

## Report following the September meeting of the Faculty of Pain Medicine Board

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**The Faculty of Pain Medicine Board met at the Adelaide Hills, Hahndorf, South Australia on September 15, 2016** and welcomed the ANZCA President, Professor David A Scott and the ANZCA CEO, Mr John Illott, to the meeting.

Dr Bruce Rounsefell, Chair of the FPM South Australian Regional Committee, attended. The Board welcomed the opportunity for dialogue with regard to strengthening pain services in South Australia.

### **2016 FPM Board meeting date:**

Monday November 14 (teleconference)

### **2017 FPM Board meeting dates:**

Monday, February 13

Thursday, May 11

Monday, July 10

Thursday, September 21

Monday October 30

## **Honours, appointments and awards**

**FPM recognised internationally:** The Faculty of Pain Medicine, ANZCA has been selected as the 2017 recipient of the American Academy of Pain Medicine's (AAPM) Robert G. Addison, MD Award. This award is *given to an individual or organisation in recognition of outstanding efforts to foster international cooperation and collaboration on behalf of the specialty of pain medicine.* The Academy recognizes only a few recipients for their outstanding contributions to the field of pain medicine each year. A Faculty representative has been invited to attend the AAPM Annual Meeting in March 2017 in Orlando, Florida for presentation of the award.

## Build Fellowship and the Faculty

### **Corporate affairs**

**2016 Business Plan:** The Faculty has made good progress against key initiatives in the third quarter against the business plan.

**2017 Budget and Business Plan:** Development of the 2017 FPM budget and business plan remained a focus of activity in August and September. Both will be considered at the November Board meeting.

**Strategic Planning 2018-2022:** The board discussed a preliminary outline for development of the FPM strategic plan for 2018-2022.

**Election of the Board:** In 2016 ANZCA amended the constitution to allow ballots for Council to be undertaken electronically.

The opportunity exists for the Faculty to utilise this technology in 2017. To achieve this the Board agreed to minor amendments to by-law 1.3 *Election of the Board*

**New Council regulation covering elections:** The board supported the introduction of a new regulation to govern the conduct of elections for Council and Faculty Board; the regulation to include requirement for candidates to declare and disclose certain information in relation to their professional conduct.

**Enhancing efficiency and communication within the Faculty's structure:** The board approved the formation of an FPM Professional Affairs Executive Committee (PAEC) that would support professional standards, scientific meetings and research and innovation committees.

**FPM committee changes:** With the formation of the Professional Affairs Executive Committee, the board approved the following committee changes:

- The Continuing Professional Development Committee to be replaced with a Professional Standards Committee and a Scientific Meetings Committee both reporting to the Professional Affairs Executive Committee.
- The Research Committee to be replaced by the Research and Innovation Committee reporting to the Professional Affairs Executive Committee.
- The board resolved to dissolve the current Mentoring subcommittee to be replaced with a Mentoring Program Officer role which sits on the Professional Standards Committee.

**FPM By-laws:** With the committee restructure and development of terms of reference for all Faculty committees, the board agreed to amend/withdraw the following by-laws:

- By-law 1 *The Board of the Faculty*
  - By-law 1.5.7 has been revised – Officers of the Board will hold office for two years. Each is eligible for re-election.
  - By-laws 1.5.3 and 1.5.4 have been withdrawn.
- By-law 2 *Committees and Functions of the Board* has been revised
  - By-laws 2.2.4, 2.2.5, 2.2.6 and 2.3.4 have been withdrawn.
- By-law 7 *Scientific Meetings of the Faculty*
  - By-law 7.1 has been withdrawn - Scientific Meetings of the Faculty will be held at such times and places as the Board may from time to time by resolution direct.

**IMGS revision project:** The board approved the revised ANZCA Regulation 23: *Recognition as a Specialist in Anaesthesia or Pain medicine; and Admission to Fellowship by Assessment for Specialist International Medical Graduates (SIMGs)* for implementation on April 4, 2017. This revised regulation encompasses both pain medicine and anaesthesia SIMG processes and FPM by-law 16 will be withdrawn on that date.

### Assessor

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

Dr Shaun Clarke, FANZCA	NSW
Dr Noam B Winter, FANZCA	Vic
Dr Willem VOLSCHENK, FANZCA	ACT

**Election to FPM fellowship:** Dr John Alchin, FAFOM (RACP), FPPMANZCA (NZ) was admitted to fellowship of the Faculty of Pain Medicine by election.

**Training Unit and Accreditation:** The number of accredited pain units now stands at 33.

**Specialist Training Program (STP):** The Australian government has extended STP funding, and Training More Specialist Doctors in Tasmania (TMSDT) funding for 2017 academic year. The Integrated Rural Training Pipeline (IRTP) is a new initiative by the Australian Government which focuses on rural and regional training. The Health Minister has approved the allocation to the Faculty of Pain Medicine of three Specialist Training Program posts under the IRTP in pain medicine.”

## Build the curriculum and knowledge

### Education

**2016 examination:** Registrations have now closed for the written exam to be held across FPM regional and national offices on Friday November 4 and the clinical exam to be held at the Australian Medical Council's National Test Centre in Melbourne on Saturday November 26.

### **Long-case assessment**

Congratulations to those trainees who passed the long-case assessment held in September. Twenty-one out of thirty-one candidates were successful. Thank you to the local convenors for coordinating these successfully.

**Appointment of new FPM Examiners:** The board agreed to amend the requirement for FPM Fellows seeking appointment as Faculty Examiners. FPM Fellows seeking appointment as Faculty Examiners will now be required to have held fellowship for a minimum period of 3 years instead of the current 5 years.

**Learning and Development Committee:** The ongoing support and evaluation of the training program continues to be carried out by the Learning and Development Committee.

A successful half-day Supervisors of Training (SoT) Workshop was held at the Adelaide Hills, Hahndorf on September 15 in conjunction with the FPM Spring Meeting and was chaired by Dr Paul Gray, the FPM Supervisor of Supervisors of Training. The workshop focussed on collating feedback from SoTs around the revised training program, website navigation for the SoT resources, and dissection of the In-Training Assessment (ITA) form. Thank you to Dr Meredith Craigie and Dr Newman Harris for facilitating the Q&A session on the curriculum and examinations. Continuing support for supervisors of training with contributions from Learning and Development Committee members is planned for the next half-day SoT Workshop on May 11 in Brisbane.

Implementation of the FPM Curriculum Evaluation Strategy 2015-17 remains ongoing with support from the ANZCA Education unit.

**FPM Better Pain Management education program:** Progress with this initiative continues. Modules 7-12 are now published in Networks and an e-commerce solution is being advanced to enhance external user access.

**Opioid equi-analgesic dose calculator:** The FPM opioid calculator website development is now complete and the website is operational. The opioid App usage continues to grow with over 87,000 sessions, almost 13,000 unique users and over 1200 had used the application.

## **Continuing professional development**

### ***Scientific Meetings:***

#### **2016 Spring Meeting – September 16-18, Adelaide Hills, Hahndorf SA**

A successful FPM Spring Meeting with the theme "*Managing pain in the workplace*" was held from September 16-18 at the Adelaide Hills Convention Centre in Hahndorf. The meeting attracted 105 delegates and good healthcare industry support. The meeting featured international speaker Dr Gary Franklin (USA) who presented on opioids and work injury and outcomes of spinal surgery in the workers' compensation setting. The meeting also featured many Australasian speakers presenting on a range of topics. The meeting examined the complex issues accompanying pain management and rehabilitation in an occupational injury setting and focused on topics such as back and upper limb pain in the workplace, mental health and work, and medical marijuana.

Several media releases arising from the Spring Meeting can be accessed using this link:

<http://fpm.anzca.edu.au/front-page-news/fpm-spring-meeting-a-hit-with-media>

**2016 Graduate Outcomes Survey:** The first FPM Graduate Outcomes Survey was a great opportunity for the Faculty to start collecting information from Fellows to enhance services and develop new initiatives. Fellows within three years of Fellowship were invited to complete the online survey between June 6 and July 3. The survey included an optional section focused on bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment (BDSH). The response rate for FPM was very positive with 62 per cent of new Fellows completing the survey and 94 per cent of those completing the BDSH section.

The survey results have been compiled and identify key findings in the areas of attitudes towards training, working conditions and hours, confidence in the future as well as bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment. An action plan will be developed to address areas where there is opportunity to improve outcomes or services.

### **Research**

**Electronic Persistent Pain Outcomes Collaboration (ePPOC):** Progress continues with this initiative. There are now 50 adult and 8 paediatric services across Australia and NZ which are either collecting data or in the process of implementing ePPOC. Two successful and well attended workshops were held in Sydney and Melbourne recently where nine draft benchmarks were presented covering the domains of pain severity, pain interference, depression, anxiety, stress, pain catastrophising and self-efficacy and opioid use. There was agreement on all except opioid use. The 8 agreed benchmarks will be put to the Management Advisory Group for endorsement at their next meeting. NSW Health has committed to fund ePPOC for another three years and lobbying for a joint Commonwealth/State funding proposal is ongoing.

## **Build advocacy and access**

### **Professional**

**Development of FPM position statement on interventional treatments:** At the February Board meeting it was agreed to develop a Faculty position statement regarding the role of interventional treatments in the practice of pain medicine. Several strategic goals relevant to the Board will be addressed by the promulgation of this statement, including:

- Advice for trainees to guide training choices.
- Delineation of the role of outside organizations and industry in training
- Articulation of FPM position in relation to SPMPs as the preferred craft group to provide these procedures in a sociopsychobiomedical context
- Setting the scene for possible development of FPM curriculum in the area

A Procedures Working Group has been formed to progress development of a draft position statement. Engagement of interested Fellows will subsequently be sought through a call for expressions of interest.

**Notified Fellows' publications:**

- Dr Chris Hayes, FFPMANZCA and Associate Professor Carolyn Arnold, FFPMANZCA have been associated with the following publication:
  - *Establishment of the Australasian Electronic Persistent Pain Outcomes Collaboration* Hilarie Tardif, PhD, Carolyn Arnold, FFPMANZCA, Chris Hayes, FFPMANZCA, M Med (PMgt), and Kathy Eagar, PhD  
Pain Medicine 2016; doi: 10.1093/pm/pnw201  
<http://painmedicine.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/pnw201?ijkey=0GnrvZ08DJUWM6z&keytype=ref>
- Professor Edward A Shipton, FANZCA, FFPMANZCA
  - Shipton EA. Progress towards our Strategic Goals  
Pain Medicine 2016; 17: 1599–1601; doi: 10.1093/pm/pnw128
  - Shipton E. Post-traumatic stress disorder and its interrelationship between crush injury and pain. In C.R. Martin CR, Preedy Vr, Patel VB, editors. Comprehensive guide to post-traumatic stress disorders. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing, 2016. pp. 1176-1192.
  - MacLachlan C, Shipton EA, Wells JE. [The cold pressor test as a predictor of prolonged postoperative pain, a prospective cohort study](#). Pain Ther. 2016;Sep 20 [Epub ahead of print]
  - Pons T, Shipton EA. Physiotherapy and the management of complex regional pain syndrome. Pain Manag. 2016;Sep 19 [Epub ahead of print]



**Dr Chris Hayes**  
**Dean, Faculty of Pain Medicine**

**October 10, 2016**