

Pain Relief Connection

The Pain Information Newsletter

Provided by MGH Cares About Pain Relief



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

Volume 4, No. 4

April 2005

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In the News

- The bad news and controversy over non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) continues:
 - Pfizer has complied with an FDA request to remove valdecoxib (Bextra) from the market because of potentially fatal skin reactions. All prescription NSAIDs will now carry warnings about cardiovascular risks. There is a new [FDA information sheet](#) explaining the FDA understanding of the safety risks of COX-2 and other NSAIDs, and the FDA's official actions. The information sheet contains links to other resources.
 - [Consumer Confusion Persists on Painkillers' Safety](#)
 - Evidence-based medicine meta-analysis by [Bandolier](#): [Coxibs and cardiovascular harm in arthritis](#)
 - [NSAID Hysteria -- Chicken Little Revisited](#)
- New standards and guidelines:
 - The [American Society of Pain Management Nursing](#) (ASPMN) has published a Position Statement: [Use of Placebos in Pain Management](#).
 - The [American Nurses Association](#) (ANA) and ASPMN have jointly published [Pain Management Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice](#).
 - The [American Pain Society](#) has updated the 1994 AHCPR Clinical Practice Guideline: Management of Cancer Pain, now called [Guideline for the Management of Cancer Pain in Adults and Children](#).

Department of Error

The [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality](#) has launched a new program, [PS Net: Patient Safety Network](#). This is a companion site to [Web M & M](#), which has recently been enhanced and expanded.

Patient Resources

- NBC's *Today Show* sponsored a series of reports on pain, including pain in children. Video clips of the reports may be found on the [American Pain Foundation](#) (APF) web site. Click [here](#) to view APF's [pediatric pain page](#).
- [Addiction, Tolerance, and Dependence](#): new article on National Pain Foundation web site.

Journal Watch

 (journal titles followed by [M] have full text free access on MGH computers; [O] = open access)

- Kissin I. Preemptive analgesia at the crossroad. *Anesthesia and Analgesia* [M] Mar 2005;100(3):754-6.
- Toombs JD & Kral LA. [Methadone Treatment for Pain States](#). *American Family Physician* [O] 1 Apr 2005; 71(7):1353-8
- Levesque LE, et al. The Risk for Myocardial Infarction with Cyclooxygenase-2 Inhibitors: A Population Study of Elderly Adults. *Annals of Internal Medicine* [M] 5 Apr 2005;142(7):481-489.
- A special [supplement](#) on pain to [The Scientist](#) [O] 28 Mar 2005;19(Supp 1).
- Hamid H, et al. Substance Abuse: Medical and Slang Terminology. *Southern Medical Journal*. [M] Mar 2005;98(3):350-362.

Pain Education on the Web

- [Coping with the Unwelcome Surprise Of Shingles](#). [CNE].
- [Highlights of the 21st Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Pain Medicine](#). [CME; CNE; CPE]

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Massachusetts General Hospital • Founders 606 • 55 Fruit Street • Boston, MA 02114
617-726-0746 (Phone) • 617-724-8693 (Fax) • PainRelief@Partners.org • <http://www.MassGeneral.org/PainRelief>

To be added to or removed from the *Pain Relief Connection* mailing list, send an email to PainRelief@Partners.org

- [Current Issues in Pain Management for the Primary Care Practitioner](#) (new back pain module) [CME; CNE]
- [Managing Acute Pain in the ED.](#) [CME]
- [Update on Pharmacotherapy of Pain in Older Adults: Nonopioids, Opioids & Adjuvants.](#) [CME; CNE; CPE]

Pain-Related Education Opportunities

- May 4 (Wed—Waltham, MA) or May 5 (Thu—Springfield, MA) [Pain Management Symposium](#). CE for pharmacists.
- May 18 (Weds) 8:00am – 12:00N. [Addressing Disparities in Pain Management: Are Pain and Suffering Equal Opportunity Maladies?](#) Richard Payne, MD. [Massachusetts Pain Initiative](#) quarterly meeting. Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough, MA. More info: Amy.Goldstein@cancer.org or 580-270-4653. CE for MDs, RNs, and MSWs.
- June 9-10 (Thur-Fri) [The Art & Science of Palliative Care Nursing](#). Brochure available at <http://tinyurl.com/afmhg>.
- June 11 (Sat) [Pediatric Drugs Course](#). Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto. Includes 2 sessions on pain management.
- June 22 – 26 (Wed – Sun) [Principles and Practice of Pain Medicine](#). Harvard Medical School CME. Boston
- [Master of Science in Pain Research, Education, and Policy](#), Tufts University Medical School. An interdisciplinary postgraduate program. For info call 617-636-8541 or e-mail jconnolly@tufts-NEMC.org. (<http://www.tufts.edu/med/prep/>)
- [Coordinating Care at the End of Life: The Role of Hospice](#). The [American Hospice Foundation](#) announces a new electronic (CD-ROM) CE course with contact hours for nurses, social workers and case managers. Contact Marsha Nelson, at 202-223-0204, Ext. 206 or mnelson@americanhospice.org. (<http://www.americanhospice.org/news/SelfStudy.htm>)

MGH Pain Calendar

- May 12 (Thu) 11:00am – 12:00N **Coping with Cancer Pain** (for patients and families), featuring Annabel Edwards, ANP, Cancer Pain Team Nurse Practitioner. Yawkey 8 Cancer Resource Room. Sponsored by HOPEs Program. 617-724-1822.
- May 19 (Thu) 7:00am **Pain Treatment: Elegant Theories, Inelegant Universe**. Daniel B. Carr, M.D.; Clinics 3 Amph.
- **Chronic Pain Rounds are held Mondays at 12:00N in the Clinics 3 amphitheatre. Of note:**
 - May 2: **Diabetic Neuropathy**, Ezekiel Fink, MD
- **Cancer Pain Rounds are held Wednesdays at 12:00N in the Cox 8 Conference Room.**
- **Palliative Care Grand Rounds are held Wednesdays at 8:00am in the Ether Dome**

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:

FDA Information Sheet: <http://www.fda.gov/cder/drug/infopage/cox2/default.htm>

Consumer confusion about NSAIDs: <http://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=46334>

Coxibs meta-analysis: <http://www.jr2.ox.ac.uk/bandolier/booth/Arthritis/coxarth.html>

Chicken Little & NSAIDs <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/501589?src=mp>

ASPMN Placebo Position Statement: http://www.aspmn.org/html/Placebos%20revised_2005.pdf

Pain Management Nursing Scope & Standards: <http://nursingworld.org/books/05SSPM>

Guideline for Management of Cancer Pain: <http://www.ampainsoc.org/pub/cancer.htm>

Patient Safety Network: <http://psnet.ahrq.gov/>; Web M & M: <http://webmm.ahrq.gov/>

APF children's pain page: <http://www.painfoundation.org/page.asp?menu=1&item=2&file=Today/Children.htm>

Addiction, Tolerance, & Dependence: http://www.painconnection.org/MyTreatment/Spotlight_Schneider.asp

Methadone Treatment for Pain States: <http://www.aafp.org/afp/20050401/1353.html>

Pain supplement to *The Scientist*: <http://www.the-scientist.com/supplement/2005-03-28>

Shingles CNE: http://www2.nurseweek.com/ce/self-study_modules/syllabus.html?ID=536

AAPM Meeting Highlights CME, CNE, CPE: <http://www.medscape.com/viewprogram/3977>

Back Pain (and others) CME, CNE: <http://www.tuftspainmanagement.org/modules2.html>

Acute pain in the ED CME: http://www.freecme.com/gcourse_view.php?course_id=4559

Pharmacotherapy of pain in Older Adults: <http://tinyurl.com/7wczb>

Addressing Disparities brochure: <http://www.masspaininitiative.org/invite%205.18.05.pdf>

HMS Pain Medicine course: <http://cme.med.harvard.edu/cgi-bin/hmscme.cgi?SECTION=CLASSES&ID=00252424&SO=N>

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