

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 5, No. 1

BEGINNING OUR 5th YEAR!

January 2006

In this issue:

In the News	Page 1	Journal Watch	Page 1
Department of Error	Page 1	Patient Resources	Page 2
Safety Note	Page 1	Pain Education on the Web	Page 2
Pain in Children	Page 1	Pain Resources on the Web	Page 2
Pain and Art	Page 1	MGH Pain Calendar	Page 2

In the News

- The MGH Medication, Education, Safety, & Approval Committee ([MESAC](#)) has launched its intranet site. It already has essential resources on it, with plans to make it the one-stop-shopping destination for all your drug information needs.
- [Genetics plays a role in the side effects experienced by people taking painkillers.](#)
- The National Quality Forum (NQF) has published a set of [seven evidence-based treatment practices](#) it found effective in treating substance-use disorders
- The Massachusetts Pain Initiative has published its [Winter Bulletin](#).
- The FDA has approved a new anesthetic patch, [Synera](#), for topical use on intact skin.
- Discussions have cropped up about the effect of a recent Supreme Court decision on the ability of pain physicians to prescribe adequate amounts of controlled substances to treat severe pain. Here's an [article](#) from the *Washington Post*.

Department of Error

[Fatal injection into wrong port of an implanted intrathecal pump.](#)

Safety Note

- Increased [hepatotoxicity](#) has been noted in patients with pre-existing liver disease taking Cymbalta (duloxetine) for major depressive disorder or peripheral diabetic neuropathy.
- More on [acetaminophen hepatotoxicity](#)—this time in children.
- The COX-2 Story: [Is Any Drug Completely “Safe?”](#)

Pain in Children

- [“Why Children’s Pain Matters”](#)—International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP)
- [Pediatric Pain and Palliative Care Monograph](#)—World Health Organization (WHO)
- Free chapter (PDF) on [Pediatric Pain Control](#) in the *Oxford Textbook of Palliative Medicine*, 3rd Ed.(2005).

Pain and Art

[Art Therapy Can Reduce Pain and Anxiety In Cancer Patients.](#)

Journal Watch

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

- Paice J, et al. Creating Organizational Change Through the Pain Resource Nurse Program. *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety* [M] Jan 2006;32(1):24-31 (See also Pain Relief Champions course, p.2)
- Kornitzer BS, et al. Prevalence of meperidine use in older surgical patients. *Archives of Surgery* 2006 Jan;141(1):76-81.

MGH Cares About Pain Relief

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

- Wirth JH, et al. [Use of Herbal Therapies to Relieve Pain: A Review of Efficacy and Adverse Effects](#). *Pain Management Nursing* 2005;6(4):145-167. Free full text available on Medscape [O], [R].
- Shaw SM. [Nursing and supporting patients with chronic pain](#). *Nursing Standard* [O] Jan 18 2006;20(19):60-65.
- Molina PE. Opioids and opiates: analgesia with cardiovascular, haemodynamic and immune implications in critical illness. *Journal of Internal Medicine* [M] Feb 2005; 259(2):1365-2796.
- Young J, et al. [Use of a Behavioural Pain Scale to assess pain in ventilated, unconscious and/or sedated patients](#). *Intensive and Critical Care Nursing* 2006 Feb;22(1):32-9.

Patient Resources

[“What is Pain?”](#)—NBC News story featuring MGH’s Anne Louise Oaklander. (Text & video).

Pain Education on the web

[Virtual sessions](#) from the ONS 6th Annual Institutes of Learning (Nov 2005) are now available with nursing contact hours.

Pain Resources on the Web

The full text of Fine P, Portenoy RK (2004). [Opioid analgesia](#). New York: McGraw Hill, is available free.

MGH Pain Calendar

- Feb 1 (Weds) 8:00am - 11:30am [Opioid Safety](#). CNE, CME. Half-day course, Thier Conference Room.
- Feb 9 (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, Yawkey, 8th floor. Sponsored by HOPES Program.
- Mar 13 (Mon) 2nd [Annual Pain Skills and Knowledge Day](#), Thier Conference Room. Stay tuned.
- Mar 20 & 22 (Mon/Weds) 2-day 7th [Annual Pain Relief Champions course](#). CNE, CME. Thier Conference Room.
- [Chronic Pain Rounds are held Mondays at 12:00N in the Clinics 3 amphitheatre.](#)
 - Feb 6: [Spinal Drug Delivery for Chronic Pain](#); Shihab Ahmed, M.D
- [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

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

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:

Genetics & response to analgesics: http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2006-01/aga-gpa010406.php

Treating substance misuse: <http://www.drugtopics.com/drugtopics/article/articleDetail.jsp?id=279830>

MassPI: <http://www.masspaininitiative.org/> Winter bulletin: <http://www.masspaininitiative.org/Winter%2006%20Bulletin.pdf>

Synera package insert: <http://www.fda.gov/cder/foi/label/2005/021623lbl.pdf>

Washington Post: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/01/21/AR2006012100969_pf.html

Fatal injection: <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/520845?src=mp> [R]

Cymbalta hepatotoxicity: <http://www.fda.gov/medwatch/safety/2005/cymbalta-pi.pdf>

Acetaminophen hepatotoxicity in children: <http://webmm.ahrq.gov/case.aspx?caseID=115>

Safe drug? <http://www2.us.elsevierhealth.com/inst/serve?action=searchDB&searchDBfor=art&artType=fullfree&id=as0016508505024066>

Pediatric Pain Control: <http://www4.oup.co.uk/pdf/medicine/otpm3chapter9-1.pdf>

Pain & herbal therapies: <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/519761?src=mp>

Nursing patients w/chronic pain: <http://www.nursing-standard.co.uk/archives/ns/vol20-19/pdfs/v20n19p6065.pdf>

What is pain? <http://msnbc.msn.com/id/10696210/>

ONS Virtual Sessions: <http://app2.capitalreach.com/esp1204/servlet/tc?c=10170&cn=ons&e=4901&s=20306&&spl=2>

Opioid Analgesia: <http://www.stoppain.org/pcd/content/forpros/opioidbook.asp>

Opioid safety: http://www.massgeneral.org/painrelief/opioid_safety.htm

Pain Skills & Knowledge Day: http://www.massgeneral.org/painrelief/skills_knowledge_day.htm

Pain Relief Champions course: http://www.massgeneral.org/painrelief/Pn_Rlf_Champ_course/Pn_Relf_Champ.htm

MGH Cares About Pain Relief

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