AAPM E-News July 12, 2017

LATEST NEWS from the American Academy of Pain Medicine

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Advocacy

AAPM Submits Comments to FDA Regarding Training Health Care Providers on Pain Management and Safe Use of Opioid Analgesics
July 10, 2017 [Source: AAPM]
The American Academy of Pain Medicine (AAPM), representing the specialty of pain medicine, writes to offer guidance on training health care providers on pain management and safe use of opioid analgesics.
View comments to Docket Number: FDA-2017-N-1094.

AAPM Submits Comments to FDA Regarding the FDA Blueprint for Prescriber Education for Extended-Release and Long-Acting Opioids
July 10, 2017 [Source: AAPM]
The American Academy of Pain Medicine (AAPM), representing the specialty of pain medicine, writes to offer guidance on the draft revisions to the FDA Blueprint for Prescriber Education for Extended-Release and Long-Acting Opioids.
View comments to Docket Number FDA-2017-D-2497.

Dr. Gottlieb’s Remarks Delivered Before FDA’s Scientific Meeting on Opioids
July 10, 2017 [Source: FDA]
Remarks as prepared for delivery before the FDA meeting on Data and Methods for Evaluating the Impact of Opioid Formulations with
Properties Designed to Deter Abuse in the Post Market Setting: A Scientific Discussion of Present and Future Capabilities.  
Full story...

Report Shows Inconsistent Coverage in Substance Use Disorder Treatment  
June 21, 2017 [Source: AMA]
“This new report from the Addiction Solutions Campaign reveals the significant challenges that patients face when seeking treatment for a substance use disorder. This report makes it clear that health insurers and regulators need to take a hard look at their legal obligations to ensure that patients receive the full benefits of existing parity laws covering mental health and substance use disorders.
Full story...

Opioid Tapering May Improve Outcomes for Chronic Pain Sufferers  
July 11, 2017 [Source: American College of Physicians]  
Dose reduction may improve pain, function, and quality of life for patients prescribed long-term opioid therapy for chronic pain. Results of a systematic evidence review are published in *Annals of Internal Medicine*.  
Full story...

Does Widespread Pain Stem from the Brain? MRI Study Investigates  
July 10, 2017 [Source: Michigan Medicine, University of Michigan]
Richard Harris, Ph.D. is the senior author on a new study, published in *Pain*, that sought to find what underlies widespread pain. “We examined data from the brains of participants in the Multidisciplinary Approach to the Study of Chronic Pelvic Pain Research Network study,” Harris says. “We compared participants with a clinical diagnosis of urological chronic pelvic pain syndrome to pain-free controls and to fibromyalgia patients.”  
Full story...

Early-Life Pain May Lead To Obesity Risk, Especially In Females, Neuroscience Institute Study Finds  
July 5, 2017 [Source: Georgia State University]  
Inflammatory pain at birth changes how the hippocampus, a part of the brain associated with memory and eating behavior, works later in life, and this pain also causes adult rats to eat more frequently and in larger amounts, according to a study by Georgia State University and the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center.  
Full story...

New Guideline on Pelvic Girdle Pain during Pregnancy – Journal of Women's Health Physical Therapy Presents Evidence-Based Recommendations  
Pelvic girdle pain (PGP) is a common condition that causes pain and physical impairment, most frequently during the antepartum (before delivery) period. A new guideline for evidence-based physical therapy practice for PGP during pregnancy appears in the *Journal of Women's Health Physical Therapy*, official journal of the Section on Women's Health (SOWH) of the American Physical Therapy Association.
Study: Exposure to Light Causes Emotional and Physical Responses in Migraine Sufferers
June 26, 2017 [Source: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center]
People experiencing migraines often avoid light and find relief in darkness. A new study led by researchers at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center has revealed a previously unknown connection between the light-sensitive nerve cells in the eye and centers in the brain that regulate mood and a host of physical parameters such as heart rate, shortness of breath, fatigue, congestion and nausea. The findings, which explain how light can induce the negative emotions and unpleasant physical sensations that often accompany migraine, were published online today in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.*

Full story...

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Pain Treatments and Trials in the News

Marijuana and Vulnerability to Psychosis
July 5, 2017 [Source: University of Montreal]
Going from an occasional user of marijuana to a weekly or daily user increases an adolescent’s risk of having recurrent psychotic-like experiences by 159%, according to a new Canadian study published today in the *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry.*

Full story...

More than Half of All Opioid Prescriptions Go to People with Mental Illness
June 28, 2017 [Source: University of Michigan School of Nursing]
Fifty-one percent of all opioid medications distributed in the U.S. each year are prescribed to adults with mood disorders such as depression and anxiety, according to new research from the University of Michigan and the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth.

Full story...

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AAPM Annual Meeting Updates

2018 Call for Scientific Poster Abstracts Opens August 1, 2017
AAPM will soon be seeking Scientific Poster Abstracts for its 34th Annual Meeting, which will be held April 26-29, 2018, with preconference activities beginning on April 25-26, in Vancouver, BC, Canada. Watch the website for more details.

The theme of the 2018 Annual Meeting is "Managing Acute & High-Impact Chronic Pain through Multidisciplinary Care". Read more about this theme.

Thank you to all who submitted Education Session proposals. More than 125 proposals were received—a record breaking submission year!

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Practice Management & Coding Updates

Changes to Reporting 10- and 90- Day Global Codes to CMS
July 12, 2017 [Source: Emily Hill, PA, AAPM Coding Consultant]
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is implementing new mandatory post-operative visit reporting requirements for patients with traditional Medicare. The requirement went into effect July 1, 2017 and impacts select procedures provided in certain states and provider groups. Read more...

LexisNexis Risk Solutions and AMA Launch Verify Health Care Portal
June 7, 2017 [Source: AMA]
LexisNexis® Risk Solutions and the American Medical Association (AMA) have launched the Verify Health Care Portal, the clinician attestation component of VerifyHCP, a robust solution for monitoring physician information that simplifies a successful data strategy for managing a health plan network. (Please note that AMA membership is not required to use the resource. The only current requirement is that you must be in the network of at least one participating Payer.) Full story...

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

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Education News

American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP) 2017 Annual Meeting
AAAP will hold its Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium and the Addictions and Their Treatment course at the Rancho Bernardo Inn in San Diego, California, December 7-10, 2017. For more information...

AAPM is a proud partner of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Interventional Cancer Pain Symposium
September 8-9 in New York, NY
$25 discount - use promo code AAPMGEN
For more information...

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AAPM Members in the News

Senator Patty Murray Tours Swedish Hospital in Seattle
July 7, 2017 [Source: Senator Patty Murray (D-WA)]
AAPM President Steven Stanos, DO and his colleagues at Swedish Hospital in Seattle, Washington, were host to Senator Patty Murray as she toured the pain management center. View press release...

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Substance Abuse and Addiction Research
Most Reproductive-Age Women Using Opioids Also Use another Substance
June 30, 2017 [Source: University of Pittsburgh]
The majority of reproductive-age and pregnant women who use opioids for non-medical purposes also use at least one other substance, ranging from nicotine or alcohol to cocaine, according to a University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health analysis. It was the first to look at use of multiple substances in a nationally representative group of U.S. women age 18 to 44.
Full story...

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Government Agency News

FDA Approves New Treatment for Sickle Cell Disease
July 7, 2017 [Source: FDA]
The U.S. FDA today approved Endari (L-glutamine oral powder) for patients age five years and older with sickle cell disease to reduce severe complications associated with the blood disorder.
Full story...

Opioid Prescribing is Still High and Varies from County to County
July 6, 2017 [Source: CDC]
The amount of opioids prescribed in the United States peaked in 2010 and then decreased each year through 2015, but remains at high levels and varies from county to county in the U.S., according to the latest Vital Signs report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
Full story...

AHRRQ: Submit a Suggestion for a New Evidence Review
July 5, 2017 [Source: AHRQ]
What health care decisions are you struggling with? Would a review of the scientific evidence help inform this decision? Share your ideas with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality’s (AHRQ) Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC) Program.
For more information...

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Pain Abstracts in the News

Stereotactic Radiosurgery for Trigeminal Neuralgia Improves Patient-Reported Quality of Life and Reduces Depression
August 2017 [Source: International Journal of Radiation Oncology • Biology • Physics]
Abstract: Purpose: To characterize quality-of-life (QOL) outcomes after stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) for trigeminal neuralgia (TN). Conclusions: Patients with TN treated with SRS reported significant improvements in multiple QOL measures, with the therapeutic benefit strongly driven by improvements in pain and/or discomfort and in self-care, along with lower rates of depression. In this analysis, there appears to be a correlation between prescription dose and treatment response as measured by the EQ-5D.
Read more...

Space-Based Bias of Covert Visual Attention in Complex Regional Pain Syndrome
July 9, 2017 [Source: Brain]
Abstract: Some patients with complex regional pain syndrome report that
movements of the affected limb are slow, more effortful, and lack automaticity. These symptoms have been likened to the syndrome that sometimes follows brain injury called hemispatial neglect, in which patients exhibit attentional impairments and problems with movements affecting the contralesional side of the body and space.

Effectiveness of Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs for the Treatment of Pain in Knee and Hip Osteoarthritis: A Network Meta-Analysis
July 8, 2017 [Source: The Lancet]
Summary: Background: Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) are the backbone of osteoarthritis pain management. We aimed to assess the effectiveness of different preparations and doses of NSAIDs on osteoarthritis pain in a network meta-analysis.

Effect of Radiofrequency Denervation on Pain Intensity Among Patients with Chronic Low Back Pain: The Mint Randomized Clinical Trials
July 4, 2017 [Source: JAMA]
Abstract: Importance: Radiofrequency denervation is a commonly used treatment for chronic low back pain, but high-quality evidence for its effectiveness is lacking. Conclusions and Relevance: In 3 randomized clinical trials of participants with chronic low back pain originating in the facet joints, sacroiliac joints, or a combination of facet joints, sacroiliac joints, or intervertebral disks, radiofrequency denervation combined with a standardized exercise program resulted in either no improvement or no clinically important improvement in chronic low back pain compared with a standardized exercise program alone. The findings do not support the use of radiofrequency denervation to treat chronic low back pain from these sources.

PubMed Pain Abstracts

The following abstracts are posted at PubMed.gov:

Association Between Opioid Intake and Disability After Surgical Management of Ankle Fractures
Abstract: BACKGROUND: Opioid-centric pain management strategies have created an epidemic of prescription opioid abuse. This study assesses whether opioid intake is associated with disability, satisfaction with treatment, and pain at the time of suture removal and at 5 to 8 months after suture removal following open reduction and internal fixation of ankle fractures. PMID: 28574942 DOI: 10.5435/JAAOS-D-16-00505

Adverse Cardiac Events Associated with Incident Opioid Drug Use among Older Adults with COPD
Abstract: PURPOSE: We evaluated whether incident opioid drug use was associated with adverse cardiac events among older adults with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). CONCLUSIONS: New opioid use was associated with elevated rates of IHD-related morbidity and mortality among older adults with COPD. Adverse cardiac events may need to be considered when administering new opioids to older adults with COPD, but further studies are required to establish if the observed associations are causal or related to residual confounding.
NIH Clinical Studies & Trials

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

Pain Coping Skills and Meaning-Centered Intervention
This study is not yet open for participant recruitment.
First received: June 30, 2017
Sponsor: Duke University
Information provided by (Responsible Party): Duke University
Principal Investigator: Joseph G Winger, PhD, Duke University
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03207360

Stated Purpose: The proposed study seeks to develop and test a novel psychosocial pain management intervention for patients with advanced cancer. It is hypothesized that the intervention will demonstrate feasibility, acceptability, and preliminary efficacy. The first aim is to develop a combined pain coping skills training and meaning-centered psychotherapy intervention. The second aim is to test the intervention’s feasibility and acceptability as well as preliminary efficacy for improving primary outcomes (i.e., pain, pain interference, and meaning in life) and secondary outcomes.

Industry News

Endo Provides Update On OPANA® ER
July 6, 2017 [Source: Endo International, Inc.]
Full story...

Cara Therapeutics Reports Continuation of Phase 3 Trial of I.V. CR845 in Postoperative Pain Following Interim Assessment
June 21, 2017 [Source: Cara Therapeutics, Inc.]
Full story...

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