

Pain Relief Connection

The Pain Information Newsletter

Provided by MGH Cares About Pain Relief



Archived issues are available at <http://www.MassGeneral.org/PainRelief>

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In the News

- [Alza](#), a subsidiary of Johnson and Johnson, has been granted FDA approval for a new [patient-controlled transdermal fentanyl system](#). When activated by the patient, the device provides a measured dose of fentanyl that is rapidly transported through the skin by a small electric charge in a process called iontophoresis. Two of the clinical trials that supported Alza's application were reported earlier this year: Chelly JE, et al. The safety and efficacy of a fentanyl patient-controlled transdermal system for acute postoperative analgesia: a multicenter, placebo-controlled trial. *Anesthesia & Analgesia*[M]. 2004 Feb;98(2):427-33; Viscusi ER, et al. Patient-controlled transdermal fentanyl hydrochloride vs intravenous morphine pump for postoperative pain: a randomized controlled trial. *JAMA*[M]. 2004 Mar 17;291(11):1333-41. The technology is also described in Viscusi ER. Emerging techniques in the treatment of postoperative pain. *American Journal of Health System Pharmacy*[M]. 2004 Apr15;61 Suppl 1:S11-4
- Nelson, N. [Why it Hurts Less to be a Man](#). [News@Nature.com](#). (free registration required)
- New book in the Treadwell Library by two of the biggest names in pain management: Bruera E & Portenoy RK, Eds. *Cancer pain : assessment and management*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003 QZ 266 C21622 2003

Journal Watch (journal titles followed by [M] have full text free access on MGH computers)

- Mercadante S, Villari P, Ferrera P, Casuccio A. Addition of a second opioid may improve opioid response in cancer pain: preliminary data. *Supportive Care in Cancer*. 2004 Jun 15
- Mitra S, Sinatra RS. Perioperative Management of Acute Pain in the Opioid-dependent Patient. *Anesthesiology* [M]. 2004 Jul;101(1):212-227.
- Ersek m, et al. The Cognitive Effects of Opioids—*Pain Management Nursing*. 2004 Jun;5(2):75-93.
- Vallerand AH, et al. Improving Cancer Pain Management by Homecare Nurses. *Oncology Nursing Forum* [M] July 2004;31(4):809-816.
- Stevens B, et al. Sucrose for analgesia in newborn infants undergoing painful procedures ([Cochrane Review](#))
- Aging, pain & cancer: The role of geriatrics, oncology and palliative care. [Cancer Pain Release](#). 2004;17(1 & 2).

Pain Education on the Web

- [Chronic Pain Management Paradigm: Time for a Change?](#) (requires free registration)
- [Appropriately Timed Analgesics Control Pain Due to Chest Tube Removal](#)

September is Pain Awareness Month

- [Partners for Understanding Pain](#), a consortium of organizations with interests in the social, economic, and health impact of chronic, acute, and cancer pain, is once again recognizing September as Pain Awareness Month.
- MGH will participate in Pain Awareness Month with a display in the main corridor on Thursday September 23. The Pain Task Force is sponsoring a Pain Projects Expo to showcase the projects and initiatives, large and small, that individuals, teams, and units have initiated or are planning. Prizes will be awarded. Details at this [link](#).

MGH Cares About Pain Relief

Massachusetts General Hospital • Founders 606 • 55 Fruit Street • Boston, MA 02114
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- Beginning in 2005 Pain Pulse, the annual patient survey of pain prevalence previously held in the March each year, will be moved to September to coincide with Pain Awareness Month.

Pain Resources on the Web

- The National Institutes of Health has an updated patient-oriented site, [Health Information](#), with links to information from throughout the Institutes. The “Pain” page, for example has over 20 links.
- One of the links is to the [MedlinePlus pain page](#) with many additional links. Some resources are in Spanish.

Pain-Related Education Opportunities

- Nov 19 – 20 (Fri – Sat): [Pain Management Strategies for the Primary Care Practitioner](#). 7th annual CME-accredited meeting. This program will present a primer of the latest developments in the pathophysiology, diagnoses and treatments of pain. Each talk will focus on specific topics directly relevant to the practical problems that a primary care specialist may encounter when confronted with a pain patient. NYU Medical Center, Farkas Auditorium, New York City. For more information contact Leticia Banuchi, tel: 646-459-8516, email: Leticia.Banuchi@nyumc.org.
- Sep 8 – 10 (Wed – Fri): [13th Annual Pain Resource Nurse \(PRN\) Training](#). City of Hope, Duarte, CA.

MGH Pain Calendar

- Aug 9 (Mon) 11:00am – 12:00N **Coping with Cancer Pain** (for patients and families), featuring Annabel Edwards, ANP. Cancer Resource Room, Cox 1st floor. Sponsored by HOPES Program.
- September is Pain Awareness Month (see above).

Chronic Pain Rounds are held Mondays at 12:00N in the Clinics 3 amphitheatre. Of Note:

- Aug 9 (Mon) 12:00n – 1:00pm. **Psychiatric Co-Morbidity and Pain** Ajay Wasan, M.D
- Cancer Pain Rounds are held Wednesdays at 12:00N in the Cox 8 Conference Room.*

MGH Pain Resources:

PainRelief web site: <http://www.massgeneral.org/painrelief/>

Previous issues of *Pain Relief Connection*: <http://www.massgeneral.org/painrelief/Newsletter>

Previous Pain Topics articles: http://www.massgeneral.org/painrelief/Pain%20Topics/mghpain_paintopics_index.htm

Patient Care Services Pain Resource Center: http://pcs.mgh.harvard.edu/Secure/Clinical_Resources/Pain_Resources.asp

CCPD educational offerings: http://pcs.mgh.harvard.edu/CCPD/Educational_Offerings/cpd_offerings_calendar.asp

Treadwell Library (Magic): <http://magic.mgh.harvard.edu/>

MGH Formulary (includes patient teaching handouts in 16 languages): <http://www.crlonline.com/crlsql/servlet/crlonline>

Partners Handbook: <http://is.partners.org/handbook/>

Primary Care Office InSite (PCOI) (Clinician and patient information): http://oi.mgh.harvard.edu/pcoi/frontpage_frames.asp

URL notes: **Hold your cursor over the link for a second to see the URL.** If you are reading this in hard copy, this month’s links are:

Alza Corporation: <http://www.alza.com/>

Alza press release: http://www.alza.com/alza/pr_1090972736

Why it hurts less to be a man: <http://www.nature.com/news/2004/040614/full/040614-2.html;jsessionid=92BA3BCEA45D39558AAE04CD907D6744>

Mercadante 2nd opioid abstract:

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=15206014

Chronic Pain Management Paradigm: <http://www.medscape.com/viewprogram/3140?src=mpad>

Chest tube removal: <http://www.aacn.org/AACN/jmlajcc.nsf/GetArticle/ArticleOne134?OpenDocument>

Partners for Understanding Pain: http://www.theacpa.org/pu_main.asp

Pain Projects Expo: http://www.massgeneral.org/painrelief/pain_projects_expo.pdf

NIH Health Information site: <http://health.nih.gov/>

NIH Health Information site Pain page: <http://health.nih.gov/result.asp/493>

MedlinePlus: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/medlineplus.html>

MedlinePlus Pain resources:

<http://search.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/query?MAX=500&SERVER1=server1&SERVER2=server2&PARAMETER=Pain&DISAMBIGUATION=true&FUNCTION=search>

Pain Management Strategies for the Primary Care Practitioner:

<https://tools.med.nyu.edu/CMECourses/index.cfm?fuseaction=courses.DisplayCourse&TheCourseID=1741&SortOrder=byDepartment&TimeFilter=Current&CFID=479872&CFTOKEN=29617506>

Pain Resource Nurse training: <http://sccpi.coh.org/2004%20PRN%20Course.htm>

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