

# 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](#).

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### MGH Cares About Pain Relief

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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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](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](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](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](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](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 2<sup>nd</sup> opioid abstract:

[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list\\_uids=15206014](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](http://www.theacpa.org/pu_main.asp)

Pain Projects Expo: [http://www.massgeneral.org/painrelief/pain\\_projects\\_expo.pdf](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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