

Report following the Board meeting of the Faculty of Pain Medicine held on September 4, 2014

The FPM Board met at the Blue Mountains, NSW on September 4, 2014

Professor Deborah Schofield, Chair of Health Economics, NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre, University of Sydney, and Painaustralia Board Member, met with the Board. The Board had been particularly keen to meet Professor Schofield, not only because of their great interest in her work, but also because of her role in Painaustralia, in which the Faculty has a major association.

Professor Schofield presented an overview of *The Economics of Pain* to the Board.

Honours, appointments and awards

Professor George Mendelson FRANZCP, FPPMANZCA, was awarded IASP Honorary Membership by the IASP Council for significant contributions in the fields of pain medicine, psychiatry, and the law (especially in compensation for chronic pain).

2014 FPM Board meeting date

Board deadline for papers

Monday 27 October

Board meeting dates

Monday 10 November (teleconference)

2015 FPM Board meeting dates have been confirmed:

12pm Wednesday January 28

12pm Friday April 10

12pm 10 April (the line above is also April 10)

12pm Wednesday July 8

12pm Friday September 11

Monday February 16

Thursday April 30 (Adelaide)

Sunday May 3 (NEW Board Adelaide)

Monday July 27

Thursday October 1 (New Zealand)

Build Fellowship and the Faculty

Corporate affairs

Annual subscriptions update: Fellows should be mindful of changes to FPM's *Regulation 10: Annual subscription*. The changes apply for all applications for concessions received after September 19, 2014. FPM Fellows should also be aware that subscriptions are now due within one calendar year. Therefore, those FPM Fellows with outstanding subscription fees for 2013 and 2014 should kindly pay them by December 31, 2014. This revised regulation can be viewed on the [FPM website](#).

ANZCA/FPM Delegations Working Group: The Board accepted the draft ANZCA *Regulation 40 – Faculty of Pain Medicine*. This document was subsequently accepted by ANZCA Council on September 19.

Policy on recognition of current and past FPM Board members: An updated document was accepted. It is available on the [FPM website](#).

Assessor

New Fellows: The following are to be congratulated on their admission to FPM Fellowship by –

Training and examination:

Dr Coran Lang, FANZCA	Victoria
Dr Emily Ching-Ying Yeoh, FANZCA	New South Wales
Dr Mee-Yee Tang, FANZCA (Malaysia)	Malaysia
Dr Kui-Hung Njo, FANZCA	Hong Kong

Summative assessment:

Dr Kwai Tung Chan, FAFRM	Australian Capital Territory
Dr Frederick Lips, FANZCA	New South Wales
Dr Keith Laubscher FANZCA	New Zealand
Dr Tai-Tak Wan FAFRM (RACP)	New South Wales

Training unit accreditation: The Nepean Hospital Pain Management Unit and Liverpool Hospital Pain Medicine Unit have been reaccredited.

Accreditation of the Singapore General Hospital Pain Management Unit and Fiona Stanley Hospital (formerly Fremantle Hospital) Pain Management Unit has unfortunately had to be suspended.

Dr Marc Russo was appointed to the FPM Training Unit Accreditation Panel of Reviewers.

Resources

2014 budget: The Faculty remained in a positive position against budget at the end of July.

Faculty office: The Faculty office has now relocated to Level 2 of ANZCA House.

Build the curriculum and knowledge

Education

Supervisor of Training ratification: Dr Chin-wern Chan FANZCA, FFPMANZCA (WA) was appointed supervisor of training at the Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital.

Dr Michael Cooper FANZCA, FFPMANZCA (NSW) was appointed the supervisor of training at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

Curriculum Redesign Project: The Curriculum Redesign Project (CRP) continues to make good progress. The 2015 curriculum was launched at the Spring Meeting, Blue Mountains NSW on September 6.

Updated documents can be viewed on the website. These include the following: the 2015 curriculum; a revised version of the overview document; the transition arrangements of vocational trainees from the current curriculum to the new curriculum (this is for trainees who have not fulfilled their fellowship requirements by the end of this year); and the schedule of activities for next year.

Work continues on the FPM Training Handbook that will be completed by the end of October. Refinement of the by-laws is underway as well. Following the SoT workshop in June, the workplace-based assessment

processes are being finalised by the Assessment Working Group. The first “Foundations of Pain Medicine” MCQ examination will take place on November 7, which is the same day as the 2014 exam written paper. Development of the e-learning resources for the “Essential Topic Areas” (ETAs) has commenced with prototype development of two ETAs. Development of the ETAs will continue into 2015.

The development of the “Practice Development Stage” and the “Optional Topic Areas” is continuing with refinement of these concepts.

The Board has acknowledged the “Curriculum Redesign Project Steering Group” for their great efforts undertaken in the development of this program.

The Board has approved the concept that the first year of the revised training program be called the transition year.

FPM Better Pain Management Education Program: “Better Pain Management” is an engaging interactive online education program developed by the FPM. It has been designed for specialist and general medical practitioners, and for medical students, nurses and allied health practitioners engaged in the care of patients with persistent pain. The program will soon be available on the new ANZCA Learning and Collaboration Management System (LCMS).

Development of a further six highly recommended and preferred topic modules has commenced, aided by the generosity of an unencumbered educational grant from Pfizer Australia.

The Board paid tribute to the “Online Pain Management Education Program Steering Group” for their excellent work carried out on this initiative.

Continuing Professional Development: The CPD committee has generated potential topics for consideration as category 3 (emergency response) activities. Currently, non-interventional FPM Fellows are excluded from category 3 activities. The aim is to develop more suitable modules so that all Fellows can undertake category 3 activities.

Scientific Meetings:

2015 Refresher Course Day and ASM – May 1 and May 2-5 May, Adelaide

Professor Irene Tracey (UK) and Dr David Lussier (Canada) are confirmed as the FPM ASM Visitor and the FPM South Australian Visitor, respectively.

New Fellows Conference 2015: Associate Professor Andrew Zacest has been confirmed as the Board Representative to the 2015 New Fellows Conference in Adelaide from 29 April to 1 May 2015.

2015 Spring Meeting – October 2-4, Queenstown NZ

Convenor: Dr Duncan Wood

2016 Refresher Course Day and ASM – April 29 and April 30 – May 4, Auckland

Professor Anthony Dickenson (UK) has been confirmed as the 2016 FPM ASM Visitor.

Research

Electronic Persistent Pain Outcomes Collaboration (ePPOC): This initiative continues to progress well. VicPPOP, the Victorian outcome project has been run across three centres (Caulfield/Melbourne Health/Ballarat).

It is currently being evaluated. Data collection is expected to finish around December 2014. The project made use of a larger set of data. This included a functional measure, detailed medication analysis in addition to the normal measures used in ePPOC. The results will be presented when available.

The Faculty will be represented at November meetings of the Management Advisory Group and Scientific and Clinical Advisory Committee by Dr Chris Hayes and Associate Professor Carolyn Arnold, respectively.

Outcomes for the first six months of 2014 have been made available to participating centres, and the benchmarking report is in progress. It is too early at present to determine the change of clinical outcomes for individual patients. The need for ethics approval through local ethics committee has not been necessary up to this point.

The Faculty has written to the Australian Federal Minister for Health regarding the possibility of a mixed Commonwealth/State funding model to support ePPOC going forward, and an encouraging response has been received. This business case remains under consideration.

Acute Pain Management Scientific Evidence 4th Edition: The APM: SE4 working group continues to make good progress with this initiative. The Board salutes the efforts of Professor Stephan Schug and his hard-working and dedicated team.

It is anticipated that the publication will be launched at the 2015 ASM in Adelaide.

Pain Device Implant Registry: Following a tender process, Monash has been selected as the university partner to progress this initiative. Seed funding, in the form of an unrestricted grant, has been generously provided by Medtronic to allow the project to progress in its early stages. Additional funding from other pain device companies is now being sought.

Build advocacy and access

Professional

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) – FPM involvement in steering subcommittee and resources: Dr Chris Hayes is representing the Faculty on an expert panel that will work with the ACSQHC to develop national standards for pain management in collaboration with PainAustralia and other stakeholders. A Steering Committee has been formed. Working groups are being established to address each of four standards:

- Acute Pain Management
- Opioid prescribing
- Falls Risk
- Wound Management

All working groups have until the end of October to provide an initial proposal for recommendations to be made to the ACSQHC.

Submissions:

The Faculty made the following submissions:

- Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee – Proposed listing on the PBS of non-tamper-resistant generic modified-release oxycodone
- Workcover WA: Review of the Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981 – Final Report – Part 4 Medical Assessment.
- Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra: Funding arrangements for the electronic Persistent Pain Outcomes Collaboration (ePPOC).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Shipton', is positioned above the typed name.

Professor Edward (Ted) Shipton
Dean

September 27, 2014