The American Academy of Pain Medicine

AAPM E-News

April 2, 2015 - Your Latest News on the Specialty of Pain Medicine

LATEST NEWS from the American Academy of Pain Medicine

National Pain Strategy Draft Released Today!

A Comprehensive Population Health Level Strategy for Pain

Today the Health and Human Services (HHS) released the National Pain Strategy draft which is now open for public comment through May 20, 2015. We hope you will join us in voicing support for the Strategy by submitting your individual comments. Your input is critical as we show HHS the importance of improving pain care for millions of Americans.

Click here for the Federal Register Notice for Public Comment...

View the National Pain Strategy Draft...

AAPM Annual Meeting Keynote Presentation: National Pain Strategy Task Force

Recent reported findings of the National Pain Strategy (NPS) Task Force were the focus of Friday’s Keynote Session at the 31st Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Pain Medicine (AAPM), held in National Harbor, MD, March 19-22, 2015. Sean Mackey, MD, PhD, 2014-2015 AAPM President and NPS Co-Chair, welcomed attendees with a recap of the creation of the National Pain Strategy Task Force.

The NPS Task Force was created by the Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee (IPRCC) who was charged by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health to create a comprehensive population health level strategy for pain prevention, treatment, management, and research. Full story...

See what attendees had to say about the keynote session...
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Pain Research in the News

Research Shows Paracetamol of Little or No Value for Lower Back Pain and Osteoarthritis, Guidelines Questioned
April 1, 2015 [Source: The George Institute]
Research published today in The BMJ shows that taking paracetamol for treating lower back pain and osteoarthritis of the hip or knee is ineffective and may affect the liver. Full story...

Student Helps to Discover New Pain Relief Delivery Method
April 1, 2015 [Source: University of York, UK]
A Chemistry undergraduate at the University of York has helped to develop a new drug release gel, which may help avoid some of the side effects of painkillers such as ibuprofen and naproxen. Full story...

'Gold Standard' for Pain Relief after Shoulder Surgery May Not be 24 Karat
March 31, 2015 [Source: St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto]
Around 10,000 patients undergo shoulder surgery in Ontario every year and most go home the same day. Since it's quite a painful procedure, a lot of effort goes into making sure patients can manage their pain while at home recovering. Full story...

Study: Phone Counseling Reduces Pain, Disability after Back Surgery
March 31, 2015 [Source: John Hopkins]
Research by Johns Hopkins scientists suggests that having a short series of phone conversations with trained counselors can substantially boost recovery and reduce pain in patients after spinal surgery. Full story...

Blueberries Show Promise as Treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
March 30, 2015 [Source: American Physiological Society]
Currently, the only approved therapy for PTSD is selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), such as Zoloft and Paxil, but their effectiveness is marginal. Now researchers at Louisiana State University have found that a readily available superfood—the blueberry—could be an effective treatment. Philip J. Ebenezer will present "The Neuro-Protective Efficacy of Blueberry in an Animal Model of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)" in a poster session on Monday, March 30, at the Experimental Biology meeting (Boston Convention and Exhibition Center from 12:45 to 3 P.M. EDT). Full story...

Crossing Fingers Can Reduce Feelings of Pain
March 26, 2015 [Source: University College London, UK]
How you feel pain is affected by where sources of pain are in relation to each other, and so crossing your fingers can change what you feel on a single finger, finds new UCL research. The research, published in Current Biology, used a variation on an established pain experiment, known as the “thermal grill illusion”. Full story...

Pain Injections for Hip Arthroscopy Patients May Not Predict Surgical Outcomes
March 25, 2015 [Source: American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM)]
How best to treat and recover from complicated hip injuries is a growing field in orthopaedic medicine. While diagnostic hip injections are commonly performed for patients with labral tear to confirm the pain etiology, research presented today at the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine’s (AOSSM) Specialty Day suggests that pain relief from this diagnostic injection may not predict better outcomes following arthroscopic hip surgery. Full story...

UAlberta Clinical Professor Shows Pain Diaries May Slow Patient Recovery
March 23, 2015 [Source: University of Alberta, Canada]
The study, published in the January edition of the journal Rheumatology International, examined the effect of a daily pain diary on recovery from acute lower back sprain. Fifty-eight patients with lower back or lumbar sprains were recruited, all in their early 30s. Half the subjects were asked to keep a pain diary for four weeks and given instructions to rate their daily pain on a scale of one to ten. The other half acted as a control group and did not keep diaries. Full story...

Spinal Cord Neurons that Control Pain and Itch
March 19, 2015 [Source: University of Zurich]
The spinal cord transmits pain signals to the brain, where they are consciously perceived. But not all the impulses arrive at their destination: Certain neurons act as checkpoints and determine whether a pain signal is relayed or not. Researchers from the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich identified these neurons and their connections. Moreover, they developed means to specifically activate these neurons, which reduces not only pain – but astonishingly also alleviates itch. Full story...

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Annual Meeting News

Annual Meeting News Coverage:

- [Complexities of Opioid-Induced Hyperalgesia Poorly Understood](March 31, 2015 [Source: Medscape])
- [Defense Study To Focus on Treatment of Chronic Pain After Limb Amputation](March 30, 2015 [Source: Pain Medicine News])
- [Platelet-Rich Plasma for Pain: Evidence Still Lacking](March 30, 2015 [Source: Medscape])
Updates

Need Facts on Pain?
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.

Physician Payment Sunshine Act Resources:
• Policy and Medicine Blog's webinar titled: "Physician Payment Sunshine Act: Lessons Learned in Preparation and Implementation."
• AMA's Recommended 4 Steps for Physicians to Support Accurate Data
• AMA Toolkit for Physician Financial Transparency Reports (Sunshine Act)
• The Official CMS Website for Open Payments (Physician Payments Sunshine Act)

Pain Medicine Highlights:
Volume 16, Issue 3

EDITORIAL
Perspective: Peripheral Nerve Stimulation and Peripheral Nerve Field Stimulation Birds of a Different Feather

SPINE SECTION
Radiofrequency Intradiscal Biacuplasty for Treatment of Discogenic Lower Back Pain: A 12-Month Follow-Up

OPIOIDS, SUBSTANCE ABUSE & ADDICTIONS SECTION

AAPM's Annual Meeting News:

• Ketorolac Similar to Corticosteroid for Knee Osteoarthritis [March 30, 2015 [Source: Medscape]
• Intradiscal Biacuplasty Bests Standard Back Pain Therapy [March 26, 2015 [Source: Medscape]
• Navy Study Suggests Functional Restoration Program Reduces Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain [March 26, 2015 [Source: Pain Medicine News]

• Amniotic Fluid May be Safe and Effective Alternative to Hyaluronic Acid for Osteoarthritis Pain: Interim Results
• "Capstone Study" Finds Intradiscal Biacuplasty Superior to Conservative Therapy for Discogenic Lumbar Back Pain
• Cleveland Clinic Researchers First to Demonstrate Significant Blocking of Opioid Tolerance With Mesenchymal Stem Cell Transplant
• Department of Defense and Veterans Health Administration to Develop Common Pain Curriculum to Reduce Disparities in Care
• Early Improvements Dissipate Past 90 Days in Study of Platelet-Rich Plasma Injection for Facet Joint Arthropathy
• Global Initiative Spreads Knowledge and Recognition to Institutions That Battle Childhood Pain
• High-Frequency Surpasses Traditional Spinal Cord Stimulation in First Controlled Trial Comparing Technologies
• In "Paradigm Shift," New Model Built From Preoperative Data Predicts Risk of Back Surgery Failure
• Liposomal Bupivacaine Could Shorten Hospital Stays After Major Abdominal and Thoracic Surgeries: Study
• Minimally Invasive Cosyntropin Matches Epidural Blood Patch for Post-Dural Puncture Headache in Controlled Trial
• New Study Says Direct Targeting of Prescriber Behaviors Trumps Education in Getting Opioid Doses Lower
• Patient Satisfaction With Pain Management Relies Most On Coordination of Care: Stanford Study
• Primary Care Physicians Get Boost in Pain Care Education Through Tele-Mentoring by Experts
• Stellate Ganglion Block Showed No Significant Benefit for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Controlled Trial
• Study First to Use Markovian Models for Tracing Postoperative Pain Trajectories
• Untended Consequences in Patient Suffering Reported During First 100 Days of Hydrocodone Rescheduling

Click here to view 2015 Annual Meeting Scientific Poster Abstracts.

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AAPM Presidential Commendations and Awards

The American Academy of Pain Medicine is pleased to announce the recipients of this year's Presidential Commendations and Awards. The
Comparative Effects of Morning vs Evening Dosing of Extended-Release Hydromorphone on Sleep Physiology in Patients with Low Back Pain: A Pilot Study

METHODOLOGY, MECHANISMS & TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH SECTION
Reliability and Validity of the Range of Motion Scale (ROMS) in Patients with Abnormal Postures

NEUROPATHIC PAIN SECTION
Screening for Neuropathic Characteristics in Failed Back Surgery Syndromes: Challenges for Guiding Treatment

ACUTE & PERIOPERATIVE PAIN SECTION
Age- and Procedure-Specific Differences of Epidural Analgesia in Children—A Database Analysis

View all topics in this issue of Pain Medicine journal or go to the Member Center of the AAPM website for more information.

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 2015 Philipp M. Lippe, MD, Award recipients are: Lieutenant General Eric Schoomaker, MD, PhD and Major General Richard W. Thomas, MG, DHA.

- 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 2015 Distinguished Service Award recipient is: Perry G. Fine, 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 2015 Founders Award recipient is: Clifford Wolff, MD, PhD.

- 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 2015 Patient Advocacy Award recipient is: Samir K. Ballas, MD, FACP.

- The AAPM Presidential Excellence Award for Education honors an individual who has made major contributions to the education of others about Pain Medicine. The 2013 Presidential Excellence Award for Education recipient is: Michael Cousins, MD, DSc.

- The Robert G. Addison, MD Award was created to honor the memory of the late AAPM President, Bob Addison. The award is given to an individual or organization in recognition of efforts to foster international cooperation and collaboration on behalf of the specialty of Pain Medicine. In 2015, this award goes to ChildKind International, represented by Neil Schechter, MD, Executive Director.

- The Pain Medicine Fellowship Excellence Award recognizes Pain Medicine Fellowship Programs that provide an exceptional learning experience to fellows, preparing them to deliver the highest standard of care to patients with pain. The two 2015 honorees are: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN.

Presidential Commendations

- Gary Jay Brenner, MD, PhD
  For leadership in building an alliance between AAPM and the Association of Pain Program Directors.

- Chester “Trip” Buckenmaier, MD
  For leading the Academy’s work in Acute Pain Medicine through the establishment of the Acute Pain Medicine Shared Interest Group and
the State of Acute Pain Initiative which is looking at ways to advance research and education in Acute Pain.

- **Beth Darnall, PhD**
  For her work co-chairing the Non-Physician Membership Task Force, which recommended changes to AAPM’s Bylaws to welcome more non-physician members, redefining the Clinical Practice Affiliate and Student Membership categories.

- **Perry G. Fine, MD**
  For his work co-chairing the Non-Physician Membership Task Force, which recommended changes to AAPM’s Bylaws to welcome more non-physician members, redefining the Clinical Practice Affiliate and Student Membership categories.

- **Bryan C. Hoelzer, MD**
  For leadership in building an alliance between AAPM and the Association of Pain Program Directors.

- **Yu "Woody" Lin, MD, PhD**
  For bringing together the National Institutes of Health and the AAPM membership through a better understanding of the NIH grant programs.

- **Bill McCarberg, MD**
  For work leading AAPM in Primary Care, particularly with the Primary Care Shared Interest Group and the Primary Care Summit which has brought together eight national healthcare associations to work collaboratively address the need for pain management care and the primary care level.

- **Linda Porter, PhD**
  For leadership of National Pain Strategy efforts.

- **Christina Spellman**
  For leading the Mayday Fund in its ongoing commitment to improving pain care.

- **Patrick Tighe, MD**
  For leading the Academy’s work in Acute Pain Medicine through the establishment of the Acute Pain Medicine Shared Interest Group and the State of Acute Pain Initiative which is looking at ways to advance research and education in Acute Pain.

- **David R. Walega, MD**
  For leadership in building an alliance between AAPM and the Association of Pain Program Directors.
In Remembrance

Benjamin Lane Crue, Jr., MD - AAPM Past President (1985)
by Philipp M. Lippe, MD - AAPM Past President (1988)

Dr. Crue was a giant in his profession. He was a board certified neurosurgeon who practiced in southern CA. In the 70s and 80s he became interested in pain management. It was at that time that I first met him and subsequently worked with him in a common cause. We were active in the American Pain Society (APS) and the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) founded by John Bonica, MD. In these venues we met some of the early pioneers (Bonica, John Fordyce) in what was then characterized as pain management.

Concerns about what he felt was the "de-medicalization" of pain care he moved to found the American Academy of Algology (AAA) in 1983, becoming its first president. The name of AAA was later changed to the AAPM in 1988 by the "Lippe Declaration." Dr. Crue worked hard to "re-medicalize" pain care. Without him and a few other dedicated pioneers, the field of Pain Medicine would not exist today. This paradigm shift was not only a conceptual exercise but led to major advances in pain education, research and clinical practice.

Full story...

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Practice Management & Coding Updates

Order your copy today of the new 2015 Coding Book
2015 Illustrated Coding and Billing for Anesthesia/Pain Medicine
This all-in-one resource contains all the coding information you need on one page for anesthesia and pain medicine.

For more information...
Pain Education

Pain Research Forum (PRF) Webinar: Pain Epigenetics: Current Research and Future Challenges
PRF will host a webinar with Stephen McMahon and Franziska Denk, King’s College London, UK, on Thursday, April 16, at 12:00-1:30 p.m. EDT (5-6:30 GMT/6-7:30 CET).
For more information...

PCSSO Webinar

Responsible Prescribing of Methadone for Pain Management: Safety First
FREE SESSION
Tuesday, April 14, 2015
12:00 pm-1:00 pm Eastern

Program Overview:
The use of methadone as an analgesic for severe chronic pain has expanded in recent years. While it is effective for some patients and belongs in the armamentarium of pain medications, it has unique pharmacologic properties that make it unpredictable and call for caution and expertise in prescribing it. More than 30% of prescription opioid deaths involve methadone, even though only 2% of opioid prescriptions are for methadone. Therefore, methadone should not be considered a drug of first choice for chronic pain, and specific education is necessary for healthcare professionals to prescribe it safely. This Webinar will describe the unique pharmacologic properties and toxicities associated with methadone, provide recommended practices to use when prescribing methadone, and outline assessment, management, patient education, and monitoring practices to minimize the risk of adverse outcomes when utilizing methadone. For more information...

Funding:
Funding for this initiative was made possible (in part) by Providers’ Clinical Support System for Opioid Therapies (grant no. 1H79TI025595) from SAMHSA. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

Advocacy News

Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act
March 26, 2015 [Source: AMA]
A short time ago, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 2, the "Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act," by a substantial bipartisan
margin—392 to 37. Now attention turns to the Senate, where leadership will decide whether to take up the bill tonight following a lengthy series of planned votes on the budget resolution. It is still possible for H.R. 2 to pass both chambers of Congress before the April recess begins tomorrow morning. But, Senators will need to agree to an expedited process for that to occur. Please help maintain the tremendous momentum created by the overwhelming House vote. Contact your Senators and ask them to vote "yes" on H.R. 2 before adjourning for the April recess. Call your senators using the AMA’s toll-free Grassroots Hotline: 1-800-833-6354. Visit FixMedicareNow.org to send an urgent message by email or social media.

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Government Agency News

Abuse Deterrent Opioids — Evaluation and Labeling Guidance for Industry
April 2015 [Source: FDA]
This guidance explains FDA’s current thinking about the studies that should be conducted to demonstrate that a given formulation has abuse-deterrent properties. The guidance makes recommendations about how those studies should be performed and evaluated and discusses how to describe those studies and their implications in product labeling.

View guidance...

HHS Takes Strong Steps to Address Opioid-Drug Related Overdose, Death and Dependence
March 26, 2015 [Source: HHS]

Full story...

It's Time to Act to Reduce Opioid Related Injuries and Deaths
March 26, 2015 [Source: HHS Blog, entry by Sylvia Mathews Burwell, HHS Secretary]

Full story...

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State Legislative News

CA: New Deterrent Opioids on State's Radar
March 26, 2015 [Source: California Healthline]

Full story...

IL: HB 2743 Mandates Coverage for Abuse-Deterrent Opioid Analgesic Drugs as Preferred Drugs

Full story...

Massachusetts Medical Society President Testifies Before Governor's Massachusetts Opioid Task Force
April 1, 2015 [Source: Massachusetts Medical Society]
Waltham/Boston -- April 1 -- Saying that "we must not forget that prescribing opioids is an appropriate part of high-quality care for many patients," the president of the Massachusetts Medical Society today testified before Governor Charlie Baker’s Massachusetts Opioid Task Force, urging a balanced approach in the effort to reduce the abuse of prescription drugs.

Full story...

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Pain Abstracts in the News
Neuropathic Pain: Principles of Diagnosis and Treatment
April 1, 2015 [Source: Mayo Clinic Proceedings]
Abstract: Neuropathic pain is caused by disease or injury of the nervous system and includes various chronic conditions that, together, affect up to 8% of the population. A substantial body of neuropathic pain research points to several important contributory mechanisms including aberrant ectopic activity in nociceptive nerves, peripheral and central sensitization, impaired inhibitory modulation, and pathological activation of microglia.
Read more...

Dysfunction of Cortical Dendritic Integration in Neuropathic Pain Reversed by Serotoninergic Neuromodulation
March 26, 2015 [Source: Neuron]
Abstract: Summary: Neuropathic pain is caused by long-term modifications of neuronal function in the peripheral nervous system, the spinal cord, and supraspinal areas. Although functional changes in the forebrain are thought to contribute to the development of persistent pain, their significance and precise subcellular nature remain unexplored.
Read more...

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PubMed Pain Abstracts

The following abstracts are posted at PubMed.gov:

Rates of Opioid Misuse, Abuse, and Addiction in Chronic Pain: a Systematic Review and Data Synthesis
Vowles KE1, McEntee ML, Julnes PS, Frohe T, Ney JP, van der Goes DN.
Abstract: Opioid use in chronic pain treatment is complex, as patients may derive both benefit and harm. Identification of individuals currently using opioids in a problematic way is important given the substantial recent increases in prescription rates and consequent increases in morbidity and mortality. The present review provides updated and expanded information regarding rates of problematic opioid use in chronic pain. Because previous reviews have indicated substantial variability in this literature, several steps were taken to enhance precision and utility.
PMID: 25785523 [PubMed - in process]
Read more...

Dysfunction of Cortical Dendritic Integration in Neuropathic Pain Reversed by Serotoninergic Neuromodulation
Santello M1, Nevian T2
Abstract: Neuropathic pain is caused by long-term modifications of neuronal function in the peripheral nervous system, the spinal cord, and supraspinal areas. Although functional changes in the forebrain are thought to contribute to the development of persistent pain, their significance and precise subcellular nature remain unexplored. Using somatic and dendritic whole-cell patch-clamp recordings from neurons in the anterior cingulate cortex, we discovered that sciatic nerve injury caused an activity-dependent dysfunction of hyperpolarization-activated cyclic nucleotide-regulated (HCN) channels in the dendrites of layer 5 pyramidal neurons resulting in enhanced integration of excitatory postsynaptic inputs and increased neuronal firing. Specific activation of the serotonin receptor type 7 (5-HT7R) alleviated the lesion-induced pathology by increasing HCN channel function, restoring normal dendritic integration, and reducing mechanical pain hypersensitivity in nerve-injured animals in vivo. Thus, serotoninergic neuromodulation at the forebrain level can reverse the dendritic dysfunction induced by neuropathic pain and...
Clonidine Maintenance Prolongs Opioid Abstinence and Decouples Stress From Craving in Daily Life: A Randomized Controlled Trial With Ecological Momentary Assessment

Am J Psychiatry. 2015 Mar 17:appiajp201414081014. [Epub ahead of print]
Kowalczyk WJ, Phillips KA, Jobes ML, Kennedy AP, Ghitza UE, Agage DA, Schmittner JP, Epstein DH, Preston KL.

Abstract: OBJECTIVE: The authors tested whether clonidine blocks stress-induced seeking of heroin and cocaine. The study was also intended to confirm translational findings from a rat model of drug relapse by using ecological momentary assessment of patients' stress to test hypotheses about clonidine's behavioral mechanism of action. CONCLUSIONS: Clonidine, a readily available medication, is useful in opioid dependence not just for reduction of withdrawal signs, but also as an adjunctive maintenance treatment that increases duration of abstinence. Even in the absence of physical withdrawal, it decouples stress from craving in everyday life.

NIH Clinical Studies & Trials

The following studies and trials are posted at ClinicalTrials.gov:

Battlefield Acupuncture for the Treatment of Low Back Pain in the Emergency Department
This study is currently recruiting participants.
Sponsor: Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Information provided by (Responsible Party): Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Principal Investigator: Alex F Manini, MD, MS, FACMT, Mount Sinai School of Medicine
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02399969
First received: March 23, 2015
Stated Purpose: The purpose of this study is to study acupuncture for the treatment of low back pain in the emergency department. Current treatments for low back pain in the emergency department generally include pills or injections of medications to treat pain and relax muscles. However, it is known that many of these medications have risks and toxicities which may limit their safe use in some patients. Therefore, new types of treatments are needed.
Collaborator: National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH)
Information provided by (Responsible Party): University of Florida
Principal Investigator: Mark D Bishop, PhD, William Perlstein, PhD
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02375386
First received: February 24, 2015
Stated Purpose: This is study testing the feasibility of collecting neurophysiological measures of outcome related to body-based interventions for low back pain. The investigators will collect fMRI and psychophysical data about pain sensitivity before and after the interventions. Participants will be randomly assigned to either spinal manipulation or therapeutic touch groups. Participants will attend two practice sessions prior to the first data collection. There will be two follow-up assessments.

Read more...

Study of the Treatment of Experimental Pain in Buprenorphine Maintained Persons With Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain (1401)
This study is not yet open for participant recruitment.
Sponsor: Johns Hopkins University
Collaborator: National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
Information provided by (Responsible Party): D. Andrew Tompkins, MD, Johns Hopkins University
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02372591
First received: February 20, 2015
Stated Purpose: Pain is very common in persons with a history of addiction, but few studies have examined the best treatment of pain in this population. This is a study to determine the pain relief provided by intravenous hydromorphone (Dilauidid) or buprenorphine given to persons maintained on stable doses of methadone or buprenorphine who have chronic musculoskeletal pain. Experimental sessions will require overnight stays on a residential research unit. In these sessions, persons will be exposed to standard experimental pain techniques at baseline and then rate the relief (if any) provided by the study medication when exposed to the same techniques. Persons will be asked to participate in 3 sessions, each separated by at least 7 days.

Read more...

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Industry News

MOVANTIK™ (nalexegol) Tablets for the Treatment of Opioid-Induced Constipation in Adult Patients with Chronic Non-Cancer Pain Launched in the US
March 31, 2015 [Source: AstraZeneca]
Full story...

Pacira Announces Data Reinforcing Benefits of EXPAREL® for Postsurgical Pain Control Following Total Hip and Knee Replacement Surgery
March 26, 2015 [Source: Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc.]
Full story...

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