AAPM E-NEWS

Close to 1000 Physicians and Healthcare Providers Convened at AAPM's 28th Annual Meeting

The American Academy of Pain Medicine's 28th Annual Meeting was recently held in Palm Springs, where physicians and other healthcare providers convened to learn the latest in Pain Medicine. All in all, it was a packed house with 179 scientific posters and 100 exhibitors also on hand.

This issue of AAPM's E-Newsletter includes meeting highlights, as well as a link to the entire set of abstracts presented at this year's meeting.

For more information...

AAPM Coding for Pain Webinars

Don't miss these great coding Webinars from the experts at AAPM.

Register now for the March 28, 2012, 1:00 - 2:30 PM, ET

Topic: Coding for Multiple Services on the Same Day Webinar

To register and for more information...

Plan to attend next year's Annual Meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, April 11-14, 2013.

For more information...

LATEST NEWS from the American Academy of Pain Medicine

Annual Meeting
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Annual Meeting

The American Academy of Pain Medicine’s 28th Annual Meeting was held in Palm Springs, California, February 23-26, 2012, where close to 1000 scientists and physicians convened to learn the latest in Pain Medicine. There were 179 scientific poster abstracts on display, as well as practical and plenary sessions on the specialty of Pain Medicine. These articles represent some of the topics, studies, and abstracts presented throughout the meeting.

Medscape Meeting Coverage:

- Substance Abuse, Comorbid Pain Treated Simultaneously
  February 29, 2012 [Source: Medscape]
- Sacroiliac Steroid Injections Do Not Predict Ablation Relief
  February 27, 2012 [Source: Medscape]
- Prescription Drug Information Often Incomprehensible to Patients
  February 28, 2012 [Source: Medscape]
- Hypogonadism Risk Higher With Long vs Short-Acting Opioids
  February 27, 2012 [Source: Medscape]
- Is Procedural Pain Prognostic in Lumbar Epidural Injection?
  February 27, 2012 [Source: Medscape]
- Cancer Patients Who Smoke Report Worse Pain, Symptoms
  February 24, 2012 [Source: Medscape]
- Scans Show Altered Brain Connectivity in Chronic Back Pain
  February 28, 2012 [Source: Medscape]

MedPage Today Meeting Coverage:

- Hormones Out of Whack With Long Opioid Therapy
  February 28, 2012 [Source: MedPage Today]
- Study: Opioid Deaths Linked to Specialty Care
  February 27, 2012 [Source: MedPage Today]
- Altering Path Boosts Benefit of Spinal Injection
  February 27, 2012 [Source: MedPage Today]
- Naltrexone May Lessen Chronic Pain
  February 27, 2012 [Source: MedPage Today]
AAPM's Education Receives ACCME's Accreditation with Commendation

Patient Education Resources

AAPM's website is host to patient education videos that include 22 topics that you can share and promote with your patients. Link to the AAPM website in your waiting/patient rooms or send the links to the videos in your regular patient communications. View videos...

Designate AAPM on Your AMA Membership Ballot

If you are an AMA member, you should be receiving your Memberships Benefits in the mail shortly. Please take a moment and complete your Specialty Society Representation Ballot, either with the self-addressed postcard or on the Internet at www.ama-assn.org/go/ballot.

BE SURE TO DESIGNATE AAPM. It is very important that we have sufficient AAPM members identified for compliance. Thank you.

Specialty Society Balloting
Cast your vote

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State Legislative News

FSMB Announces Opioid Prescribing Initiatives
February 17, 2012 [Source: Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)]
The Federation of State Medical Boards announced several new initiatives including a national partnership to better utilize health information technology related prescribing, a review and update of FSMB's pain and opioid policies and an updated and revised version of Responsible Opioid Prescribing: A Physician's Guide. Full story...
Join in on discussions today about the Cost of Pain and our newest forum for Young Physicians.

Advocacy Day 2011 on Capitol Hill
On March 23, 2011 AAPM state representatives visited Capitol Hill to advocate for better pain care.

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...

Revised AAPM Ethics Charter
Includes statement on conflicts of interest.

The New Panic Over Prescription Painkillers
February 8, 2012 [Source: Huffington Post]
In the second of a three-part series, a Huffington Post blog addresses the undertreatment of pain in light of recent government reports and new state legislation affecting pain care. Full story...

AAPM has more than 40 state representatives who monitor local issues. Click here to find your AAPM state representative and inform them of any pain medicine issues occurring in your state.

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Pain Research in the News

Researchers Test Drug, Psychotherapy Combo for Fibromyalgia
February 28, 2012 [Source: University of Rochester Medical Center]
With a NIH Grant, researchers at the University of Rochester and the University of Washington will study the effects of tramadol, combined with either cognitive-behavioral therapy or health education to determine if a drug and one of the behavioral health treatments together is better than either one alone in fibromyalgia patients. Full story...

Migraine Linked to Increased Risk of Depression in Women
February 23, 2012 [Source: Brigham and Women's Hospital]
Women that report any history of migraine were about 40 percent more likely to develop depression compared to women without a history of migraine according to researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston. The study also shows that women with a past history of migraine had 1.41 times the risk of developing depression. Full story...

An OFF Switch for Pain
February 22, 2012 [Source: Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich]
Chemists at the University of California Berkeley and Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich have shown in laboratory experiments that it is possible to inhibit the activity of pain-sensitive neurons using a chemical compound called QAQ, which acts as a photosensitive switch. Researchers believe that this compound is a valuable tool for neurobiological studies for pain. Full story...

Scripps Research Scientists Identify Protein that Sends 'Painful Touch' Signals
February 19, 2012 [Source: The Scripps Research Institute]
In two landmark papers published in Nature, The Scripps Research Institute reports evidence that a family of sensory nerve proteins known as piezo proteins are ion channel proteins essential to the sensation of painful touch. Full story...

UQ Collaborates to Advance Spider Venom Pain Research
February 16, 2012 [Source: University of Queensland]
Researchers in Australia will begin to characterize novel spider venom peptides that were discovered in a proprietary assay (University of Queensland’s Institute for Molecular Bioscience) to inhibit a human ion channel, critical for sensing pain. Full story...

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Drug Take-Back Events

National Take-Back Initiative April 12, 2012
January 2012 [Source: DEA]
The next DEA National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day will take place across the country on Saturday, April 28, 2012, from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. The DEA will post the locations in March. Full story...

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Practice Management & Coding Updates

Coding for Multiple Services on the Same Day Webinar - Tell Your Office Manager
Thursday, March 28, 2012, 1:00 – 2:30 PM EST
The first of four 2012 Coding for Pain Webinars will discuss how to properly report multiple services on the same day to ensure appropriate reimbursement. This 90-minute Webinar will be presented by coding experts Emily Hill PA and Fred Davis MD, and includes a live Q & A session.
Sign up early for free iPad drawing. For more information...

Plan to attend AAPM's 2012 Coding Webinars:
Four 90-minute Coding for Pain Webinars by AAPM coding experts Fred Davis MD, Eduardo Fraifeld MD and Emily Hill PA will be held in 2012. All sessions will include a live Q&A session. Dates and topics are listed below.

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<td>March 28, 2012</td>
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<td>June 20, 2012</td>
<td>Medicare Guidelines for Documenting E/M Services</td>
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<td>September 26, 2012</td>
<td>Principles of ICD-10 Coding</td>
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<td>December 12, 2012</td>
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Special rates for 2012 Pain Coding Books are available. Visit our website for information on ordering: www.painmed.org/coding

ICD-10 Implementation Delayed
Emily Hill, PA
Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen G. Sebelius has announced the postponement of ICD-10 implementation. In the announcement, Secretary Sebelius indicated the delay was aimed at reducing regulatory burden. The AMA had advocated for the need to remove the required use of ICD-10 citing the number of overlapping Congressional and regulatory requirements associated with Medicare programs such as e-prescribing, the EHR meaningful use, and the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) program. The AMA called on the secretary to look for an appropriate replacement to ICD-10. Full story...

Medicare Doctor Pay Patch Sets up 32% Cut for 2013
February 27, 2012 [Source: Amednews.com]
Congress passed another short-term patch to the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) through the end of 2012, which extends the price of a repeal above $300 billion. Full story...

Discuss Electronic Medical Records in the Members' Community.

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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

AAPM Members in the News

Members of New Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee Announced
February 13, 2012 [Source: NIH]
AAPM Vice President of Scientific Affairs, Sean Mackey MD, PhD was named as a member of the NIH Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee which will work to identify critical gaps in

Substance Abuse & Addiction Research

JAM Study Highlights Emerging Problem in Addiction Therapy
February 28, 2012 [Source: News-Medical.net]
Researchers at Brown University analyzed patterns of buprenorphine abuse by intravenous (IV) and non-IV opioid users in Providence, Rhode Island, and found that about three-fourths of these opioid users were obtaining buprenorphine-containing medications illicitly. Full story...

Community-Based Opioid Overdose Prevention Programs Providing Naloxone — United States, 2010
February 17, 2011 [Source: CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)]
A recent CDC report found that 76 percent of the 25 states with 2008 age-adjusted drug overdose death rates higher than the median did not have a community-based opioid overdose prevention program that distributed naloxone. Full story...

Purdue Pharma Canada Statement on the Introduction of OxyNEO as a Replacement for OxyContin
February 27, 2012 [Source: Purdue Pharma Canada]
Purdue Pharma announces the introduction of OxyNEO as a replacement for OxyContin across Canada. The new tablets provide the same pain relief but have different properties that have been hardened to reduce the risk of being broken, crushed or chewed. Full story...

Collegium Pharmaceutical Announces Series B Financing and Advancement of Development Program for its DETERx(R) Tamper-Resistant, Extended-Release Opioid
February 22, 2012 [Source: MarketWatch]
A Phase III trial has been initiated for Collegium Pharmaceutical's COL-003, a tamper-resistant, extended-release oxycodone using its proprietary DETERx® technology. Full story...

Reformulated Imatinib Eliminates Morphine Tolerance in Lab Studies
February 19, 2012 [Source: MD Anderson Cancer Center]
Researchers at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center have reformulated the common cancer drug imatinib (Gleevec®), eliminating morphine tolerance in rats and identifying a cellular signal that selectively causes narcotic tolerance. Full story...

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Supported by an unrestricted grant; content is completely and independently selected and edited by AAPM staff and members.

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

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: February, 2012

Highlights:

REVIEW ARTICLE
Time to Take Stock: A Meta-Analysis and Systematic Review of Analgesic Treatment Disparities for Pain in the United States

PAIN & AGING SECTION
The Relationship of Pain and Cognitive Impairment with Social Vulnerability—An Analysis of the Canadian Study of Health and Aging

PRIMARY CARE & HEALTH SERVICES SECTION
The Role of Relationship Quality and Perceived Partner Responses with Pain and Disability in Those with Back Pain

NEUROPATHIC PAIN SECTION
Pain Processing in Medication Overuse Headache: A Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) Study

MUSCULOSKELETAL SECTION
The Effects of Coexisting Fibromyalgia Syndrome on Pain Intensity, Disability, and Treatment Outcome in Patients with Chronic Lateral Epicondylitis

basic and clinical research on the symptoms, causes, and treatment of pain and will recommend federal research programs in these areas. Full story...

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Pain Abstracts in the News

Efficacy of Multidisciplinary Treatment for Patients With Chronic Low Back Pain: A Prospective Clinical Study in 395 Patients
March 2012 [Source: Journal of Clinical Rheumatology]
Abstract: Objectives: We set out to examine the impact of patient variables on the effectiveness of a 3-week multidisciplinary treatment program in patients with chronic low back pain. By presenting effect sizes, we aimed to enable the comparison of our findings with other studies across disciplines. Read more...

Rest versus Exercise as Treatment for Patients with Low Back Pain and Modic Changes. A Randomised Controlled Clinical Trial
February 29, 2012 [Source: BMC Medicine]
Abstract: Background: The objective of this study was to compare the current state-of-the art treatment approach (exercise and staying active) with a new approach (load reduction and daily rest) for people with Modic changes using a randomised controlled trial design. Read more...

Statin Use and Musculoskeletal Pain Among Adults With and Without Arthritis
February 2012 [Source: The American Journal of Medicine]
Abstract: Background: Musculoskeletal symptoms are common adverse effects of statins; yet little is known about the prevalence of musculoskeletal pain and statin use in the general population. Read more...

PubMed Pain Abstracts

The following abstracts are posted at PubMed.gov

Crystal Structure of the Human K2P TRAAK, a Lipid- and Mechano-Sensitive K+ ion Channel
Brohawn SG, del Mármol J, MacKinnon R. Source: Laboratory of Molecular Neurobiology and Biophysics and Howard Hughes Medical Institute, The Rockefeller University, 1230 York Avenue, New York, NY 10065, USA.
Abstract: TRAAK channels, members of the two-pore domain K+(potassium ion) channel family K2P, are expressed almost exclusively in the nervous system and control the resting membrane potential. Their gating is sensitive to polyunsaturated fatty acids, mechanical deformation of the membrane, and temperature changes. PMID: 22282805 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE] Read more...
Repetitive Treatment With Diluted Bee Venom Reduces Neuropathic Pain Via Potentiation of Locus Coeruleus Noradrenergic Neuronal Activity and Modulation of Spinal NR1 Phosphorylation in Rats

Kang SY, Roh DH, Yoon SY, Moon JY, Kim HW, Lee HJ, Beitz AJ, Lee JH.
Source: Department of Veterinary Physiology, College of Veterinary Medicine and Research Institute for Veterinary Science, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea.

Abstract: We previously demonstrated that a single injection of diluted bee venom (DBV) temporarily alleviates thermal hyperalgesia, but not mechanical allodynia, in neuropathic rats. The present study was designed to determine whether repetitive injection of DBV produces more potent analgesic effects on neuropathy-induced nociception and whether those effects are associated with increased neuronal activity in the locus coeruleus (LC) and with the suppression of spinal NMDA receptor NR1 subunit phosphorylation (pNR1). DBV (.25 mg/kg) was administered subcutaneously twice a day for 2 weeks beginning on day 15 post-chronic constrictive injury surgery.

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PMID: 22217441 [PubMed - in process]
Read more...

Issues and critiques of the forthcoming risk evaluation and mitigation strategy (REMS) for opioids in pain management.

Peppin JF, Coleman JJ, Kirsh KL.
Source: Clinical Research Division, The Pain Treatment Center of the Bluegrass, Lexington, Kentucky, USA.

Abstract: OBJECTIVE: To examine the history and suitability of the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) for reducing the safety risks associated with the use of opioid medications, including the risks of abuse and overdose. This article will highlight recent attempts by the FDA to introduce a class wide REMS for new and existing Schedule II long-acting opioid drugs. A critique of these current REMS efforts and recommendations for the future will also be provided.

PMID: 22372206 [PubMed - in process]
Read more...

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NIH Clinical Studies & Trials

The following studies and trials are posted at ClinicalTrials.gov

Low Dose Ketamine (LDK) Versus Morphine for Acute Pain Control in the Emergency Department

This study is currently recruiting participants.
First Received on February 21, 2012. Last Updated on February 28, 2012
Sponsor: Brooke Army Medical Center
Information provided by (Responsible Party): Joshua Miller, Brooke Army Medical Center
Principal Investigator: Joshua P Miller, MD. United States Air Force
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01538745
Stated Purpose: The purpose of this study is to compare the safety and effectiveness of intravenous low dose ketamine to the industry standard of morphine in regards to controlling acute pain in the emergency department. Both LDK and morphine have side effects. The amount and character of these
side effects will be compared. Additionally, the degree of sedation or agitation will be specifically measured. The aim of this current study is to make this comparison and shift the evidence for LDK use from the anecdotal to the scientific.

Read more...

A Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of a Single Application of QUTENZA Compared to That of Placebo in Reducing Pain Intensity in Subjects With Painful Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy (PDPN) (STEP)

This study is currently recruiting participants.
Verified February 2012 by Astellas Pharma Inc
First Received on February 12, 2012. Last Updated on February 14, 2012
Sponsor: Astellas Pharma Inc
Information provided by (Responsible Party): Astellas Pharma Inc
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01533428
Stated Purpose: The purpose of the study is to assess how well a single treatment of QUTENZA reduces pain from damaged nerves (neuropathic pain) caused by diabetes and how safe QUTENZA is when compared to using a placebo.
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