Pain Research in the News

Chronic Pain Linked to Depression
August 17, 2016 [Source: University of Edinburgh, U.K.]
Partners of people with depression are more likely to suffer from chronic pain, research has found. The study shows that the two conditions share common causes - some of which are genetic whilst other causes originate from the environment that partners share. Experts say their findings shed new light on the illnesses and could one day help to develop better diagnostic tests and treatments. Full story...

Study Probes Link between Prenatal Paracetamol Use and Childhood Behaviour Problems
August 15, 2016 [University of Bristol, U.K.]
The study, carried out by Dr Evie Stergiakouli, of Bristol's MRC Integrative Epidemiology Unit, suggests prenatal use of acetaminophen by mothers at 18 and 32 weeks of pregnancy is associated with an increased risk of conduct problems and hyperactivity symptoms in children. Additionally, maternal acetaminophen use at 32 weeks pregnancy was associated with higher risk for emotional symptoms and total difficulties in children. Full story...
Out of Body Illusion Can Tackle Chronic Pain
August 10, 2016 [Source: Anglia Ruskin University, UK]
New research shows that inducing a virtual "out of body experience" can significantly reduce the intensity of chronic pain. The study, which was carried out at Anglia Ruskin University by psychologist James Pamment and neuroscientist Dr. Jane Aspell, is published today by the European Journal of Pain. Full story...

Targeting Brain Cells to Alleviate Neuropathic Pain
August 8, 2016 [Source: Rutgers University]
In new research, published in both Nature Communications and Cell Reports, Wu and his team discovered that chronic neuropathic pain – caused by nerve damage as a result of an injury, surgery or a debilitating disease like diabetes or cancer – could be greatly reduced in animals if the injury was treated by targeting microglia within a few days. Full story...

Pioneering Research Aims to End Misery of Cancer-Induced Bone Pain
August 4, 2016 [Source: University of Oxford]
Researchers at Oxford University have launched a pioneering project to tackle crippling bone pain suffered by thousands of cancer patients. Full story...

Can Disruption to Your Body Clock Influence Back Pain Symptoms?
August 4, 2016 [Source: NHS, U.K.]
"Scientists have discovered that our spinal discs have a 24-hour body clock that can cause … pain when it gets out of sync," the Daily Mail reports; overstating research limited to mice. Full story...

Neuropathy Pain Strongest Predictor of Depression in Diabetes
August 2, 2016 [Source: Medscape]
In the paper, which was published online recently in Diabetes & Vascular Disease Research, the authors say that the findings highlight the need for the "prompt" management of painful DPN, which should take into account the risk of depression. Full story (login required)...

Neurosurgery Makes Pain Management Curricular Breakthroughs
August 2, 2016 [Source: AMA Wire]
Leaders in neurosurgery have taken a hands-on approach to training residents with an eye toward filling knowledge and skill gaps—one such gap is pain management. Learn how they’re making strides in preparing residents for the board exam and more effective patient care. Full story...

'Pain Paradox' Discovery Provides Route to New Drugs
July 28, 2016 [Source: University of Leeds, U.K.]
A natural substance known to activate pain in the central nervous system has been found to have the opposite effect in other parts of the body, potentially paving the way for new pain control methods. Full story...

Reducing the Suffering of Lower Back Pain
July 13, 2016 [Source: The University of Queensland, Australia]
Could mindfulness and meditation be more powerful than opioids for lower back pain? The University of Queensland School of Psychology's Dr. Melissa Day is conducting a project that will test that possibility and could even save lives. Full story...

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Education News
Free Live Webinar August 24, 4-5 pm, ET

Chester "Trip" Buckenmaier III, MD, COL (ret), MC, USA will present a free live CME PCSS-O webinar, titled *Implementation of the National Pain Strategy and Safer Opioid Prescribing – A Military Perspective*, on Wednesday, August 24.

Pain is a widespread problem among U.S. military service members and veterans; to address this problem, the military health services has recognized effective pain management and functional restoration as a priority. During this hour-long webinar, Dr. Buckenmaier will discuss military tools and strategies to improve the quality of pain care across the Department of Defense and Veterans Administration healthcare systems and will evaluate how these strategies may be used to improve the effectiveness of patient treatment and outcomes in the general population. Dr. Buckenmaier will also present recommendations by the National Pain Strategy to strengthen the evidence base for pain prevention strategies, assessment tools, and outcome measures.

Learn more and register.

Funding for this initiative was made possible (in part) by Providers’ Clinical Support System for Opioid Therapies (grant no. 5H79TI025595) 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.

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Help Wanted:

**Full-Time Board-Certified Physician (Pain Management)***

Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center
Cleveland, OH
Recruiting for a full time (8/8) Pain Management Physician.

**Pain Management Physician Assistant***

Center for Pain and Supportive Care
Phoenix, AZ
Seeking a Physician’s Assistant to assist in the care and treatment of our chronic pain population.

**Executive Director, Pain Service Line***

Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center
Winston Salem, NC
Seeking an outstanding academic Pain Management Physician to serve as Executive Director of the Pain Shared Service Line.

**Primary Care Sports Medicine Physician - 40 miles outside of Chicago***

Advocate Dreyer Medical Group
Aurora, IL
Seeking to add a Primary Care Sports Medicine Physician to complement Advocate Dreyer’s Growing Sports Medicine Serviceline

More jobs...

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Read the current President’s Message

AAPM E-news is supported by an unrestricted grant from Purdue Pharma L.P. Content is completely and independently selected and edited by AAPM.

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Practice Management & Coding Updates

**New ICD-10 Codes for 2017 Released***

Emily Hill, PA, AAPM Coding Consultant

CMS has released the 2017 ICD-10 codes that will be effective October 1, 2016. The 2017 version includes additions, deletions, and terminology changes requested by physicians and other stakeholders. There are approximately 2,000 new codes, 400 revised codes and 300 deleted codes. Read more...

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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...

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Pain News

**Paracetamol: Widely Used and Largely Ineffective***

August 12, 2016 [Source: Evidently Cochrane Blog]

In this guest blog, Andrew Moore, who has authored over 200 systematic reviews, many on pain, lifts the lid on paracetamol. Effective and safe? We are challenged to think again…

People with pain have some very simple demands. They want the pain gone, and they want it gone now. A successful result is one where the pain is reduced by half or more, or where they have no or only mild pain. That result delivers not just on pain, but also improves sleep, depression, quality of life, work, and the ability to get on with life. Full story...

**Patients Seek Out Alternatives to Opioids in Treatment of Chronic Pain***

August 1, 2016 [Source: NPR]

Opioids are often considered mandatory for treatment of chronic pain, but many patients would prefer an alternative. Doctors say those alternatives may also work better in some cases. Full story...

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Optimized for medical necessity and reimbursement understanding, this all-in-one resource focuses on a subset of CPT anesthesia services, as well as surgeries, medicine and ancillary services CPT codes linked to Pain Management interventions chosen by experts who take into consideration utilization, denial risk and complexity. **Order Now...**

Visit the [coding for pain](#) section of the website for coding books, on-demand coding seminars and other coding resources.

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**AAPM Members in the News**

### How to Fight Chronic Pain with More than Opioids

*August 12, 2016 [Source: Philly.com]*

AAPM Past President Sean Mackey, MD, PhD is interviewed in this *Philly.com* article.  
[Full story...](#)

![Sean Mackey, MD, PhD](#)

### Is Suicide a Consequence of the CDC Opioid Guideline?

*August 11, 2016 [Source: Pain Medicine News]*

AAPM Past President Lynn R. Webster, MD provides commentary in this *Pain Medicine News* article.  
[Full story...](#)

![Lynn R. Webster, MD](#)

### As Opioid Epidemic Surges, Medical Schools Try To Keep Pace

*July 27, 2016 [Source: NPR]*

AAPM Co-Chair of the Resident Fellow Education SIG, Jordan Newmark, MD, comments in the NPR story about the need for medical schools to increase training on opioids.  
[Full story...](#)

![Jordan Newmark, MD](#)

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**AAPM Annual Meeting**

**2017 Call for Scientific Poster Abstracts**

**Submission Deadline: Monday, September 19, 2016 at 11:59 pm CDT**

The AAPM's 33rd Annual Meeting will take place on March 16-19, 2017 in Orlando, FL at the Loews Sapphire Falls Resort. The AAPM 2017 Scientific Poster Abstract Committee invites applicants to submit abstracts for posters to be presented at the meeting.  
[For more information...](#)

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New Guidelines

AAPM Releases New Guideline: Methadone for Pain Management, Improving Clinical Decision Making
To view Recommended Prescriber Practices...

First Clinical Guidelines in Canada for Pain following Spinal Cord Injury
July 29, 2016 [Source: Lawson Health Research Institute, Canada]
Researchers at Lawson Health Research Institute are the first in Canada to develop clinical practice guidelines for managing neuropathic pain with patients who have experienced a spinal cord injury (SCI). Full story...

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board Opioid Prescribing Guideline
[Source: Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services]
Scope and purpose of the guideline: To help providers make informed decisions about acute and chronic pain treatment - pain lasting longer than three months or past the time of normal tissue healing. Full story...

Substance Abuse and Addiction Research

Study Finds One in Five Pain or Rehab Patients Taking the Medication Gabapentin without Prescription
August 3, 2016 [Source: American Association for Clinical Chemistry]
With increasing public attention to overdose deaths and misuse of prescription medications in the United States, researchers today presented the results of a new study looking at abuse and misuse of gabapentin, a medication used to treat seizures and relieve nerve pain often associated with shingles. Full story...

Government Agency News

TurnTheTideRx | Surgeon General Calls on Health Care Providers to Help End the Opioid Crisis
Our nation faces an opioid crisis. Health care providers are uniquely positioned to help communities and their patients #TurnTheTide on the opioid epidemic. Providers can be the solution. Join the movement. Sign the pledge.

Incidence of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) — 28 States, 1999–2013
August 12, 2016 [Source: Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)]
During 2000–2012, the incidence of NAS in the United States significantly increased. Several recent publications have provided national estimates of NAS; however, data describing incidence at the state level are limited. CDC examined state trends in NAS incidence using all-payer, hospital inpatient delivery discharges compiled in the State Inpatient Databases of the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) during 1999–2013. Full story...

DEA Announces Actions Related to Marijuana and Industrial Hemp
August 11, 2016 [Source: DEA]
The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) announced several marijuana-related actions, including actions regarding scientific research and scheduling of marijuana, as well as principles on the cultivation of industrial hemp under
the Agricultural Act of 2014. [Full story...]

Integration Playbook Now Available
July 28, 2016 [Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality]

AHRQ’s Integration Playbook, a new interactive guide to support the integration of behavioral health care in ambulatory care practices, is now available on the portal. Search with the word "pain" to view helpful resources. [Full story...]

State Legislative News

CA: DWC Final Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule (MTUS) Regulations, With Opioid Treatment Guidelines, Now in Effect
August 12, 2016 [Source: State of California]

The Office of Administrative Law (OAL) has approved the Division of Workers’ Compensation’s (DWC) final version of the Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule (MTUS) regulations that updates the Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines and adopts Opioids Treatment Guidelines. [Full story...]

Pain Abstracts in the News

Risks of Developing Persistent Opioid Use After Major Surgery
August 10, 2016 [Source: JAMA Surgery]

Abstract: This cohort study measures opioid use between 90 days and 1 year after major surgery. Exposure to opioids is largely unavoidable after major surgery because they are routinely used to treat postoperative pain. Nonetheless, continued long-term opioid use has negative health consequences including opioid dependence. Patients and health care professionals are therefore concerned about long-term postoperative opioid use. [Read more...]

Nonmedical Use of Prescription Drugs in the European Union
August 4, 2016 [Source: BMC Psychiatry]

Abstract: Background: Nonmedical prescription drug use (NMPDU) refers to the self-treatment of a medical condition using medication without a prescriber’s authorization as well as use to achieve euphoric states. This article reports data from a cross-national investigation of NMPDU in five European Countries, with the aim to understand the prevalence and characteristics of those engaging in NMPDU across the EU. [Read more...]

Transdermal Buprenorphine Relieves Neuropathic Pain: A Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel-Group, Placebo-Controlled Trial in Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathic Pain
August 2016 [Source: Diabetes Care]

Abstract: OBJECTIVE: To evaluate the efficacy and safety of transdermal buprenorphine in patients with diabetic peripheral neuropathic pain (DPNP). [Read more...]

PubMed Pain Abstracts

The following abstracts are posted at PubMed.gov:
Racial-Ethnic Disparities in Opioid Prescriptions at Emergency Department Visits for Conditions Commonly Associated with Prescription Drug Abuse

Singhal A1, Tien YY2, Hsia RY3.

Abstract: Prescription drug abuse is a growing problem nationally. In an effort to curb this problem, emergency physicians might rely on subjective cues such as race-ethnicity, often unknowingly, when prescribing opioids for pain-related complaints, especially for conditions that are often associated with drug-seeking behavior. Previous studies that examined racial-ethnic disparities in opioid dispensing at emergency departments (EDs) did not differentiate between prescriptions at discharge and drug administration in the ED.

PMID: 27501459
DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0159224 [PubMed - in process] Free full text

The Effects of a Recalled Injustice on the Experience of Experimentally Induced Pain and Anxiety in Relation to Just-World Beliefs

McParland JL1, Knussen C1, Murray J2.

Abstract: BACKGROUND: A growing field of investigation into social justice cognitions and pain suggests perceived injustice has a negative impact on pain, but little is known about individual variation in the impact of a perceived injustice. One published study found that individuals with a strong rather than a weak just-world belief reported greater pain from the cold pressor task after experiencing a perceived injustice, but an overt measure of perceived unfairness is needed to investigate this relationship. CONCLUSIONS: Recalled personal injustice unrelated to one's current pain experience had a negative impact on pain and anxiety associated with the cold pressor task. These findings indicate that intervention development should be cognizant of the role of everyday injustices and not just those related to pain, on the pain experience.

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PMID: 26992062
DOI: 10.1002/ejp.862 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]

 NIH Clinical Studies & Trials

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

**Impact of Physical Activity for Chronic Pelvic Pain (IPA-CPP)**
This study is currently recruiting participants.
Sponsor: University of Michigan
Information provided by (Responsible Party): Sara Till, MD, MPH, University of Michigan
Principal Investigators: Sawsan As-Sanie, MD, MPH, University of Michigan, Sara R Till, MD, MPH, University of Michigan
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02867774
First received: August 12, 2016
Stated Purpose: The purpose of this pilot study is to evaluate the impact of an intervention to increase physical activity on pain, function and quality of life in women with chronic pelvic pain.

**Efficacy, Safety, and Tolerability of Multiple Dosing Regimens of Oral AGN-241689 in Episodic Migraine Prevention**
This study is not yet open for participant recruitment.
Sponsor: Allergan
Information provided by (Responsible Party): Allergan
Study Director: Shobhal Patel, Allergan
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02848326
First received: July 28, 2016
Stated Purpose: This study will evaluate the safety and tolerability of the
following doses of AGN-241689: 10 mg once daily (QD), 30 mg QD, 30 mg twice daily (BID), 60 mg QD, and 60 mg BID for the prevention of episodic migraine and will characterize the dose/response relationship.

Read more...

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Industry News

Boston Scientific Announces Acquisition of Cosman Medical
July 27, 2016 [Source: Boston Scientific]
Full story...

AcelRx Pharmaceuticals’ ARX-04 Phase 3 Trial Met its Primary Endpoint, Reduced Pain Intensity in ER Patients with Moderate-to-Severe Acute Pain
August 15, 2016 [Source: AcelRx Pharmaceuticals]
Full story...

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