The Academy recognizes that its members may value opportunities to come together for the purpose of sharing their interests as they relate to our specialty. To provide a forum for this, AAPM has created AAPM Shared Interest Groups (SIGs) to facilitate networking, advancing shared interests, or discussion of a particular field or topic. AAPM SIGs are multidisciplinary and open to any AAPM member.

**UK Researchers Help Victims of Violence Manage Chronic Pain with Mobile App for Breathing Techniques**

May 23, 2017 [Source: University of Kentucky]

Researchers from the University of Kentucky are studying how to help victims of sexual and domestic abuse alleviate chronic pain using a smartphone application. Charles Carlson, professor of psychology in the UK College of Arts and Sciences, and Matt Russell, a doctoral candidate in clinical psychology, are currently conducting the first clinical trial of its kind at the UK Orofacial Pain Clinic on patients experiencing myalgia and other chronic pain in the head and neck regions.

**Chronic Pain Amplifies the Brain’s Reaction to New Injuries**

May 19, 2017 [Source: NYU Langone Medical Center]

Chronic pain in any one body part may distort the intensity with which a key brain region perceives pain everywhere else. This is the finding of a study in rats, which was led by researchers at NYU Langone Medical Center, published online in the journal *eLife*.

For more information on SIGs...
UTA Researcher Focuses International Attention on How Patients’ Doubts about Never Getting Better Influences Chronic Pain Treatment Success  
May 16, 2017 [Source: The University of Texas at Arlington]  
A leading psychology professor at The University of Texas at Arlington has focused international attention on how a chronic pain patient’s irrational doubts about never getting better can influence both his reactions to pain and even treatment outcomes.  
Full story...  

SUMO Wrestles with Sodium Channels to Curb Pain  
May 10, 2017 [Source: The University of Arizona]  
University of Arizona pain researchers are seeking to understand how a particular neuron’s sodium highway, the NaV1.7 channel — a conduit for sodium ions to pass from the outside of a cell to the inside — regulates its influx of sodium ions.  
Full story...  

Practice Management & Coding Updates  
CMS Releases Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs)  
May 24, 2017 [Source: Emily Hill, PA, AAPM Coding Consultant]  
CMS has released the eCQMs that may be used to electronically report 2018 clinical quality measure data for CMS quality reporting programs. The measures, while fully specified, will not be eligible for 2018 reporting unless they are proposed and finalized through notice-and-comment rulemaking for each applicable program.  
Read more...  

Order the 2017 Illustrated Coding and Billing Expert for Anesthesia / Pain Management  
This book is an all-in-one resource containing the coding information needed for the anesthesia/pain medicine specialty. Optimized for medical necessity and reimbursement understanding, this guide focuses on a subset of CPT® anesthesia services, as well as surgeries, medicine, and ancillary services CPT® codes chosen by experts who take into consideration utilization, denial risk, and complexity.  
Order Now  

Advocacy  
AMA Comments on Senate Deliberations on the ACA  
May 23, 2017 [Source: AMA]  
The AMA addresses the Senate’s deliberations on changes to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in a letter to Orrin G. Hatch (R. Utah), Chairman, Senate Committee on Finance.  
View letter...  

Back to top
Nurse Practitioner
Associates in Anesthesia, Inc.
Upland, PA
Associates in Anesthesia, Inc. is seeking a full-time Nurse Practitioner for its Pain Management Program.

Pain Medicine Physician
Hawaii Permanente Medical Group - The Physicians of Kaiser Permanente
Honolulu, HI
The Hawaii Permanente Medical Group, Inc. is seeking a Pain Medicine Physician.

Vice President, Pain Management
Sheridan Healthcare in Sunrise, Florida
Envision Physician Services
Sunrise, FL
Seeks a nationally recognized thought leader in Pain Management to provide clinical and business leadership.

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.

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...

Substance Abuse and Addiction Research

Americans Favor Treatment, Not Enforcement, to Address Opioid Crisis; Many Americans Believe Access to Illegal Opioids and Painkillers is Easy; One in Five Millennials Think it’s OK to Share Prescription Medicine
May 22, 2017 [Source: American Psychiatric Association]
More than two-thirds of Americans, 69 percent, say they “understand how someone accidentally gets addicted to opioids,” according to a new national poll released today by the American Psychiatric Association.
Full story...

Even Small Quantities of Opioids Prescribed for Minor Injuries Increase Risk of Long-Term Use
May 17, 2017 [Source: The Perelman School of Medicine, Penn Medicine]
Penn study points to a possible root cause of opioid epidemic and shows potential benefit of laws limiting opioid prescription pill amounts for acute pain.
Full story...

Back to top

Pain News

Poll: Doctors Are Still Prescribing Lots of Opioids for Low Back Pain
May 19, 2017 [Source: NPR]
More than half of people say they’ve suffered lower back pain in the past year, according to the latest NPR-Truven Health Analytics Health Poll.
Full story...

Full story...

Back to top

Government Agency News

FDA Commissioner Asks Staff for 'More Forceful Steps' to Stem the Opioid Crisis
May 23, 2017 [Source: FDA Voice, blog post by FDA Commissioner, Scott Gottlieb, M.D.]
As Commissioner, my highest initial priority is to take immediate steps to reduce the scope of the epidemic of opioid addiction.
Full story...

Back to top

State Legislative News

AK: House Passes Bill Intended to Curb Opioid Overdose Deaths
May 23, 2017 [Source: Alaska Public Network]
Full story...

Back to top

Education News

PCSS-O Core Curriculum: Management of Chronic Pain: A Core Curriculum for Primary Care Providers
PCSS-O clinical experts, led by Roger Chou, MD, FACP and Melissa B. Weimer, DO, MCR, who have extensive knowledge in treating chronic pain, have developed a comprehensive core curriculum for primary care providers...
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 18, Issue 5

SPINE SECTION
Different DHEA-S Levels and Response Patterns in Individuals with Chronic Neck Pain, Compared with a Pain Free Group – a Pilot Study

PAIN & AGING SECTION
Back Stiffness Is Associated with Physical Health and Low Back Pain-Related Disability in Community-Dwelling Older Adults

PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHIATRY, IMAGING & BRAIN NEUROSCIENCE SECTION
The Effect of Social Observational Learning, Empathy and Catastrophizing in Chronic Pain Patients During Acute Pain Induction

OPIOIDS, SUBSTANCE ABUSE & ADDICTIONS SECTION
The Impact of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs and Prescribing Guidelines on Emergency Department Opioid Prescribing: A Multi-Center Survey

NEUROPATHIC PAIN SECTION
Characterization of Macrophage/Microglial Activation and Effect of Photobiomodulation in the Spared Nerve Injury Model of Neuropathic Pain

ACUTE & PERIOPERATIVE PAIN SECTION
The ACCTION–APS–AAPM Pain Taxonomy (AAPT) Multidimensional Approach to Classifying Acute Pain Conditions

CANCER PAIN & PALLIATIVE CARE SECTION
Interventional Pain Management for Sacroiliac Tumors in the Oncologic Population: A Case Series and Paradigm Approach

INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE SECTION
Laser Acupuncture Treatment Improves Pain and Functional Status in Patients with Subacromial who want to have in-depth knowledge in treating chronic pain. The 14, one-hour modules that make up the curriculum give up-to-date and evidence-based information on best opioid prescribing practices. Participants will receive a certificate of completion following each completed module and a final certificate when all modules have been completed. Each module (except the Overview module) is designated for 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.  

Back to top

New Guidelines

Identifying, Treating Pain in Children with Neurological Impairment
May 22, 2017 [Source: American Academy of Pediatrics]
The new AAP clinical report Pain Assessment and Treatment in Children with Significant Impairment of the Central Nervous System provides a guide to this complex problem.
Full story...

Back to top

2018 AAPM Annual Meeting News

The American Academy of Pain Medicine’s 2018 Annual Meeting Call for Education Session Proposals will be live in early June 2017
AAPM will soon be seeking education session proposals for its 34th Annual Meeting, which will be held April 26-29, 2018, with pre-meeting activities beginning on April 25-26, in Vancouver, BC, Canada.
To learn more about submitting an education session proposal...

Back to top

AAPM Members in the News

Addressing a Multi-Disciplined Approach to Pain Treatment with Dr. Daniel Carr, Immediate Past President of the American Academy of Pain Medicine
May 8, 2017 [Source: Conversations on Healthcare]
This week, hosts Mark Masselli and Margaret Flinter speak with Dr. Daniel Carr, Immediate Past President of the American Academy of Pain Medicine and Founding Director of Tufts University School of Medicine’s program in Pain Research, Education and Policy. Dr. Carr discusses the myriad origins of pain, and the multi-disciplined approach required to treat pain as well as reduce reliance on opioids.
To listen...

Beyond Opioids: Surgeons Explore New Approaches to Pain Control
May 10, 2017 [Source: Pain Medicine News]
AAPM Pain Psychology Shared Interest Group Co-Chair, Beth Darnall, PhD, is interviewed in Pain Medicine News regarding Stanford’s approach to women who are about to undergo breast cancer surgery.
Full story...
Association of Long-term Opioid Therapy with Functional Status, Adverse Outcomes, and Mortality among Patients with Polyneuropathy
May 22, 2017 [Source: JAMA, Neurology]

Key Points: Question: What is the association of long-term opioid therapy with functional status, adverse outcomes, and mortality among patients with polyneuropathy? Findings: In this population-based cohort study that included data from 1993 patients with polyneuropathy who were receiving opioid therapy, those receiving long-term opioid therapy (=90 days) were significantly more likely to be diagnosed with depression, opioid dependence, or opioid overdose than those receiving shorter durations of opioid therapy. Self-reported functional status measures were either unimproved or poorer among those receiving long-term opioid therapy.

Read more...

Impact of Preoperative Opioid Use on Total Knee Arthroplasty Outcomes
May 17, 2017 [Source: Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery]

Abstract: Background: There is growing concern about the use of opioids prior to total knee arthroplasty (TKA), and research has suggested that preoperative opioid use may lead to worse pain outcomes following surgery. We evaluated the pain relief achieved by TKA in patients who had and those who had not used opioids use before the procedure.

Read more...

Back to top

PubMed Pain Abstracts

The following abstracts are posted at PubMed.gov:

Treatment of Endometriosis-Associated Pain with Elagolix, an Oral GnRH Antagonist

Abstract: Background: Endometriosis is a chronic, estrogen-dependent condition that causes dysmenorrhea and pelvic pain. Elagolix, an oral, nonpeptide, gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) antagonist, produced partial to nearly full estrogen suppression in previous studies. Conclusions: Both higher and lower doses of elagolix were effective in improving dysmenorrhea and nonmenstrual pelvic pain during a 6-month period in women with endometriosis-associated pain. The two doses of elagolix were associated with hypoestrogenic adverse effects.

(Funded by AbbVie; Elaris EM-I and EM-II ClinicalTrials.gov numbers, NCT01620528 and NCT01931670.)

PMID: 28525302 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1700089

Read more...

PD-L1 Inhibits Acute and Chronic Pain by Suppressing Nociceptive Neuron Activity via PD-1
Nat Neurosci. 2017 May 22. doi: 10.1038/nn.4571. [Epub ahead of print]

Abstract: Programmed cell death ligand-1 (PD-L1) is typically produced by cancer cells and suppresses immunity through the receptor PD-1 expressed on T cells. However, the role of PD-L1 and PD-1 in regulating pain and neuronal function is unclear. Here we report that both melanoma and normal neural tissues including dorsal root ganglion (DRG) produce PD-L1 that can potently inhibit acute and chronic pain. Intraplantar injection of PD-L1 evoked analgesia in naïve mice via PD-1, whereas PD-L1 neutralization or PD-1...
blockade induced mechanical allodynia. Mice lacking Pd1 (Pdcd1) exhibited thermal and mechanical hypersensitivity.

Safety and Efficacy of Erenumab for Preventive Treatment of Chronic Migraine: a Randomised, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Phase 2 Trial
Abstract: BACKGROUND: The calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP) pathway is important in migraine pathophysiology. We assessed the efficacy and safety of erenumab, a fully human monoclonal antibody against the CGRP receptor, in patients with chronic migraine. INTERPRETATION: In patients with chronic migraine, erenumab 70 mg and 140 mg reduced the number of monthly migraine days with a safety profile similar to placebo, providing evidence that erenumab could be a potential therapy for migraine prevention. Further research is needed to understand long-term efficacy and safety of erenumab, and the applicability of this study to real-world settings.
FUNDING: Amgen. Copyright © 2017 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

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

Complementary Management of Chronic Neck and/or Low Back Pain with a Pain Relief Kit
This study is currently recruiting participants.
First received: May 12, 2017
Sponsor: Sport and Spine Rehab Clinical Research Foundation
Collaborator: University of San Diego
Information provided by (Responsible Party): Sport and Spine Rehab Clinical Research Foundation
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03157544
Stated Purpose: The purpose of this project is to determine the effect of a multimodal non-pharmacological Pain Relief Kit on the pain, functioning, patient satisfaction, and opioid consumption of individuals suffering from an acute pain episode of chronic neck and/or low back pain over a 3-week duration.

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