher Survival Rate Shown In Patient Group Receiving Minimally Invasive Surgery For Spinal Fractures Than In Group Treated Non-Surgically  
February 22, 2011 [Source: Medical News Today]  
A study that examined a population of 1 million patients who suffered vertebral compression fractures from 2005 through 2008 found that the patient group whose spinal fractures were treated surgically with either balloon kyphoplasty or vertebroplasty had a statistically significant higher adjusted survival rate (60.8%) compared to 50.0% for those treated conservatively or with non-surgical care (p<0.001). Full story...  
View related article in PubMed Central in Current Reviews in Musculoskeletal Medicine...

Talking Therapy And Exercise Best For Chronic Fatigue/ME, Says UK Trial  
February 21, 2011 [Source: Medical News Today]  
Patients with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) or Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) can safely add cognitive behavioral therapy and graded exercise therapy to specialists medical care (SMC), according to a large randomized trial funded by the Medical Research Council and the UK government. Full story...  
View related article in Brain...  
View related article in BMC Neurology...  
View related article in Health Technology Assessment...

The Placebo Effect: Expecting the Best, Fearing the Worst  
February 17, 2011 [Source: Oxford University]  
A study at Oxford University used brain imaging to confirm the study’s participants' report of pain relief, which showed that the volunteers really did experience different levels of pain when their expectations were changed, although administration of pain relief remained constant. Full story...  
View related article in the Archives of General Psychiatry...

Spinal Fusion Surgery Provides Worse Outcomes in Workers’ Compensation Patients  
Using Ohio workers’ compensation data, researchers at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine found that workers’ compensation patients with chronic low back pain who underwent spinal fusion surgery led to worse long-term outcomes, including lower rate of return to work when compared to nonsurgical treatment. Full story...
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 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: March, 2011
Highlights:

EDITORIAL
Science and Bioethics in the Advancement of Pain Management

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE
Reliability of a Preliminary 3-D Pain Mapping Program

SPINE SECTION
Effectiveness of Traditional Chinese "Gua Sha" Therapy in Patients with Chronic Neck Pain: A Randomized Controlled Trial

Bicocca, Italy, found that the image that the brain forms of your own body, including the size of a particular part of the body has a strong effect on the experienced level of pain. The study suggests that the experience of pain arises in parts of the brain that represent the size of the body. Full story... View related article in The Journal of Neuroscience...

All in the Family: Lower Back Disease May be in your Genes
February 2, 2011 [Source: American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons]
A study of more than 2 million people indicates that symptomatic lumbar disc disease may be inherited according to a new report in the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery. Full story... View related article in European Spine Journal... View related article in Arthritis & Rheumatism...

Balanced Prescribing

CDC Webcast Helps Healthcare Professionals Balance Prescription Drug Overdose Epidemic with Patients’ Legitimate Need
February 14, 2011 [Source: Occupational Health & Safety]
The CDC will host a webcast to discuss the challenges health professionals, policy makers, and legislators face to insure that legitimate pain patients have access to needed medications, while reducing injuries and deaths from overdoses. Full story... View full CDC Report: Health, United States, 2010...

Practice Management & Coding Updates

The Practice Management section of the AAPM website offers practical tools and resources for you to use in your pain practice, as well as coding updates, reimbursement news, and other information that impacts your practice. Visit this helpful section on the website

2011 Common Pain Medicine CPT® Codes Now Available

FDA News, Recalls & Warnings

Medtronic SynchroMed II and SynchroMed EL Implantable Infusion Pump and Refill Kits: Class 1 Recall
February 16, 2011 [Source: FDA]
ISSUE: Pocket fills (the unintended injection of drugs or fluids into the patient’s subcutaneous tissue at the pump pocket site instead of the pump) may result in patient harm, serious injury, and/or death due to drug overdose or underdose. Full story...

Ethics

More Retractions in Boldt Case
February 2011 [Source: Anesthesiology News]
ETHICS SECTION
On the Transformation of the "Profession" of Pain Medicine to the "Business" of Pain Medicine: An Introduction to a Special Series

PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHIATRY & BRAIN NEUROSCIENCE SECTION
Ecological or Recalled Assessments in Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain?

CASE REPORT
Burning Mouth Syndrome Responsive to Duloxetine: A Case Report

View all topics slated for the March 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 journal of AAPM, as well as representation and advocacy in Washington DC, up-to-date coding information, discounts on AAPM's Annual Meeting, and a host of other member benefits.

Pay dues online or for phone assistance, please call customer service at 847/375-4731.

Twenty-two articles by Joachim Boldt, MD PhD, have been retracted from the journal Anesthesia & Analgesia. The list is posted on the Journal's website. Full story...(log-in required)

Back to top

International Pain News

Ireland: Chronic Pain at €4.7bn a Year
February 15, 2011 [Source: The Irish Times]
A recent study in Ireland found that the overall cost of chronic pain in Ireland is €4.7bn a year ($6.5 billion in U.S. dollars), accounting for about 2.5 percent of the annual GDP. Full story...

U.K.: Cuts Disastrous for Brain Science Research, Academics Warn
February 10, 2011 [Source: Guardian.co.uk]
The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) in the U.K. has proposed cuts in neuroscience research funds, which is predicted to cause at least 30 research groups to disband. Full story...

Back to top

Advocacy

AAPM Addresses the Institute of Medicine (IOM) Committee on Advancing Pain Research, Care, and Education
February 8, 2011, New Orleans, LA
AAPM leaders addressed the Institute of Medicine Committee on Advancing Pain Research, Care, and Education, presenting its position "that more robust education and training of physicians—pain medicine specialists and other clinicians alike—will produce dividends in both research and on-the-ground pain care." Full story...

The next IOM Committee on Advancing Pain Research, Care, and Education will be held on March 14, 2011, in Irvine, CA. For more information and to leave a public comment....

Back to top

AAPM Members in the News

Opioids and Deaths
AAPM Treasurer, Lynn Webster MD, sent a letter to the editor of the New England Journal of Medicine in response to a Perspective article, "A Flood of Opioids, a Rising Tide of Deaths," November 18, 2010, by Susan Okie MD. Full story...

Healing the Hurt
February 24, 2011 [Source: Time]
AAPM Director at Large, Sean Mackey MD PhD, comments in Time magazine's cover story "Healing the Hurt," on the use of functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) in his research on the anterior cingulate cortex of the brain. Full story...
Pain Abstracts in the News

Office Evaluation of Spine and Limb Pain: Spondylotic Radiculopathy and Other Nonstructural Mimickers
February 22, 2011 [Source: Seminars in Neurology]
James Watson. Departments of Neurology and Anesthesiology - Pain Division, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota
ABSTRACT: Low back and neck pain, with or without radiculopathy, are one of the most common reasons for referral to an outpatient neurology practice. Determining appropriate treatment relies on establishing an accurate diagnosis of the etiology of the spine or limb pain.
Read more...
View related article in American Family Physician...
View related article in Health Technology Assessment...

Balloon Kyphoplasty Versus Non-Surgical Fracture Management for Treatment of Painful Vertebral Body Compression Fractures in Patients with Cancer: a Multicentre, Randomised Controlled Trial
February 17, 2011 [Source: The Lancet Oncology]
Abstract: Background: Non-randomised trials have reported benefits of kyphoplasty in patients with cancer and vertebral compression fractures (VCFs). We aimed to assess the efficacy and safety of balloon kyphoplasty compared with non-surgical management for patients with cancer who have painful VCFs.
Read more...

Neuropathic Nav1.3-Mediated Sensitization to P2X Activation is Regulated by Protein Kinase C
February 11, 2011 [Source: Molecular Pain]
Abstract (provisional): Background: Increased neuronal excitability and spontaneous firing are hallmark characteristics of injured sensory neurons. Changes in expression of various voltage-gated Na+ channels (VGSCs) have been observed under neuropathic conditions and there is evidence for the involvement of protein kinase C (PKC) in sensory hyperexcitability. Here we demonstrate the contribution of PKC to P2X-evoked VGSC activation in dorsal root ganglion (DRG) neurons in neuropathic conditions.
Read more...
View related article in Molecular Pain...

Time-Scheduled vs. Pain-Contingent Opioid Dosing in Chronic Opioid Therapy
February 8, 2011 [Source: Pain]
Michael Von Korff, Joseph O. Merrill, Carolyn M. Rutter, Mark Sullivan, Cynthia I. Campbell, Constance Weisner
Abstract: Some expert guidelines recommend time-scheduled opioid dosing over pain-contingent dosing for patients receiving chronic opioid therapy (COT). The premise is that time-scheduled dosing results in more stable opioid blood levels and better pain relief, fewer adverse effects, less reinforcement of pain behaviors, and lower addiction risk.
Read more...

Back to top
Utility of Minimum Clinically Important Difference in Assessing Pain, Disability, and Health State after Transforaminal Lumbar Interbody Fusion for Degenerative Lumbar Spondylolisthesis

J Neurosurg Spine. 2011 Feb 18. [Epub ahead of print]


Department of Neurosurgery, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland

Abstract: Object Outcome studies for spine surgery rely on patient-reported outcomes (PROs) to assess treatment effects. Commonly used health-related quality-of-life questionnaires include the following scales: back pain and leg pain visual analog scale (BP-VAS and LP-VAS); the Oswestry Disability Index (ODI); and the EuroQol-5D health survey (EQ-5D). A shortcoming of these questionnaires is that their numerical scores lack a direct meaning or clinical significance. Because of this, the concept of the minimum clinically important difference (MCID) has been put forth as a measure for the critical threshold needed to achieve treatment effectiveness.

PMID: 21332281 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]

Lamotrigine for Acute and Chronic Pain


Wiffen PJ, Derry S, Moore RA.

UK Cochrane Centre, National Institute for Health Research, Summertown Pavilion, Middle Way, Oxford, UK, OX2 7LG.

Abstract: BACKGROUND: This is an update of the original Cochrane review published in Issue 2, 2007. Some antiepileptic medicines have a place in the treatment of neuropathic pain (pain due to nerve damage). This updated review adds five new additional studies looking at evidence for Lamotrigine as an effective treatment for acute and chronic pain.

PMID: 21328280 [PubMed - in process]

Recognizing and Assessing Key Symptom Domains in Chronic Widespread Pain: Focus on Fibromyalgia


Arnold LM, Bradley LA, McCarberg BH.

Women's Health Research Program, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Abstract: Fibromyalgia has a complex etiology, involving the interaction of multiple biological, psychological, and behavioral contributors. Although not completely understood, central augmentation of sensory input, neuroendocrine and neuropeptide abnormalities, family and genetic factors, and psychosocial stressors are thought to play a role.

Copyright © 2011 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

PMID: 21295180 [PubMed - in process]

Epidemiology of Chronic Non-Cancer Pain in Europe: Narrative Review of Prevalence, Pain Treatments and Pain Impact


Abstract: BACKGROUND: Estimates on the epidemiology of chronic non-cancer pain vary widely throughout Europe. It is unclear whether this variation reflects true population differences or methodological factors. Such epidemiological information supports European decision makers in allocating healthcare resources.

PMID: 21194394 [PubMed - in process]

NIH Clinical Studies & Trials

The following studies and trials are posted at ClinicalTrials.gov

Primary Care Identification Of Patients With Chronic Neuropathic Low Back Pain Study (PINPOINT)
This study is not yet open for participant recruitment.
First Received: February 16, 2011
Sponsor: Pfizer
Information provided by: Pfizer
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01298466
Stated Purpose: A0081256 is a prospective, open-label, multi-centre European study designed to raise awareness and enhance the diagnosis of patients with chronic low back pain with a neuropathic pain component in primary care who are refractory to standard analgesic therapy and/or one treatment for neuropathic pain and evaluate the effectiveness and tolerability of pregabalin in this population. The impact of pregabalin on analgesia, patient satisfaction with treatment, patient anxiety and depression, sleep interference, physical functioning and work productivity will be assessed.

Long-term Safety Study of BEMA Buprenorphine in Subjects With Chronic Pain
This study is not yet open for participant recruitment.
First Received: February 16, 2011 No Changes Posted
Sponsor: BioDelivery Sciences International
Study Director: Andrew Finn, PharmD, BioDelivery Sciences International
Information provided by: BioDelivery Sciences International
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01298765
Stated Purpose: The purpose of this study is to determine whether BEMA Buprenorphine is safe in the treatment of chronic pain.

A Study of Genetic Variation Influencing Pain and Response to Opioid Medications in Patients With Chronic Pain
This study is enrolling participants by invitation only.
First Received: February 9, 2011 Last Updated: February 10, 2011
Sponsor: Stanford University
Principal Investigator: Dr Larry Fu-nien Chu, Stanford University
Information provided by: Stanford University
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01293994
Stated Purpose: The investigators will be collecting saliva DNA samples from chronic back pain patients. The investigators hope to find candidate genes associated with response to opioid medication by correlating molecular genetics data with pain measurement and opioid responsiveness data including opioid hyperalgesia and opioid analgesic tolerance.

View related article in The Journal of Clinical Investigation...
Effects of Milnacipran on Widespread Mechanical and Thermal Hyperalgesia of Fibromyalgia Patients
This study is currently recruiting participants.
First Received: February 9, 2011 No Changes Posted
Sponsor: University of Florida
Principal Investigator: Roland Staud, MD, University of Florida
Collaborator: Forest Laboratories
Information provided by: University of Florida
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01294059
Stated Purpose: Fibromyalgia syndrome (FM) shares many symptoms common to chronic neuropathic pain, including the characteristic hyperalgesia of the skin (thermal, mechanical) and muscles (mechanical) found in almost all FM patients. Milnacipran, a balance norepinephrine-serotonin re-uptake inhibitor, has been found to reduce pain and improve physical function of FM patients. However, little is known about the pain mechanisms that are affected by this medication.
Read more...

NP2 Enkephalin For Treatment of Intractable Cancer Pain
This study is currently recruiting participants.
First Received: February 4, 2011 Last Updated: February 8, 2011
Sponsor: Diamyd Inc
Collaborators: Paragon Biomedical, invivodata, Inc.
Principal Investigator: David Fink, M.D., University of Michigan
Information provided by: Diamyd Inc
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01291901
Stated Purpose: The purpose of this study is to examine the impact of intradermal delivery of NP2 on pain scores and pain medication usage in subjects with intractable pain due to malignant disease. A second purpose is to confirm safety and secondary efficacy measurements.
Read more...

AAPM Business
The American Academy of Pain Medicine is pleased to announce the recipients of this year’s Presidential Commendations and Awards. The following individuals will be recognized for their exceptional service to the field of Pain Medicine at this year’s Annual Meeting at the AAPM Business Meeting, Saturday, March 26 from 12:45-1:30 p.m.

Awards

The Philipp M. Lippe, MD Award is given to a physician for outstanding contributions to the social and political aspect of Pain Medicine. Social and political accomplishments could be those that benefit the science, the practice or the recognition of the specialty. The 2011 Philipp M. Lippe, MD Award recipient is: Douglas Throckmorton, MD

The Founders Award is given to an individual for outstanding contributions to the science or practice of Pain Medicine. This award is given for continued contributions for the basic or clinical science of Pain Medicine or for demonstration of clinical excellence or innovation in the practice of Pain Medicine. The 2011 Founders Award recipient is: Daniel B. Carr, MD

The Distinguished Service Award is given to an individual for commitment and contributions to the American Academy of Pain Medicine. This award is given to an individual for specific outstanding contributions. The 2011
Distinguished Service Award recipient is: **Timothy R. Deer, MD**

The **Patient Advocacy Award** recognizes activity of an individual in advocating for appropriate evaluation and treatment of patients suffering from pain. This award was created to honor those healthcare professionals whose deeds reflect their recognition of the importance and impact of the specialty of Pain Medicine. The 2011 Patient Advocacy Award recipient is: **Will Rowe**

**Presidential Commendations**

**Colonel Chester C. Buckenmaier, MD - Chief, Army Regional Anesthesia & Pain Management Initiative, Walter Reed Army Medical Center**
Recognition of extraordinary and courageous leadership in developing pain services in the military, including the Defense Veterans Pain Management Initiative (DVPMI) and the Army Pain Management Task Force, and particularly for support of a continuum of expert pain care from injury to recovery, in addition to the successful launch of the Acute Pain Section of *Pain Medicine* and service as Editor of *Military Medicine*.

**Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Galloway, AN - Chief of Staff of the Army’s Pain Management Task Force and Action Officer for the Army’s Comprehensive Pain Management Campaign Plan**
Recognition of great skill and perseverance in corralling and coordinating a diverse, multidisciplinary Army Pain Management Task Force through 6 months of weekly meetings, 3 retreats, 29 site visits to best practices around the world, and the writing of the ATF Report that has recommended Pain Departments, expansion of pain medicine training, and needed research, as well as for leadership in the process of implementing the Task Force Recommendations.

**Lieutenant General Eric B. Schoomaker, MD, PhD - Army Surgeon General**
Recognition of extraordinary wisdom in chartering the Army Pain Management Task Force to thoroughly evaluate pain management in the United States Army Medical Command, by making recommendations for a comprehensive pain management strategy for our warriors in the field, in all military treatment facilities and in the Veterans Health System, and supporting necessary research and education to accomplish these tasks.

**Brigadier General Richard W. Thomas, MD - US Army Assistant Surgeon General**
Recognition of leadership as Chair of the Army Pain Management Task Force, and unswerving support of its members and mission, leading to the 160 page ATF Report with 34 specific recommendations calling for a reorganization of pain care to assure prompt, effective care of pain for injured warriors as they transition from the battlefield through military treatment facilities and into veterans health care facilities and their communities.

**Lisa A. Robin, MLA - Senior Vice President, Federation of State Medical Boards**
Recognition of leadership in and commitment to advancing the *Responsible Opioid Prescribing* CME initiative with the state boards of medicine and their constituent physician members.

**Jeffrey M. Tiede, MD – Managing Partner, Columbia Interventional Pain Center**
Recognition of outstanding leadership in developing superb scientific poster sessions over the past 5 years.