The American Academy of Pain Medicine Applauds IOM Findings Calling for Major Changes in Pain Research, Care, Education and Treatment

June 29, 2011 [Source: American Academy of Pain Medicine]

For the one of every four American adults who suffers from chronic pain, the findings released today by the Institute of Medicine in its report, "Relieving Pain in America: A Blueprint for Transforming Prevention, Care, Education and Research" will evoke a sigh of relief. Full story...

Chronic Pain Costs U.S. $635 Billion a Year

July 6, 2011 [Source: Amednews.com]

AAPM President, Perry G. Fine MD, comments on the recent Institute of Medicine’s report: "Relieving Pain in America: A Blueprint for Transforming Prevention, Care, Education and
AAPM Members’ Community

Join the discussion today and “Speak out on REMS” with your fellow colleagues.

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FEATURED JOB:
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Melbourne, Florida

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

State-by-State Opioid Prescribing Policies on Medscape
View summary of state laws related to prescribing controlled substances.

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Pain Research in the News

Chronic Pain? MBSR Can Train the Brain
June 15, 2011 [Source: University of California, San Diego]
A novel program at the UC San Diego Center for Mindfulness at UC San Diego Health System helps chronic pain patients "train their brains" through an in-depth eight–week program that helps them learn to better manage their experience of pain through various techniques. Full story...
View related article in the Journal of Psychosomatic Research...
View related content in an AHRQ Evidence Report/Technology Assessment...

Yale Researchers Uncover Source of Mystery Pain
June 22, 2011 [Source: Yale University]
Researchers from Yale University, the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in West Haven and the University Maastricht in the Netherlands found that mutations of the single gene, SCNA9, was linked to 30 percent of small nerve neuropathy cases where the cause was unknown. Full story...
View original abstract in the Annals of Neurology...
View related article at NIH Public Access in Pain...

New Series on "Pain" in The Lancet
June 24, 2011 [Source: TheLancet.com]
AAPM Members were featured authors in The Lancet’s recent series on pain. Alex Cahana MD co-authored "Treatment of Chronic Non-Cancer Pain," which provides a general overview of empirical evidence of the most commonly used interventions. Russell K. Portenoy MD discusses the management of chronic pain as an essential element in a comprehensive strategy for palliative care. Full story...
View related article in Anesthesia & Analgesia...
View related article in Rheumatology...
View related article in Pain Physician...
View related article in CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians...

Common Painkillers Linked to Irregular Heart Rhythm

Report: Chronic, Undertreated Pain Affects 116 Million Americans
June 29, 2011 [Source: Time]
AAPM President, Dr. Fine, remarks on the recent IOM report released at the end of June in this Time magazine article. Full story...

Stigma Makes Chronic Pain Worse
July 2, 2011 [Source: Omaha World-Herald]
AAPM Past President (2008), Kenneth Follett MD PhD, was on the IOM’s Committee on Advancing Pain Research, Care, and Education. Dr. Follett comments on IOM’s recent report in the Omaha World-Herald. Full story...

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Researchers in Denmark found that the use of NSAIDs or COX-2 inhibitors was associated with an increased risk of atrial fibrillation or flutter, with the risk highest in older people, and patients with chronic kidney disease or rheumatoid arthritis that began treatment with COX-2 inhibitors. Full story...

View related article in the British Medical Journal...

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Pfizer Inc. (PFE)'s Lyrica Top-Line Results Positive In Global Phase 3 Study Of Central Neuropathic Pain Following Spinal Cord Injury

Results from a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel group, multi-center study compared Lyrica (pregabalin) to placebo in subjects with chronic central neuropathic pain following traumatic spinal cord injury met its primary endpoint: positive efficacy in reducing central neuropathic pain. Full story...

View related article in Mayo Clinic Proceedings...

View related article in Pain Research & Management...

Lannett Receives FDA Approval for Morphine Sulfate Oral Solution NDA

Lannett announced the FDA approval for its morphine sulfate oral solution using a 505(b)(2) New Drug Application. The company expects to start shipping the product shortly. Full story...

QRxPharma Pty Ltd. Releases Additional Data on Phase 3 Comparative Safety Study for MoxDuo® IR

QRxPharma released new data on its Phase 3 safety study 022 that compared the respiratory effects of MoxDuo IR to equi-analgesic doses of morphine or oxycodone in 375 patients experiencing moderate to severe postoperative pain following bunionectomy surgery. Findings indicated a relative risk ratio of approximately 4:1 to 5:1 for either morphine or oxycodone vs. MoxDuo. Full story...

FDA Approves Lazanda® - First Fentanyl Nasal Spray - for the Management of Breakthrough Pain in Cancer Patients

Lazandra® delivers fentanyl in a rapid, but controlled manner and is designed to deliver a fine mist spray to a mucous membrane, in this case the nasal membrane. The new product is indicated for the management of breakthrough pain in cancer patients 18 years of age and older who are already receiving and who are tolerant to opioid therapy. Full story...

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PATIENT INFORMATION

Patient Education Videos Now Available Online

Online videos are now available in the Patient Center section of the AAPM website for your patients to view:

View “Finding Relief: Pain Management for Older Adults” video

Practice Management & Coding Updates

CMS Releases NPRM for 2012 Submit your comments by August 30, 2011

Emily Hill, PA

CMS has released its Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) for calendar year 2012. The NPRM outlines proposed changes to payment policies impacting the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. Full story...
Annual Meeting

Announcing AAPMedicine’s 2012 Call for Scientific Poster Abstracts
Submission Deadline: September 7, 2011

The 2012 Annual Meeting Program Committee invites you to submit proposals for scientific poster abstracts to be presented at the AAPM 28th Annual Meeting, February 23-26, 2012, at the Palm Springs Convention Center in Palm Springs, CA.

2012 - Poster Awards
The 2012 Scientific Poster Abstract Committee will select up to 5 scientific poster abstract submitters to present their research during a "live" Plenary Research Highlights session held during the 2012 Annual Meeting. This honor includes the recognition of "Faculty" status at the meeting. As faculty of the annual meeting, the presenters' airfare, lodging and Annual Meeting registration are complementary (up to a dollar amount that will be specified at a later date). If there are questions regarding this amount, please email mokeefe@connect2amc.com.

As an additional reward, each of these presenters will also receive complementary meeting registration for the 2013 AAPM Annual Meeting.

Click here for complete details.

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AAPM Member Honors & Distinctions

In Honor of Philipp M. Lippe

On March 25, 2011, a dinner cruise honoring Philipp M. Lippe MD for his years of service to the Academy was held during AAPM's 27th Annual Meeting in National Harbor, MD.

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AAPM Members in the News

Army on Brink of New Ways to Fight Pain
July 11, 2011 [Source: Army Times]

AAPM member, Colonel Trip Buckenmaier III, MD,
Efficacy of Gabapentin Enacarbil vs Placebo in Patients with Postherpetic Neuralgia and a Pharmacokinetic Comparison with Oral Gabapentin

PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHIATRY & BRAIN NEUROSCIENCE SECTION
Presence of Mental Imagery Associated with Chronic Pelvic Pain: A Pilot Study

TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH SECTION
Human Response to Unintended Intrathecal Injection of Botulinum Toxin

View all topics slated for the June 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.

Bring in a new, paid, active AAPM member and receive the Plenary Proceedings of the 24th Annual Meeting, which contains exciting, forward thinking perspectives currently driving the emerging field of pain medicine. A $79 value. Contact phenderson@connect2amc.com to receive your thank you for referring a new AAPM.

Join AAPM Now
With membership at an unprecedented level, more than 2,400 physicians and their pain teams are part of this premier medical specialty society, practicing in pain medicine from origins in anesthesiology, neurosurgery, neurology, physiatry, and psychiatry. Now in its 27th year, the American Academy of Pain Medicine (AAPM) continues to provide education, training, advocacy, information, and advocacy.

Doctors’ Challenge: How Real Is That Pain?
AAPM President, Perry G. Fine MD, AAPM Director at Large and Past AAPM President (2005), Scott M. Fishman MD, AAPM Vice President for Scientific Affairs, Sean Mackey MD PhD, and AAPM Member, Joel Saper MD, are all featured in this Wall Street Journal article discussing the physician’s role in treating today’s chronic pain patient.

Opioid Rotation: Focus on Safety
AAPM President, Perry G. Fine MD, spoke at the recent Congress of Clinical Rheumatology about the recommended approach to opioid rotation with chronic pain patients who require ongoing opioid therapy.

Treatment Up for Prescription Drug, Alcohol Abuse
AAPM Director at Large, Lynn Webster MD, comments on the recent report from SAMHSA on substance abuse treatment admissions in a USA Today article.

Industry News
Medtronic Issues Communication about the Potential for Reduced Battery Performance in a Small Percentage of SynchroMed® II Implantable Drug Infusion Pumps
As part of its ongoing commitment to keep patients and physicians informed about product performance and safety, Medtronic, Inc. (NYSE: MDT) is issuing an urgent Medical Device Correction to provide physicians with additional information about the potential for reduced battery performance in a small percentage of its SynchroMed® II Implantable Drug Infusion Pumps.

Substance Abuse & Addiction Research
Opioid Implant Cuts Positive Urine Screens
A recent trial of Titan Pharmaceuticals’ implantable formulation of the opioid
addiction drug buprenorphine (Probuphine) found that patients in the
buprenorphine implant group met the primary endpoint of opioid-free urine
screens at six months ($P<0.0001$). Full story...
View related abstract in the Journal of the American Medical Association...

Research Examines Dentists’ Role in Painkiller Abuse
July 1, 2011 [Source: Brown University]
Dentists write the third-most prescriptions for immediate release opioids in the
U.S. and often do not know the appropriate number of doses to prescribe,
according to the corresponding author of a recent article in the Journal of the
American Dental Association. Full story...
View original abstract in The Journal of the American Dental Association...
View related article in the Journal of Managed Care Pharmacy...

Global Demand Increasing for Synthetic Drugs, UN Report Finds
June 23, 2011 [Source: UN News Centre]
According to the United Nations annual drug report, although the global
markets for cocaine, heroin and cannabis declined or remained stable,
production and abuse of prescription opioid drugs and new synthetic drugs rose.
The report indicates that some 210 million people, or 4.8 percent of the global
population aged between 15 and 64, took illicit substances at least once in the
previous year. Full story...
View entire UN Report....

New Report Shows Significant Growth in Substance Abuse
Treatment Admissions Related to Prescription Opiates and Other
Drugs from 1999 to 2009
June 23, 2011 [Source: SAMHSA]
A new report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Administration (SAMHSA) shows that opiate admissions increased from 8
percent in 1999 to 33 percent in 2009 and accounts for 21 percent of all
admissions for substance abuse treatment for people aged 12 or older. Full
story...
To view full SAMHSA report...

American Board of Pain Medicine

2012 ABPM Certification and American Board of Pain Medicine
MOC® Examinations
Early Filing Deadline: August 30, 2011

ABPM Now Accepting 2012 Examination Applications
Deadline: September 30, 2011
The American Board of Pain Medicine (ABPM) is now accepting applications for
the 2012 Certification and American Board of Pain Medicine MOC®
examinations. Both examinations are offered in an electronic format. Online
testing is offered through ACT testing sites nationwide during the 3-week
window of Saturday, April 7, 2012 through Saturday, April 28, 2012. For
information on ACT test center locations, visit http://www.act.org/actcenters/locate/index.html. The early filing application
postmark deadline for both examinations is Tuesday, August 30, 2011, and the
final application postmark deadline is Friday, September 30, 2011.

If you are interested in certifying with ABPM, or if you are a Diplomate who
needs to recertify, please visit www.abpm.org to download the applicable
examination materials, or contact the ABPM office to request a copy of the
Examination packet at (847) 375-4726 or info@abpm.org.
State Legislative Issues

New Guidelines for Transmission and Receipt of Electronic Controlled Substances Prescriptions
July 2011 [Source: Medical Board of California]
The Medical Board of California announced the adoption of guidelines for the "Transmission and Receipt of Electronic Controlled Substance Prescriptions" to clarify a new federal rule that became effective June 2010.
View guidelines...

Drugs a $1 Billion Operation in NJ: Heroin Leads as the No. 1 Drug in Monmouth
June 16, 2011 [Source: APP.com]
According to the New Jersey State Commission of Investigation, heroin is the number one drug being used illegally in Monmouth County and attributes this increase to the drug’s affordability, "while availability is behind the rampant abuse of prescription drugs." Full story...

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Pain Abstracts in the News

Primary Care Providers' Perspective on Prescribing Opioids to Older Adults with Chronic Non-Cancer Pain: A Qualitative Study
July 14, 2011 [Source: BMC Geriatrics]
Abstract (provisional): Background: The use of opioid medications as treatment for chronic non-cancer pain remains controversial. Little information is currently available regarding healthcare providers' attitudes and beliefs about this practice among older adults.
Read more...

Resveratrol Inhibits Cdk5 Activity through Regulation of p35 Expression
July 7, 2011 [Source: Molecular Pain]
Abstract (provisional): Background: We have previously reported that cyclin-dependent kinase 5 (Cdk5) participates in the regulation of nociceptive signaling. Through activation of the ERK1/2 pathway, Tumor Necrosis Factor-alpha (TNF-alpha) induces expression of Egr-1.
Read more...
View original article in Molecular Pain...
View related article at PubMed Central in Dose-Response...
View at NIH Public Access in Molecular Neurobiology...

Managing Cancer Pain: Frequently Asked Questions
July 2011 [Source: Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine]
Abstract: For a variety of reasons, cancer pain is often undertreated, adversely affecting the quality of life for patients and caregivers. To manage cancer pain effectively, physicians need to understand its pathogenesis, how to assess it, how to treat it, and, in particular, how to optimize opioid treatment.
Read more...

Botulinum Toxin for Subacute/Chronic Neck Pain
July 6, 2011 [Source: The Cochrane Library]
Abstract: Background: Neck disorders are common, disabling and costly. Botulinum toxin (BoNT) intramuscular injections are often used with the intention of treating neck pain.
Read more...
Duloxetine, Pregabalin, and Duloxetine Plus Gabapentin for Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathic Pain Management in Patients With Inadequate Pain Response to Gabapentin: An Open-Label, Randomized, Noninferiority Comparison
June 30, 2011 [Source: Mayo Clinic Proceedings]

Abstract: OBJECTIVE: To determine whether duloxetine is noninferior to (as good as) pregabalin in the treatment of pain associated with diabetic peripheral neuropathy.

Read more...
View related article at PubMed Central in BMC Neurology...

PubMed Pain Abstracts

The following abstracts are posted at PubMed.gov

CXCL5 Mediates UVB Irradiation-Induced Pain
Source: Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases, King's College London, London SE1 1UL, UK.
Abstract: Many persistent pain states (pain lasting for hours, days, or longer) are poorly treated because of the limitations of existing therapies. Analgesics such as nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and opioids often provide incomplete pain relief and prolonged use results in the development of severe side effects. Identification of the key mediators of various types of pain could improve such therapies.
PMID: 21734176 [PubMed - in process]
Read more...

Deletion Mutation of Sodium Channel NaV1.7 in Inherited Erythromelalgia: Enhanced Slow Inactivation Modulates Dorsal Root Ganglion Neuron Hyperexcitability
Source: Neuroscience Research Centre, VA CT Healthcare System, 950 Campbell Avenue, Building 34, West Haven CT 06516, USA.
Abstract: Gain-of-function missense mutations of voltage-gated sodium channel Na(V)1.7 have been linked to the painful disorder inherited erythromelalgia. These mutations hyperpolarize activation, slow deactivation and enhance currents evoked by slow ramp stimuli (ramp currents). A correlation has recently been suggested between the age of onset of inherited erythromelalgia and the extent of hyperpolarizing shifts in mutant Na(V)1.7 channel activation; mutations causing large activation shifts have been linked to early age of onset inherited erythromelalgia, while mutations causing small activation shifts have been linked to age of onset within the second decade of life.
PMID: 21705421 [PubMed - in process]
Read more...
View related article in Journal of Neuroscience...

A Randomized, Double-Blinded, Placebo-Controlled, Crossover, Add-On Study of CoEnzyme Q10 in the Prevention of Pediatric and Adolescent Migraine
Source: Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, USA.
Abstract: Objective: To evaluate the efficacy of Coenzyme Q10 (CoQ10)
supplementation in the prevention of migraine in children using a placebo-controlled, double-blinded, crossover, add-on trial. Background: CoQ10 has been demonstrated to have efficacy in migraine prevention in adults but lacks pediatric research with more rigorous methodology. CoQ10 has been observed to be deficient in a significant number of children and adolescents presenting to tertiary headache centers.

PMID: 21586650 [PubMed - in process]

Read more...

View related article in Alternative Medicine Review...

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NIH Clinical Studies & Trials

The following studies and trials are posted at ClinicalTrials.gov

Intraarticular Lumbar Joint Corticosteroid Injection(s) as a Treatment of Chronic Low Back Pain in a Selected Population

This study is currently recruiting participants.
First Received on June 23, 2011. Last Updated on June 29, 2011
Sponsor: University of Florida
Principal Investigator: D. J. Kennedy, M.D. UF Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation
Information provided by: University of Florida
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01382771

Stated Purpose: Subjects (N=120) who have had non-radicular low back pain, believed by clinical assessment and imaging to be consistent with lumbar zygapophysial joint (Z-joint) generated pain, who have failed conservative therapy including physical therapy, have had an initial >80% pain relief on a diagnostic medial branch block, and are scheduled to undergo a routine second medial branch block for facet mediated pain will be randomized. Both groups will receive the standard of care, a medial branch block. The treatment group will also receive one set of intra-articular lumbar Z-joint corticosteroid injection and the placebo group will receive intra-articular normal saline.

Read more...

View related article in Radiology...

Omega-3-Fatty Acid Supplements in Treating Muscle and Bone Pain and Stiffness in Patients With Stage I, Stage II, or Stage III Breast Cancer Receiving Hormone Therapy

This study is not yet open for participant recruitment.
First Received on June 28, 2011.
Sponsor: Southwest Oncology Group
Study Chair: Dawn Hershman, MD, Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center
Principal Investigator: Laurence H. Baker, DO, FACOI, University of Michigan Cancer Center
Collaborator: National Cancer Institute (NCI)
Information provided by: National Cancer Institute (NCI)
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01385137

Stated Purpose: RATIONALE: An omega-3 fatty acid-enriched nutritional supplement may help improve muscle and bone pain and stiffness caused by hormone therapy in patients with breast cancer. PURPOSE: This randomized phase III trial is studying omega-3 fatty acid supplements in treating muscle and bone pain and stiffness in patients with stage I, stage II, or stage III breast cancer receiving hormone therapy.

Read more...

The Efficacy of Diclofenac Gel for Breakthrough Pain and the
Neuropathic Components of Pain in Knee Osteoarthritis
This study is currently recruiting participants.
First Received on June 22, 2011. Last Updated on June 27, 2011
Sponsor: Brigham and Women's Hospital
Principal Investigator: Ajay Wasan, MD, MSc
Collaborator: Endo Pharmaceuticals
Information provided by: Brigham and Women's Hospital
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01383954
Stated Purpose: The purpose of this proposed study is to conduct a trial with knee Osteoarthritis (OA) patients using the diclofenac gel.
Read more...

Evaluate Efficacy and Safety of Extended Release (ER) Naproxen Sodium (VERNE)
This study is currently recruiting participants.
Verified on July 2011 by Bayer
First Received on July 6, 2011. Last Updated on July 11, 2011
Sponsor: Bayer
Information provided by: Bayer
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01389284
Stated Purpose: The objective is to evaluate pain relief of the extended release naproxen sodium 660 mg tablet compared to commercial naproxen sodium 220 mg tablet over 24 hours in patients with postsurgical dental pain.
Read more...

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American Academy of Pain Medicine
8735 W. Higgins Road, Suite 300, Chicago, IL 60631
847/375-4731 847/375-6477 Fax
info@painmed.org www.painmed.org