Pain Research in the News

Osteoarthritis and Chronic Pain: How to Make an IMPACT
November 28, 2016 [Source: American Pharmacist Association]
APhA Foundation convened an interdisciplinary group of experts to participate in a panel discussion on osteoarthritis and chronic pain management. The group included national stakeholders whose expertise in osteoarthritis and chronic pain, organizational affiliation, or experiences would add value to the discussion. The Foundation released a report on expert panel discussion.
Full story...

Opioids, NSAIDs No Different Overall for Persistent Pain after Crashes
November 21, 2016 [Source: Brown University]
Persistent pain is common among the nearly 4 million Americans who arrive each year at hospital emergency departments (EDs) after car crashes. A new study in the journal Pain that compared the two most common pain-relief drugs — NSAIDs such as ibuprofen and opioids such as oxycodone — found that the risk of reporting persistent pain six weeks after a crash was not statistically different among patients prescribed either medication at the ED.
Full story...

Common Functional Pain Syndromes
November 22, 2016 [Source: Medscape]
Full story (login required)...

New Study Finds Chronic Wound Patients Who Never Receive Opioids Heal Faster
November 21, 2016 [Source: George Washington University]
Patients with chronic wounds who never receive opioids heal faster than those who do receive the drugs, according to a new study by George Washington University (GW) researcher Victoria Shanmugam, M.D.
Full story...

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AAPM Business

Polls for the 2017-18 AAPM Elections Are Open
There is still time to cast your vote before the polls for the AAPM’s 2017-18 Elections close on Friday, December 9, 2016.

To access the electronic ballot, visit the AAPM Member Center and click on the Vote Now icon. To access your ballot, type in the AAPM Username and Password that were listed in the November 14 email sent to you by AAPM. Please note, your voting username and password are not the same as those you use to log into AAPM’s website.

If you need assistance with logging-in, please contact AAPM at (847) 375-4702.

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AAPM Annual Meeting

Submit Late-Breaking Scientific Poster Abstracts for the AAPM 2017 Annual Meeting
Beginning today, and for 12 days only, Late-Breaking Abstract submissions will be accepted for the American Academy of Pain Medicine (AAPM) 33rd Annual Meeting. The submission deadline is Monday, December 12, 2016, 11:59 pm CDT. Visit the abstract center to learn more and submit your abstract.

33rd Annual Meeting Registration and Housing Available
Plan to join the Academy in Orlando March 15-19, 2017 for the must-attend pain medicine meeting of the year. View the full educational program, register, and book your hotel room.

Premier preconference and stand-alone programs, include:

- WAPMU Ultrasound/Cadaver Program
- SAFE Opioid Prescribing Program
- Essential Tools for Treating the Patient in Pain™
- Opioid and Non-Opioid Medications Management
- Advanced Clinical Skills for Low Back Pain: A Hands-On Workshop

Contact AAPM with questions about the Annual Meeting by calling 847.375.4731 or email info@painmed.org. Connect with AAPM on social
Help Wanted:

Pain Management Anesthesiologist
DaVita HealthCare Partners Huntington Beach, CA
Looking for a Full-Time Pain Management Anesthesiologist to join our specialty team.

Non-Interventional Pain Management Opportunity
Gundersen Health System La Crosse, WI
Seeking a Non-Interventional Pain Management physician to join our Department of Pain Medicine.

Interventional Spine: Ortho Sport & Spine Physicians
Ortho Sport & Spine Physicians Atlanta, GA
Looking to add an enthusiastic physiatrist to its ever growing practice.

CRNP - Palliative Care
Susquehanna Health Medical Group Williamsport, PA
The successful candidate will be an integral part of Susquehanna Supportive & Palliative Care.

More jobs...

AAPM Advocates for Improved Coding for Epidural Injections in 2017
November 29, 2016 [Source: Emily Hill, PA, AAPM Coding Consultant]
CPT 2017 introduces eight new epidural injection codes to replace existing codes 62310-62311 and 62318-62319. The new family of codes creates separate codes for injection services provided with and without imaging guidance for each type of injection and anatomic area.
Read more...

PQRS Adjustment Information (Provided by the AMA)
In 2017, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will apply a downward payment adjustment to those who did not satisfactorily report PQRS in 2015 including: Individual eligible professionals (EPs), Comprehensive Primary Care (CPC) practice sites, PQRS group practices and Accountable Care Organization (ACO) participant TINs.
For more information on 2015 PQRS reporting...

Visit the coding for pain section of the website for coding books, on-demand coding seminars and other coding resources.

AAPM has collaborated with the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals to present a free rheumatoid arthritis webinar on December 6.
Learn more and register...

TSRI Scientists Develop Vaccine Against Fatal Prescription Opioid Overdose
November 23, 2016 [Source: The Scripps Research Institute]
Scientists at The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) have developed a vaccine that blocks the pain-numbing effects of the opioid drugs oxycodone (oxy) and hydrocodone (hydro) in animal models. The vaccine also appears to decrease the risk of fatal opioid overdose, a growing cause of death in the United States.
Full story...

Physicians promised new prescribing guidelines, better monitoring of high-prescribers, improved medical education and other measures to address Canada's opioid crisis in the Joint Statement of Action to Address the Opioid Crisis, released at a national opioid summit on Nov. 19.
New Law Restricts Amount of Opioid Prescriptions in Maine, Pain Patients Worried
November 23, 2016 [Source: WGME, Portland, ME]

President Obama made health care reform a reality for America. He also recognized that substance use disorders are a critical public health issue. Today at the White House, Administration officials and other leaders from across the country highlighted the progress that has been made over the past eight years in substance use disorder prevention, treatment, recovery, and research.

Full story...

Surgeon General Issues Landmark Report on Alcohol, Drugs and Health
November 16, 2016 [Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services]

A new Surgeon General’s report finds alcohol and drug misuse and severe substance use disorders, commonly called addiction, to be one of America’s most pressing public health concerns. Nearly 21 million Americans – more than the number of people who have all cancers combined – suffer from substance use disorders.

Full story...

DEA Schedules Deadly Synthetic Drug U-47700
November 10, 2016 [Source: DEA]

Responding to the imminent threat to public health and safety, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has placed U-47700 into Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act, effective on November 14th. Emergency scheduling of dangerous drugs such as U-47700 on a temporary basis is one of the most significant tools DEA can utilize to address the problems associated with deadly new street drugs.

Full story...

The American Board of Pain Medicine (ABPM) is committed to the certification of qualified physicians in the field of pain medicine. Visit ABPM's website to view ABPM's mission, vision, and objectives.

Pain Medicine Highlights:
Volume 17, Issue 11

Government Agency News

FACT SHEET: Obama Administration Marks Progress in Substance Use Disorder Prevention, Treatment, Recovery, and Research
November 30, 2016 [Source: The White House]

President Obama made health care reform a reality for America. He also recognized that substance use disorders are a critical public health issue. Today at the White House, Administration officials and other leaders from across the country highlighted the progress that has been made over the past eight years in substance use disorder prevention, treatment, recovery, and research.

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Full story...

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AAPM Members in the News

New Law Restricts Amount of Opioid Prescriptions in Maine, Pain Patients Worried
November 23, 2016 [Source: WGME, Portland, ME]

AAPM President, Daniel B. Carr, MD and AAPM Member, Edward Bilsky, PhD comment on the new law in Maine restricting the amount of opioid prescriptions.

Full story...

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Grant Updates

Summary of Request for Information (RFI) Regarding Varieties of Marijuana and Marijuana Products for Research
November 2016 [Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)]

This past July, NIDA released a Request for Information (RFI) to gather
Physical Activity Moderates the Association Between Pain and PTSD in Treatment-Seeking Veterans

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

AAPM Membership

Become A Member
Renew Membership

Visit the AAPM Member Center for more information.

Connect with AAPM

Like AAPM on Facebook
Follow AAPM on Twitter
Follow AAPM on LinkedIn
Join AAPM's Member Group on LinkedIn

Designate AAPM on Your AMA Membership Ballot

If you are an AMA member, you should be receiving your Specialty Representation Ballot in the mail shortly. Please take a moment and complete your Ballot, either with the self-addressed postcard or on the AMA website.

Be sure to designate AAPM as your Specialty Society. It is very important that we have sufficient AAPM votes for continued representation in the House of Delegates. Thank you.

Specialty Society Balloting
Cast your vote

NIH Clinical Studies & Trials

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

The following abstracts are posted at PubMed.gov:

The Efficacy of Noninvasive Brain Stimulation on Pain Control in Migraine Patients: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis
November 15, 2016 [Source: Headache]

Abstract: Objective: To evaluate the efficacy of noninvasive brain stimulation (NIBS) on pain control in migraine patients. Background: Recent studies have used NIBS as an abortive and prophylactic treatment for migraine; however, its efficacy regarding meaningful clinical effects remains to be critically analyzed.

Read more...

A Novel Intrinsic Analgesic Mechanism: the Enhancement of the Conduction Failure Along Polymodal Nociceptive C-Fibers


Abstract: Although conduction failure has been observed in nociceptive C-fibers, little is known regarding its significance or therapeutic potential. In a previous study, we demonstrated that C-fiber conduction failure, which is regarded as an intrinsic self-inhibition mechanism, was reduced in circumstances of painful diabetic neuropathy. In this study, we extend this finding in the complete Freund's adjuvant model of inflammatory pain and validate that the degree of conduction failure decreased and led to a greater amount of pain signals conveyed to the central nervous system. In complete Freund's adjuvant-injected animals, conduction failure occurred in a C-fiber-selective, activity-dependent manner and was associated with an increase in the rising slope of the C-fiber after-hyperpolarization potential.

PMID: 27583680  PMCID: PMC5028159  DOI: 10.1097/j.pain.0000000000000632 [PubMed - in process]

Read more...

The following studies and trials are posted at ClinicalTrials.gov:
Study To Assess The Efficacy And Safety Of Pf-06651600 In Subjects With Rheumatoid Arthritis With An Inadequate Response To Methotrexate
This study is not yet open for participant recruitment.
First received: November 17, 2016
Sponsor: Pfizer
Information provided by (Responsible Party): Pfizer
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02969044
Stated Purpose: This is an 8-week study to assess the efficacy and safety profile of PF-06651600 in seropositive subjects with rheumatoid arthritis with an inadequate response to methotrexate (up to approximately 50% of subjects may also have had an inadequate response to 1 anti-TNF biologic).
Read more...

Pain and Smoking Study (PASS)
This study is not yet open for participant recruitment.
First received: November 16, 2016
Sponsor: VA Office of Research and Development
Information provided by (Responsible Party): VA Office of Research and Development
Principal Investigator: Lori Anne Bastian, MD MPH, VA Connecticut Healthcare System West Haven Campus, West Haven, CT
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02971137
Stated Purpose: This purpose of this study is to test the telephone delivery of a cognitive behavioral intervention (CBI), for smoking cessation among Veteran smokers with chronic pain.
Read more...

A Trial to Assess the Pain-control Efficacy of Intra-articular Toradol Compared to Oral NSAIDs
This study is not yet open for participant recruitment.
First received: November 15, 2016
Sponsor: The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston
Information provided by (Responsible Party): Kimberly A Chambers, The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston
Principal Investigator: Kimberly A Chambers, MD, The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02966288
Stated Purpose: The study objective is to determine whether a single intra-articular dose of an anti-inflammatory (Toradol) will reduce the need for other analgesic medications and, if so, how long the benefits will last.
Read more...

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