

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

- **Where dread lives in the brain:** A recent study (see *Science* paper in Journal Watch, below) using functional MRI imaging shows areas of the brain associated with pain lighting up when volunteers in an experiment are waiting for the next experimental shock. Fear and anxiety show up in a different area of the brain, so this is something qualitatively—and physiologically—different.
- **What's New in Pain Management:** Article in *Pharmacy Times* [O] on a few new treatment approaches under investigation.
- **Meeting Highlights: American Academy of Pain Medicine.** Brief reports on presentations at the meeting.
- The consumer advocacy group, Public Citizen, has [petitioned](#) the Food & Drug administration to ban propoxyphene (the opioid ingredient in Darvon & Darvocette) because of risk of toxicity in a poorly effective product.

Pain in Children

- Drendel A, et al. Pain Assessment for Pediatric Patients in the Emergency Department. *Pediatrics* [M] 2006;117 1511-1518.
- Smith L et al. Sick Cell Disease: A Question of Equity and Quality. *Pediatrics* [M] 2006;117 1763-1770.

Pain & Addictive Illness

- [Study zeroes in on genes for opiate dependence](#) (news article from [PainCenterOnline](#)). See also research paper in *American Journal of Human Genetics* in Journal Watch, below)
- [Implementing Systems for Detection and Prevention of Drug Diversion](#); recorded web cast from January 2006. Sponsored by [The Center for Medication Safety and Clinical Improvement](#), a division of Cardinal Health. [enter Conference/meeting number: RR4350599-2 and Passcode: Center] [R]

Patient Resources

- Pain Treatment Topix (Pain-Topix.com) has just added a [Patient Resources](#) tab to its web site. Some of the resources were developed by Pain Topix staff, while several are from other organizations.
- [CareNotes](#) (part of Micromedex) has patient information on Pain. Search by the keyword Pain or the condition for general, inpatient or discharge information in English or Spanish. [Partners Health System intranet]

Other Resources

Brewer RP (Ed). [Pain Management](#). *P & T Digest* (Special Supplement) [O] Dec 2005;30(12).

Journal Watch

 ([M] = full text free access on MGH computers; [O] = open access; [R] = free registration required)

- Reid CM, et al. Oxycodone for Cancer-Related Pain: Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials. *Archives of Internal Medicine*. [M] Apr 24, 2006;166(8):837-843.

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- Buescher JJ. [Carbamazepine for Acute and Chronic Pain](#). *American Family Physician* [O] May 1, 2006;73(9):1545-1550. This is a clinical scenario and discussion based on a recent Cochrane review of this topic.
- Davis KM, et al. Oral analgesia compared with intravenous patient-controlled analgesia for pain after cesarean delivery: a randomized controlled trial. *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology* [M] 2006 Apr;194(4):967-71.
- Berns GS, et al. Neurobiological Substrates of Dread. *Science* [M] 5 May 2006; 312(5774):754-758.
- Spanning 1997 and 1998 the *BMJ* ran a long series of palliative care articles (17 in all) in their “ABC of . . .” feature. They are all open access articles. They have just started a new series; the first papers are pain-related.
 - Fallon M, et al. ABC of palliative care: Principles of control of cancer pain. *BMJ* [M] 29 Apr 2006;332(7548):1022-102.
 - Colvin L, et al. ABC of palliative care: Difficult pain. *BMJ* [M] 6 May 2006;332(7549):1081-1083.
- Gelernter J, et al. Genomewide linkage scan for opioid dependence and related traits. *American Journal of Human Genetics* [M] 2006 May;78(5):759-69.
- Morrison RS et al. Improving the Management of Pain in Hospitalized Adults. *Archives of Internal Medicine* [M] 2006; 166:1033-1039.
- Jonsson AC, et al. Prevalence and intensity of pain after stroke: a population based study focusing on patients' perspectives. *Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, & Psychiatry* [M] 2006 May;77(5):590-595. (See Editorial, next item)
- Henon H. Pain after stroke: a neglected issue. *Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, & Psychiatry* [M] 2006 May;77(5):569. (See research study, previous item)
- Kehlet H, Jensen TS, Woolf CJ. Persistent postsurgical pain: risk factors and prevention. *Lancet*. 2006 May 13;367(9522):1618-25. (Note that the third author is MGH's Clifford Woolf)

Pain Education on the web [CME-Physicians; CNE-Nurses; CPE-Pharmacists; R-free registration required]

- [Management of Moderate Chronic Pain in Osteoarthritis](#). [CME; CNE; R]
- [Case Studies in the Management of Neuropathic Pain in Older Patients](#) [CME]

Pain Resources on the Web

[Pain Assessment in Older Adults](#). From *US Pharmacist*; 2006;5:30-36

Pain-Related Education Opportunities

- June 8 – 9 (Thu – Fri) [The Art & Science of Palliative Nursing](#). Boston. For more info: vmifsud@partners.org
- June 21 – 25 (Wed – Sun) [Principles & Practice of Pain Medicine](#). Harvard Medical School.
- June 25 – 29 (Sun – Thu) [7th International Symposium on Pediatric Pain](#). Vancouver
- Sep 29 – Oct 1 (Fri – Sun) [Regional Anesthesia & Pain Medicine Hands-on Workshop](#), Toronto
- The [EPEC](#) (Education in Palliative and End-of-Life Care) curriculum has been revised and is available online. There are 3 pain-related modules available for \$30 each and awarding 1 CME for each. <http://epec.net/EPEC/webpages/index.cfm>
- [Master of Science in Pain Research, Education, and Policy](#), and [Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics](#); 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

- June 8 (Thu) 11:00am – 12:00N **Coping with Cancer Pain** (for patients and families), featuring Tom Quinn, MSN, RN, Pain Clinical Nurse Specialist. Cancer Resource Room, Cox 1st floor. Sponsored by HOPES Program.
- Sep 13 & 15 (Wed & Fri—two day course) **Care of the Patient at the End of Life**. To register: 617-726-3111 [CNE]
- **Chronic Pain Rounds are held Mondays at 12:00N in the Clinics 3 amphitheatre.**
 - **June 5: Idiopathic arm pain--David Ring, MD**
 - **June 19: Cognitive Therapy & Pain – Ana Maria Vranceanu, 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**

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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://www.massgeneral.org/pcs/Secure/Clinical_Resources/Pain_Resources.asp

CCPD educational offerings: http://www.massgeneral.org/pcs/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

MESAC intranet site: <http://intranet.massgeneral.org/mesac/index.htm>

MGH Safety reporting System: <http://safety.massgeneral.org/>

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:

What's new in pain management: <http://www.pharmacytimes.com/Article.cfm?Menu=1&ID=3371>

Report of American Academy of Pain Medicine meeting: <http://www.ptcommunity.com/ptJournal/fulltext/31/4/PTJ3104214.pdf>

Petition to ban propoxyphene: <http://www.citizen.org/publications/release.cfm?ID=7420>

Genes & opioid dependence: <http://pain.healthcentersonline.com/newsstories/studyeroesinongenepiatedependence.cfm>

Detecting drug diversion: <http://www.cardinal.com/clinicalcenter/materials/webcasts/index.asp>

Patient Resources page, Pain-Topix: http://www.pain-topix.com/patient_resources/index.php

Pain Management supplement to *P & T Digest*: http://www.ptcommunity.com/ptdigest/0512_PTD_pain/PTD_pain_PT.pdf

Carbamazepine in *American Family Physician*: <http://www.aafp.org/afp/20060501/c1>

Osteoarthritis Pain CE: <http://www.medscape.com/viewprogram/5329?src=mp>

Neuropathic Pain in Older Patients CE: http://www.womenshealth.gov/HealthPro/eduandasso/Clinical_Courier_16.pdf

Pain Assessment in Older adults: http://www.uspharmacist.com/index.asp?show=article&page=8_1735.htm

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