

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 this issue:

In the News	1	Pain Education on the Web	2
Journal Watch	1	Pain Related Educational Opportunities	2
Pain Resources on the Web	1	MGH Pain Calendar	2
		Reader Comments	2

In the News

- The FDA issued a [Public Health Advisory](#) “Combined Use of 5-Hydroxytryptamine Receptor Agonists (Triptans), SSRIs or SNRIs May Result in Life-threatening Serotonin Syndrome”
- The American Liver Foundation issued a [Warning](#) recommending people not exceed 3 grams of acetaminophen a day for prolonged periods (equivalent of six ‘extra-strength’ tablets a day for several weeks) after [a study by Watkins](#) “Aminotransferase Elevations in Healthy Adults Receiving 4 Grams of Acetaminophen Daily: A Randomized Controlled Trial” was published in the July 5th *JAMA* (p.87-03).
- *Voices of Chronic Pain*, a new patient survey by American Pain Foundation, reveals the devastating impact of chronic pain on the lives of patients and their desire for more pain management options. Read the Survey [Fact Sheet](#) and the [Full Report](#).
- Paul Arnstein, who has recently taken Tom Quinn’s position as Project Director for MGH Cares about Pain Relief, has been selected as one of the 2006 Mayday Fellows. This fellowship provides leaders in the pain management field with tools and skills to advocate on behalf of better treatment for pain

Journal Watch

- Six articles are included in the Special Topic Series ‘Management of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome’ in the June issue of *Clinical Journal of Pain* including an [Introduction](#) and articles on: [Diagnosis](#), [Functional management](#), [Pharmacological management](#), [Psychological and behavior aspects](#), [Interventional therapies](#), and [Management of pediatric patients](#).
- [Amabile CM](#) Overview of Oral Modified-Release Opioid Products for the Management of Chronic Pain (CE) (July/August). *Ann Pharmacother*. 2006 Jul 25.
- [Franneby U](#) et al. Risk Factors for Long-term Pain After Hernia Surgery. *Ann Surg*. 2006 Aug;244(2):212-219.
- [Kidd, Bruce](#) Osteoarthritis and joint pain (Review article) *Pain* 123 (1-2): 6-9 (July 2006).
- [Larochette AC](#) et al. Genuine, suppressed and faked facial expressions of pain in children. *Pain*. 2006 Jul 20.
- [Mularski RA](#) et al. Measuring Pain as the 5th Vital Sign Does Not Improve Quality of Pain Management *Journal of General Internal Medicine* 2006 21(6): 607-12.
- [Newton-John TR](#) Chronic pain couples: Perceived marital interactions and pain behaviours *Pain* 2006 July 123(1-2): 53-63.

Pain Resources on the Web

- [Perils of Pain](#): Updated evidence on effective pain management in patients in methadone maintenance treatment programs. Sponsored by AT Forum.
- Thomas E. Quinn, previous editor of this newsletter, provides a new Pain Topics article entitled “[Pain Assessment in the Difficult-to-Assess Patient](#)” sent as a separate attachment to this month’s newsletter. Check this and other Pain Topic summaries at http://www.massgeneral.org/painrelief/Newsletter/mghpain_connection.htm.

MGH Cares About Pain Relief

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To be added to or removed from the *Pain Relief Connection* mailing list, send an email to cpaul2@partners.org

- List of [Professional Journals on Pain](#)

Pain Education on the web

[CME-Physicians; CNE-Nurses; CPE-Pharmacists; CSE-Psychologist; R-free registration required]

- [Pain](#) : Current Understanding of Assessment, Management and Treatments, a CE program sponsored by American Pain Society, provides 4 hrs of CE credit by mailing/faxing answer sheet [CME, CNE, CPE, CSE]
- [Symptom Management at End-of-Life: Pain Module](#), Nursing CE sponsored by StopPain.org, 2.4 CE hr. [CNE]
- [Scope of Breakthrough Pain in Clinical Practice](#) sponsored by Medscape [CME, CNE, CPE]

Pain-Related Education Opportunities

- Sep 7-10 (Thu-Sun) [Annual Clinical Meeting of the American Academy of Pain Management](#) Orlando
- Oct 7 (Sat) [Pain Management for Non-Pain Specialist](#) HMS CME CE

MGH Pain Calendar

- Sep 13&15 (Wed & Fri - 2 day course) "Care of the Patient at the End of Life" To register: 617-726-3111 [CNE]
- *Cancer and Chronic Pain Rounds will alternate meeting on Monday 12noon - 1pm in the Cox 8 Conference Room starting in the fall. The Pain Rounds for this month:*
 - Aug 7 "Opioid Management of Chronic Pain" - Jane Ballantyne, MD, Chief, Division of Pain Medicine
 - Aug 14 "Pain System Overview-Taxonomy of Pain" Gary Brenner, MD, MGH Pain Center
 - Aug 21 "Psychological Assessment Issues in Chronic Pain" Ronald Kulich, PhD, MGH Pain Center
- *Palliative Care Grand Rounds are held Wednesdays at 8:00am in the Ether Dome*

Reader Comments

- **If you have any suggestions for content, please let me know:**
 - Do you want more of one particular type of information (news, FDA alerts, articles, clinical trials, CE, etc)
 - Do you use the url links at the end of the newsletter?
 - Would you like more summary information about each news item or article?
 - Are there specific topics that you would like covered?
 - Or, should it stay the same?
- **Contact me with your comments:** cpaul2@partners.org or 617.724.2784.

MGH Pain Resources:

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

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

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/>

Do you miss the list of url links to this months entries? Let me know and I will continue to include them.

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