

## Report following the May 2018 meeting of the Faculty of Pain Medicine Board

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### **The FPM Board met on Saturday, May 5 and the New Board met on Wednesday, May 9 at the International Convention Centre, Sydney, NSW.**

Dr Karen Mizia, Deputy Chair of the NSW Regional Committee of The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) met with the Board. The Board welcomed the opportunity for dialogue regarding opportunities for potential collaboration in managing the broad range of pelvic pain conditions and FPM pain medicine educational offerings of interest for obstetricians and gynaecologists.

**FPM Board meeting dates for 2018:** Monday July 9, Thursday October 18, and Monday November 26.

**Honours, appointments and awards:** Dr Michael Nicholas FPMANZCA was congratulated on being awarded the Distinguished Member Award from the Australian Pain Society.

**Board election:** A record number of fellows cast their vote in the Board election for 2018 using the introduced online voting tool. Within the first 24 hours, 86 fellows had cast their vote. The change of process ensures that no votes are invalid. In all 165 of 429 eligible fellows voted (8% higher than any previous election).

**New Board composition:** Dr Michael Vagg (Vic) was elected as Vice-Dean. Dr Meredith Craigie (SA), Dr Kieran Davis (NZ) and Dr Melissa Viney (Vic) were re-elected to the FPM Board. Dr Susan Lord (NSW) was congratulated on her election to the Board.

The following office bearers were elected:

Dean	Dr Meredith Craigie
Vice-Dean	Dr Michael Vagg
Assessor	Dr Dilip Kapur
Assistant Assessor	Associate Professor Paul Gray
Chair, Examinations Committee	Dr Eric Visser
Chair, Learning and Development Committee	Dr Aston Wan
Chair, Professional Affairs Executive Committee	Dr Michael Vagg
Chair, Professional Standards Committee	Dr Melissa Viney
Chair, Research and Innovation Committee	Dr Chris Hayes
Chair, Scientific Meetings Committee	Dr Jennifer Stevens
Chair, Training and Assessment Executive Committee	Dr Kieran Davis
Chair, Training Unit Accreditation Committee	Dr Kieran Davis
Senior Editor <i>Pain Medicine Journal</i>	Professor Milton Cohen

### **Executive Committee:**

Dean	Dr Meredith Craigie
Vice-Dean	Dr Michael Vagg
Chair, Training and Assessment Executive Committee	Dr Kieran Davis
FPM General Manager	Ms Helen Morris

ANZCA Council has confirmed that Dr Vanessa Beavis FANZCA (NZ) is the nominated ANZCA representative to the Faculty Board.

A full list of committee members and appointments to ANZCA committees, external committees and organisations will be confirmed and published on the FPM website.

**Consultation on FPM Board restructuring:** The FPM was established by the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists in 1998 pursuant to the ANZCA Constitution, and is governed by [ANZCA Regulation 40](#) (2014). The faculty's structure as a multidisciplinary faculty incorporating representation from other medical disciplines was and remains an "important and innovative advance" in pain medicine.

Following the launch of the 2015 curriculum and training program, the Faculty commenced a review of its operations and committee structures to enable the faculty to be a more responsive and professional organisation. In addition, the Faculty recognised the increasingly diverse primary disciplines of faculty fellows through the revision of bylaw 3.1.3. It is appropriate therefore that the FPM [Board's structure and membership](#), unchanged since the faculty was established twenty years ago, should be reviewed.

The Board recognises that any restructure may have serious implications. There are a range of options, including no change. Consultation with the fellowship began at the 2018 Annual General Meeting. On the basis of the feedback, the Board agreed to develop a discussion paper which will be available on the website for a period of consultation with fellows, trainees and other stakeholder groups.

## Sustainable workforce and wellbeing

**Workforce advocacy – New Zealand health economics data:** The Accident Compensation Corporation, NZ is currently considering the consultancy request for access to data and the Ministry of Health has made positive indications that they will make available pharmaceutical data. Both data sources will enable greater precision in the estimated cost burden of chronic pain. Other factors contribute, including disability adjusted life years and the consultancy are doing further work on that parameter.

**New Fellows:** The faculty congratulates the following doctors on their admission to FPM fellowship by completion of the training program:

- Alette Bader, FRACGP, FFPMANZCA (Qld)
- Dr Alireza Feizerfan, FRCA, FANZCA, FFPMANZCA (WA)
- Dr Gunjeet Minhas, FAFRM(RACP), FFPMANZCA, (Qld)
- Dr Alan Nazha, FANZCA, FFPMANZCA (NSW)
- Michelle Ann O'Brien, FANZCA, FFPMANZCA (Qld)
- John Alexander Prickett, FANZCA, FFPMANZCA (NSW)
- Jane Catherine Standen, FANZCA FFPMANZCA (NSW)
- Sonya Ting, FANZCA, FFPMANZCA (WA)

**Honorary Fellowship:** The Board awarded Professor Fiona Blyth, AM, Honorary Fellowship of the Faculty of Pain Medicine. This was presented at the College Ceremony in Sydney.

## Leadership and advocacy

**FPM Consultative Forum:** The FPM consultative forum “*Opioids and chronic pain – continuing the conversation*” will be convened on Saturday June 16, 2018 at ANZCA House. This consultative forum on opioids and chronic pain aims to bring together key stakeholders from the fellowship, other key medical disciplines, the consumer voice, policy makers, and regulators to help guide FPM activity in this topical space.

Registration is [now open](#). The [forum program](#) will include presentations from a number of bodies and specialty areas and will include group discussions around barriers to change and innovative solutions.

**Position Statement PM10:** The Faculty Board endorsed a revised PM10 *Statement on “medicinal cannabis” with particular reference to its use in the management of patients with chronic non-cancer pain* following the release of the TGA guidance documents. This will soon be available for comment during a consultation phase. A plain speak document is to be developed for consumers and opportunities for research collaborations will be explored.

**FPM policy on the development and review of professional documents:** The faculty is in the process of developing a policy on the development and review of professional documents. The draft document is under review ahead of approval by Board.

### Notified Fellows’ Publications:

- Professor Edward A Shipton FANZCA, FPPMANZCA  
*A Review of the Opioid Epidemic: What Do We Do About It?* - **EA Shipton**, EE Shipton, AJ Shipton <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs40122-018-0096-7>  
Published in Pain and Therapy – April 6, 2018

## Research and quality improvement

**Better Pain Management:** Discussions continue with the TGA and Deakin and Adelaide Medical Schools who have expressed an interest in making the modules available to members/medical students. Two Facebook campaigns are currently underway. One targeting CPD approved organisations (ACRRM, Osteopathy Australia and RACS) and the second targeting the broader allied health and medical professional groups. The Better Pain Management website [www.betterpainmanagement.com.au](http://www.betterpainmanagement.com.au).

**Choosing Wisely:** The five [FPM Choosing Wisely recommendations](#) were launched on February 14. This was accompanied by a joint [NPS/FPM media release](#).

**Slow Release Opioids Statement:** The joint [ANZCA/FPM “Statement on the use of slow-release opioid preparations in the treatment of acute pain”](#) was published in the March edition of the *ANZCA Bulletin* and published on the [website](#). The college wrote to 34 of Australia's and New Zealand's leading medical colleges and associations including the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and the Australian Medical Association as part of an opioid information campaign. A [joint ANZCA/FPM media release](#) was circulated a week after launch.

**Electronic Persistent Pain Outcomes Collaboration (ePPOC):** The Management Advisory Group (MAG) and the Scientific and Clinical Advisory Committee (SCAC) have combined to form a Clinical and Management

Advisory Committee (CMAC). CMAC will be co-chaired by the previous chairs of MAG (Dr Chris Hayes, FPM representative) and SCAC (Professor Kathy Eagar, University of Wollongong).

ePPOC currently has data on over 50,000 episodes (adults). Collection of follow up data continues to improve – 42% of ended episodes have a completed outcome questionnaire. Several sites with a major procedural focus are now participating in ePPOC. Trials are underway for pain programs delivered in the community by PHNs in WA and NSW.

## Education and training

**Long-case assessment:** The first sitting of the long case assessment for 2018 was held during April in five centres. Of the 27 candidates who sat, 18 were successful; a pass rate of 67 percent. Thank you to the local convenors for coordinating these successfully and to the examiners and long case assessors for their contribution.

**Development of FPM educational opportunities:** The Procedures Working Group has met to consider the recommendations of the consultancy firm, the Curio Group and to plan the next steps. Good progress is being made with the Terms of Reference approved and a draft Position Statement underway.

**Supervisors of Training ratification:** Dr Joseph Kluver FRACGP, FFPMANZCA Princess Alexandra Hospital, Pain Management Unit, Qld and Dr Timothy Brake, FANZCA, FFPMANZCA of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, NSW were appointed FPM Supervisors of Training.

**Supervisor, Supervisors of Training (SSoT) title change:** The Board approved the title change of the SSoT to **Supervisors of Training Adviser (SoT Adviser)**.

**Appointment of SOT Adviser:** The Board has appointed Dr Charlotte Johnstone FANZCA, FFPMANZCA (WA) as the FPM SoT Adviser and Dr Andrew Huang FANZCA, FFPMANZCA (Vic) as Deputy SoT Adviser.

### Scientific meetings:

**2018 FPM Refresher Course Day & ASM – May 6 & May 7-11:** The Faculty's Refresher Course Day and annual scientific meeting (ASM) programs were a tremendous success and a tribute to the hard work of Dr Jennifer Stevens, FPM ASM Scientific Convenor and Refresher Course Day Convenor.

The Refresher Course Day attracted 224 delegates and received strong support from the healthcare industry with our major sponsor Seqirus and three exhibitors present. The program, *"Pain: The dark side of the mind"*, explored the darkness that can be experienced living with pain, brain damage, emotional and physical aspects of pain and anxiety beyond the confines of the hospital. Also covered were implications of prescribing pain medication and challenges of pain in the elderly population.

Following the academic session was the dinner at The Establishment Ballroom, which included an inspirational after dinner talk by Catherine Keenan, founder and Executive Director of The Sydney Story Factory.

### Prizes:

The Dean's Prize at the FPM Annual General Meeting was awarded to Dr Luke Arthur (SA) for his paper titled *"Erythromelalgia in children: Presentation, genotype, and treatment response"*.

The FPM Best Free Paper was awarded to Dr Daniel Chang (NZ) for his paper titled *"The prevalence and risk factors associated with persistent pain after breast cancer treatment"*.

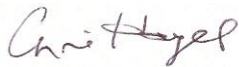
**Renaming of Refresher Course Day:** The current name 'Refresher Course Day' was considered by the Board and it was felt that it does not adequately capture the high quality of the meeting.

The Board approved the change of title for the Refresher Course Day to **Annual Pain Medicine Symposium (APMS)**.

**2018 Spring Meeting:** The Spring Meeting theme is confirmed as "Looking north, looking up at pain" and will be held from October 19-21 at the Pullman Cairns International. At the Faculty's invitation, The Hong Kong Board of Pain has nominated three representative to the Organising Committee and they have been engaged in program planning. The Dinner will take place at the Salt House restaurant with the guest speaker Mr Michael Eather, Director Fireworks Gallery.

**Submissions:**

- TGA target consultation on options for the regulation of strong (S8) prescription opioid medicines: ANZCA/FPM submission to the TGA dated March 1, 2018.
- Misuse of Drugs (Medicinal Cannabis) Amendment Bill  
ANZCA/FPM submission to the Health Select Committee on the Misuse of Drugs (Medicinal Cannabis and other matters) Amendment Bill.
- MBS Review Taskforce  
FPM submission to Pain Management Clinical Committee of the Medicare Benefits Schedule Review dated April 24, 2018.



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

May 5, 2018