

Report following the October Board meeting of the Faculty of Pain Medicine

The FPM Board met in Queenstown, New Zealand on October 1, 2015 and welcomed ANZCA President, Dr Genevieve Goulding and new ANZCA CEO, Mr John Ilott.

Dr Ruth Anderson, Acting Director, Health Workforce New Zealand (HWNZ) also met with the Board. The Board welcomed the opportunity to start a dialogue between HWNZ and the Faculty. In particular, topics discussed included strategic issues for HWNZ, assistance by the Faculty to HWNZ, and most importantly, advice from HWNZ to the Faculty on how to establish more pain training positions in New Zealand in this new but vital speciality.

2016 FPM Board meeting dates have been confirmed:

Board deadline for papers

Wednesday February 3
Friday April 8
Friday April 8
Wednesday July 6
Monday August 29
October 28

Board meeting dates

Monday February 22
Thursday April 28 (Auckland)
Monday May 2 New Board (Auckland)
Monday July 25
Thursday September 15 (Adelaide)
Monday November 14 (Teleconference)

Build Fellowship and the Faculty

Corporate affairs

ANZCA Regulations 27, 28 and 29: The Faculty is contributing to a current review of these regulations which will be made relevant to specialist pain medicine physicians in addition to anaesthetists.

Assessor

New Fellows: The following are to be congratulated on their admission to FPM Fellowship by training and examination:

Dr Mark M Alcock, FANZCA	Vic
Dr Alison Kearsley, FRCA	WA
Dr Jeffrey F Mott, FANZCA	Qld
Dr James J Olson, FRCA, FANZCA	NZ
Dr Mir Wais Sekandarzad, FANZCA	Qld
Dr Scott A Smith, FANZCA	Qld

Amendment to Fellowship certificate: The Board approved the amendment to the FPM Fellowship Certificate to include only the signatures of the Dean and the CEO in alignment with ANZCA's Fellowship Certificate that includes only the signatures of the President and CEO.

Training unit accreditation: Following a successful review, Flinders Medical Centre in South Australia has been accredited for pain medicine. The following hospitals have been reaccredited for pain medicine training: Kowloon East Cluster Pain Medicine Centre; Royal Melbourne Hospital; Royal Hobart Hospital; Royal Perth Hospital; Princess Alexandra Hospital; Nepean Hospital; Hunter Pain Clinic; and the Singapore General Hospital. The number of accredited pain units now stands at 34.

Resources

2015 Budget: The Faculty remained in a favourable position against budget at the end of the third quarter.

2015 Business Plan: The Faculty has made good progress against key initiatives in the third quarter against the business plan. This included the satisfactory conclusion of the Curriculum Redesign Project at the end of July, the expansion of the Better Pain Management (BPM) program by a further six modules (expected to be completed in November), and a process established for individual user access to BPM through the Networks platform. The release of the opioid calculator app should be imminent. Acute Pain Management Scientific Evidence 4th Edition has further progressed and should be ready for public consultation by the end of October. The Advanced Clinical Skills Course has been successfully delivered. Many positive comments have been received from attendees of the recent Faculty Spring Meeting.

2016 Budget and Business Plan: Development of the 2016 FPM budget and business plan remained a focus of activity in August and September. These were both considered at the October Board meeting.

Build the curriculum and knowledge

Education

Supervisor of Training ratification: Dr Cameron Gourlay FANZCA, FPPMANZCA (Tas) was appointed supervisor of training at the Royal Hobart Hospital.

Examination Committee: The second round of long cases for 2015 was successfully organised with support from the regional staff. Thirty-four candidates attended over the examinations that were held over five locations. Twenty-seven candidates were successful, giving a pass rate of 79%.

2015 examination dates: The written examination will be held across FPM regional and national offices on November 13. The clinical examination will be held at the Pullman Albert Park in Melbourne on November 28. The Foundations of Pain Medicine Examination will be held across FPM regional and national offices on November 13.

The closing date for both examinations was September 30.

Learning and Development Committee: The transitional Learning and Development Committee was formed in August and has assumed responsibility for ongoing support and evaluation of the training program.

A number of activities have been recently completed. These include a successful Advanced Clinical Skills Course on July 25 and 26, support documentation for the practice development stage (PDS), and development of eLearning resources for all essential topic areas (ETAs) within the Curriculum Release 2 Project. Eight ETAs have now been developed on Networks. The final ETA for 2015 will be delivered in October, in accordance with the core training stage timeline.

Implementation of the FPM Curriculum Evaluation Strategy 2015-2017 is ongoing. Positive feedback about the training program was attained from trainees at the Advanced Clinical Skills Course. Specific feedback on the ETA eLearning resources will be sought following delivery of the final ETA. A review of the Foundations of Pain Medicine resources has begun with completion in October.

FPM Better Pain Management Education Program: A webpage has now been established through which external users can register, and access the program (<http://www.fpm.anzca.edu.au/resources/better-pain-management>). Broad marketing to external organisations will follow finalisation of the additional six modules that are on track for completion in November.

Opioid equi-analgesic dose calculator: Development of the FPM Opioid Calculator App has continued. Submission of the App to Apple and Google is imminent. A webpage, offering the same functionality, and with links to the App is close to completion.

Continuing Professional Development

Scientific Meetings:

2015 Spring Meeting – October 2-4, Queenstown NZ

A successful FPM Spring Meeting with the theme "Adventures in pain" was held from October 2-4 at the Heritage Conference Centre in Queenstown, New Zealand. The meeting attracted 99 delegates registered and good healthcare industry support. The meeting featured international speaker Prof Beth Winkelstein (USA) who presented on mechanisms of persistent neck pain as well as on the biomechanics of neck injury in whiplash. The meeting also featured many Australasian speakers presenting on a range of topics. These ranged from trauma, pain management in challenging environments (including on the battlefield and during natural disasters), platelet rich plasma therapy, how to manage pain during competition and the application of compassion in medical practice.

There are four media releases arising from the Spring Meeting that can be accessed using this link: <http://www.fpm.anzca.edu.au/communications/media>

Research

Electronic Persistent Pain Outcomes Collaboration (ePPOC): Progress continues with this initiative. The latest benchmarking report has been circulated to participating sites for patients active during the January 1 to June 30, 2015 period. The first ePPOC national report has been released. It describes patients presenting to adult pain management services in Australia.

A two-day workshop was held from September 17-18 with around 50 participants from pain services and stakeholder organisations. Key topics discussed comprised timing of follow up of data points and size of 'minimal' data set.

Roll-out of this initiative continues to expand with two other services recently joining in Queensland. This takes the number of participating sites to 50.

Acute Pain Management Scientific Evidence 4th Edition: The APM: SE4 working group continues to make significant progress with this initiative. It aims for electronic publication before the end of 2015, following public consultation that is planned for the end of October. A written version would follow once endorsements have been received from national and international organizations. The current aim is to

make a printed version available at the ANZCA ASM 2016 in Auckland. Sixty-one contributions are currently in their final stage.

Build advocacy and access

Professional

Position statement - Health of people seeking asylum: In support of universal access to safe affordable surgery and anaesthesia with adequate pain relief, the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, Faculty of Pain Medicine, Australian Society of Anaesthetists and New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists have issued the following [position statement](#).

MOU between FPM and MCNZ: The Board approved the memorandum of understanding between the Medical Council of New Zealand (MCNZ) and the Faculty of Pain Medicine of ANZCA as a MCNZ Vocational Education Advisory Body (VEAB) to the MCNZ.



Professor Edward (Ted) Shipton
Dean

October 12, 2015