

Issue 47

September 2011

### In this issue \_

[Relationships Portfolio](#)

[Regional News](#)

[Fellowship Affairs](#)

[New Fellows Conference](#)

[Trainee Affairs](#)

[Education](#)

[Professional](#)

[Continuing Education](#)

[Faculty Events](#)

[External Events](#)

[Resources](#)

[ANZCA Library](#)

[Communications](#)

### Links:

[FPM](#)

[ANZCA](#)

[RACP](#)

[RACS](#)

[RANZCP](#)

[AFRM](#)

[APS](#)

[NZPS](#)

## FPM

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## FACULTY BOARD

### Board Meetings

The Faculty Board met on 22nd August in Melbourne and welcomed Professor Stephan Schug as the co-opted WA representative. A strategy workshop is being planned in conjunction with the February Board meeting and will be facilitated by Mr Jonathan Schauder of the Change Agent Network.

Please [click here](#) for a full report from the Board Meetings.

The last Board meeting for 2011 will be held on 21 November.

## RELATIONSHIPS PORTFOLIO

### Appointment of new ANZCA CEO

Ms Linda Sorrell has been appointed as the ANZCA CEO commencing 19 September 2011. To read the media release [click here](#).

### Bupa Health Foundation Submission for GP Education

Development of this initiative is progressing well with the first meetings of the Steering Committee, Curriculum Development Committee (CDC) and Technology/Adaptation Committee (TAC) occurring on 12 August in Melbourne. The CDC comprises of 3 FPM representatives and 6 GP representatives, two of whom are also Faculty Fellows. The focus of this group is to seek opinion and agree upon the top 10 topics for consideration. This will finally be narrowed down to six topics for development in GP on-line program format. The aim is to prepare primary care practitioners to better deal with the burden of pain. Opportunities will be explored in the future to develop and modify this initiative to reach other groups.

These groups will next meet on 14 October at ANZCA House.

### Royal Australian College of Surgeons Pain Management Section

The Pain Management Section of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons has been officially recognised by RACS Council, and Terms of Reference for that section have been established. Nominations are now being sought for those interested in pain and an Executive is to be convened shortly. Liaison between the FPM and the Section will also be established at an administrative level and reports will be exchanged regularly.

### National Pain Strategy

Medicare locals are now being formed, the first 15 commenced in July with others to follow in January and July 2012, to a total of 62. Painaustralia is working to ensure that Pain is represented by both clinicians and consumers where possible in these reforms.

A Consumer Reference Group has been formed to ensure that Painaustralia consults with and involves consumer groups in the development of policies, priorities and actions. Painaustralia commenced circulation of a Newsletter in June 2011.

Painaustralia has developed the Painaustralia Newsletter with the aim of keeping members informed of developments in implementing the National Pain Strategy and to alert them to events and activities. Please [click here](#) to read the latest news.

### Occupational Health and Safety

New OH&S laws will be effective from 1 January 2012. The new laws have expanded definitions for employers and employees (now workers) to include a broader range, including volunteers. The College is planning a communications campaign on this issue to raise awareness of responsibilities under the new laws.

## Regional News

## Queensland

The Persistent Pain Health Services strategy in Queensland Health has progressed and is being developed by the Queensland Statewide Persistent Pain Steering Committee, Chaired by Prof Julia Fleming. See the full Board Report for further details.

## New South Wales

The new NSW Minister for Health and Medical Research, Jillian Skinner, has set up a Taskforce to report on an appropriate model of care for chronic pain in NSW by September 30. The Taskforce has asked the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation Pain Network for recommendations by 1 September. Included in the submission will be a request for funding toward the National Pain Outcome Initiative.

## South Australia

The interim committee last met on 30 May to discuss a range of local and general issues including barriers to training in pain medicine, communications with Fellows and other bodies and plans for regional education. The next meeting is planned for 31 October. An election is planned for early in 2012.

## Victoria

Victorian Fellows have agreed in principle to form a Regional Committee and plans are now underway to form a committee and convene a CME evening on 14 December 2011.

### Chronic Pain Services in Victoria Receive a Funding Boost

Victoria's Department of Health commissioned a review of the provision of chronic pain management services in Victoria. The review was undertaken by Aspex consulting, whose final report was produced in late 2009. The report outlines a number of recommendations to further strengthen the model of care, consolidate funding streams and improve access particularly in rural and regional areas. The Department has been actively working with health services to implement a number of the recommendations.

In the 2011/12 financial year the department has again increased funding for chronic pain management clinics in Victoria which are now part of Subacute Ambulatory Care Services (SACS), this time by \$2.35M per annum. The increase in recurrent funding will be allocated with the aim to reduce waiting lists, improve access and strengthen models of care at the ten existing service. It will also allow five new services to commence in metropolitan and regional areas. Over the last two years there has also been a consolidation of a variety of funding streams and now the chronic pain services will all be within the SACS framework with a unified funding mechanism and minimum dataset reporting. Recently commenced quarterly chronic pain clinic coordinator forums will facilitate networking and communication among service providers and enhance communication between service providers and the Department.

## Inaugural ANZCA Media Award

Media in Australia and New Zealand have been invited to participate in the inaugural ANZCA Media Award. A prize of \$5000 will be awarded for the best news story or feature about anaesthesia or pain medicine that appears in print, on radio, on television or online in 2011. Entries will be judged on their originality and the impact they may have had in giving the community a better understanding of anaesthesia or pain medicine. For more information, [click here](#).



## FELLOWSHIP AFFAIRS

### New Admissions

Congratulations to the following trainees who have completed their requirements and have been admitted to Fellowship since the last Synapse:

#### By examination

Dr Frank Thomas, FANZCA (Qld)  
Dr Nicholas Christelis, FANZCA (Vic)

This takes the total number of admissions to 308.

## New Fellows' Conference 2012

### 'Team Leadership'

Date: 9th – 11th May 2012

Venue: Seashells Caves House, Yallingup, WA

Applications are invited from Faculty Fellows in all training Regions for selection to attend the 2012 New Fellows Conferences in Yallingup, Western Australia. To be eligible, Fellows must be within eight years from Fellowship and attending the 2012 Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM). Selection of Faculty representatives will be undertaken by the Faculty of Pain Medicine. We encourage eligible Fellows to apply by the closing date of 4 November 2011.

[Click here](#) to view the call for applications.

## TRAINEE AFFAIRS

### Training Unit Accreditation

#### Accreditations

Following successful reviews, St Vincent's Hospital Sydney, Prince of Wales Hospital and Singapore General Hospital were re-accredited for pain medicine training.

#### Review of PM2

A sub-committee of the Training Unit Accreditation Committee is progressing a proposal to significantly revise Faculty Professional Document PM2, Guidelines for Units Offering Training in Multidisciplinary Pain Medicine to include recognition of Tier 2 hospitals. For more information see the full Board Report.

## Education

#### Blueprinting

The Faculty's part time medical educator is moving forward with this initiative, distilling some important key roles of the specialist pain medicine physician similar to the CanMEDS framework. A working group meeting is planned in conjunction with the November Board meeting.

#### Undergraduate Prize

A number of Medical Schools have accepted the invitation to participate and the prize is now being implemented. The Faculty has not been prescriptive in how they select the prize winners. It is anticipated that the number of Medical Schools participating will continue to grow.

#### Examination dates

25 - 27 November 2011 (Friday - Sunday)

The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Brisbane QLD

Closing Date for Registration: 7 October 2011

Eighteen examiners have been reappointed for a further 3-year period.

#### FPM Pre-Examination Short Course

23-25 September 2011

ANZCA Queensland Regional Office

West End Corporate Park, River Tower, 20 Pidgeon Close, West End, QLD 4101

Convenors: Dr Richard Pendleton and Dr Frank Thomas

**Closing Date for Registration: 9 September 2011**

The program has been developed and circulates to eligible trainees. If you have not yet

received this information and wish to register please contact Penny McNair [pmcnair@anzca.edu.au](mailto:pmcnair@anzca.edu.au) at during office hours

### Video Podcasting

The Faculty of Pain Medicine, in conjunction with the College's Education Development Unit is pleased to announce the introduction of educational video podcasts for FPM trainees and Fellows. The Faculty's first ever video podcast, presented by Professor Spencer Liu from New York, USA is now available for FPM trainees and Fellows to either download or stream directly from the FPM website.



Dr Meredith Craigie, Chair of the FPM Examination Committee, has also created an FPM Examination and Case Report podcast especially tailored towards trainees.

Although the podcasts have been tailored to suit FPM specialists, the material presented may also be of interest to the wider ANZCA community.

To view this podcast as find out more information about soon to be published podcasts, please visit the e-Learning Resources section of the [FPM Website](#).

Podcasts coming soon:

Prof You Wan - *Treating acute pain: the wrath of peripheral firings*

## Professional

### Quality and Safety

#### **The National Inpatient Medication and Adult Deterioration Detection System Charts: Notes of Caution**

Pamela E Macintyre, Jane J Trinca, James B Sartain, Stephan A Schug, David A Scott

The National Inpatient Medication Chart (NIMC) and the Adult Deterioration Detection System (ADDS) Chart have both been developed under the umbrella of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) with the aim of improving patient safety.

However, we believe that caution is needed when prescribing and titrating prn opioids for the management of acute pain and therefore in the use of these charts.

Please [click here](#) to read the full article.

#### **New Zealand application for specialty recognition**

The Stage Two application was submitted to the MCNZ on the 29 June 2011. There are three further steps to occur before vocational scope recognition is confirmed by MCNZ.

- Panel members have recently been appointed by the MCNZ Education Committee based on nominations from branches related to our scope of practice. The panel will assess the application documentation and prepare a report for presentation to the Education committee.
- The Education Committee will meet in November and will make a recommendation to Council and we will be advised of the outcome
- If Council approves the application they will publish by notice in the New Zealand Gazette the new scope of practice and its qualification(s).

#### **Continuing Professional Development**

ANZCA - and thus the Faculty - now has a Mandatory Compliance Policy for CPD. This policy states, "Fellows of FPM need to demonstrate compliance with the CPD program of the Australian Medical Council or Medical Council of New Zealand approved college

of their primary specialty and/or the ANZCA CPD program in order to receive ANZCA CPD certification.”

The previous issue of Synapse included an article addressing registration as a Specialist Pain Medicine Physician, maintenance of that registration through continuing professional development (CPD) and the question of “parity” with other physicians. Please [click here](#) to read the full article – 'PROFESSIONAL NOTES FOR 'SPECIALIST PAIN MEDICINE PHYSICIANS'.

#### **Medicare Locals- Implications for Community Pain Services**

The Australian Government's primary health care reform is now underway with the launch on 1 July of 19 Medicare Locals – the first of a total of 62 to be formed nationally. The reforms are designed to make it easier for patients to access the services they need, by better linking GPs, nursing and other health professionals, aged care and eventually hospitals within local communities. The advent of Medicare Locals provides opportunities to improve management of pain at a local level.

To view the remainder of the article, [click here](#).

#### **Medicare Telehealth Advisory Group**

Telehealth was introduced on 1 July 2011, enabling patients located in general practices, eligible residential aged care facilities and Aboriginal Medical Services and other facilities to 'see' specialists without the time and expense involved in travelling to major cities. This presents a good opportunity for the practice of pain medicine. It is only in support of video-consultations, not telephone alone. The Faculty will have representation at the fourth Advisory Group meeting, scheduled for 25 August.

#### **Acute Pain Management: Scientific Evidence 4th Edition**

Professor Stephan Schug has accepted the role of Chair of the Working Party for the development of the 4th edition, due for publication in 2015.

#### **National Pharmaceutical Drug Misuse Strategy**

The Faculty's submission on this strategy had been compiled out of consultation and other individuals had been encouraged to respond. An outcome is imminent. The Faculty will also have representation at the Expert Reference Group meeting on 5 September in Melbourne.

#### **Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) Opioid Stakeholders Meeting**

A Faculty submission regarding PBS-subsidised opioids was sent in early May. The outcome of the July PBAC meeting at which this issue was to be discussed is awaited.

#### **Pain Device Implant Register**

Initial enquiries have been made with the Data Management and Analysis Centre (DMAC) at the University of Adelaide with respect to the possible establishment of a pain device implant register with a focus on implants and their performance. DMAC are the team responsible for running the Australian Orthopaedic Association National Joint Replacement Registry. The Faculty supported further development of this project.

#### **Australasian Guidelines for Neuromodulation in chronic Pain**

The Faculty of Pain Medicine has recently published Professional Document PM9 (2011): (Spinal Cord Stimulation) in the Management of Patients with Chronic Pain addressing the difficult and controversial issue of spinal cord stimulation (SCS) in the management of patients with chronic pain. “Difficult” because neuromodulation not only requires much clinical acumen and technical expertise but also is invasive, very expensive and labour-intensive. “Controversial” because evidence of efficacy is difficult to generate, as controlled studies very difficult to perform. The Faculty document is based on a review article authored by eight Fellows: Leigh Atkinson, Raj Sundaraj, Charles Brooker, James O'Callaghan, Peter Teddy, John Salmon, Tim Semple and Max Majedi [Review: Recommendations for patient selection in spinal cord stimulation. J Clinical Neuroscience 2011; 18: 1295 - 1302]. The literature identifies three broad categories of indications for SCS, by likelihood of response. Conditions likely to

respond include “failed back surgical syndrome”, refractory angina pectoris, complex regional pain syndrome, and neuropathic pain secondary to peripheral nerve damage. Conditions that rarely respond include pain associated with spinal cord damage, central pain of non-spinal cord origin, spinal cord injury with clinically complete loss of posterior column function, and perineal or anorectal pain. In the grey area of possible response are pain associated with peripheral vascular disease, brachial plexopathy, axial pain following surgery and intercostal neuralgia such as post-thoracotomy. Apart from the skill of the implanting team, selection of subjects is the key to success. The Professional Document and the Review summarise indications and contraindications for SCS, provide guidance on selection and timing for referral, and discuss the benefits and complications associated with the procedure.

To view PM9 [click here](#).

#### **Recommendations for patient selection in spinal cord stimulation**

An article by Faculty Fellows R L Atkinson, R Sundaraj, C Brooker, J O’Callaghan, P Teddy, J Salmon, T Semple and M Majedi has been published in the Journal of Clinical Neuroscience. To view the article please contact the [Library](#).

#### **Pharmac Analgesic Subcommittee**

The Board noted that NZNC nominations, Dr Kieran Davis and Dr Christopher Jephcott, have been appointed by the Board of PHARMAC to the Analgesic Subcommittee of PTAC for a 3 year term, ending 31 July 2014.

#### **Re-activation of Australia New Zealand Therapeutic Products Agency (ANZTPA) announced**

The Prime Ministers of New Zealand and Australia recently agreed to the phased establishment of a joint Australia-New Zealand Therapeutic Products Agency (ANZTPA). ANZTPA will progressively establish common regulatory arrangements for therapeutic goods and a single trans-Tasman entry point for business.

The new agency will regulate medicines, medical devices and new medical interventions. A single regulatory framework will provide health benefits for consumers, reduced regulatory costs for industry and greater efficiency for governments. Please [click here](#) for the more information.

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE**

The Faculty is keen to expand its database of potential speakers for future Faculty meetings (Refresher Course Day, ASM and Spring Meetings). Recognising that Fellows attend many local and international conferences, readers are encouraged to [email](#) the Faculty with their suggestions.

### **Faculty Events**

#### **ASM Questionnaire**

A questionnaire regarding the ASM will be emailed to all Fellows shortly. The Faculty would greatly appreciate it if Fellows could take a moment to complete and return the questionnaire to Ms Penny McNair- Training and Events at [pmcnair@anzca.edu.au](mailto:pmcnair@anzca.edu.au).

#### **2011 Spring Meeting**

‘An exploration of the Pain/Musculoskeletal Polemic – Policies, Procedures and Pragmatics’  
28 – 30 October 2011 Canberra

**Dr Geoff Speldewinde**  
**Convenor**



For further information, please contact:  
Ms Kirsty O’Connor  
Conference Secretariat

Tel: +61 3 518 5318  
Fax: +61 3 9510 6786  
Email: [kocconnor@anzca.edu.au](mailto:kocconnor@anzca.edu.au)

The 2011 FPM Spring Meeting Registration brochure can be downloaded from:  
<http://www.fpm.anzca.edu.au/events/2011-spring-meeting>

### **2012 Spring Meeting**

It has been confirmed that the 2012 Faculty of Pain Medicine Spring Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Coolum Resort, Sunshine Coast from the 28 – 30 September. The joint RACGP/FPM online GP educational program in pain management, currently in development with funding from the Bupa Foundation, will be launched at this meeting.

### **2013 ASM Melbourne**

Professor Edzard Ernst (UK) was confirmed as the FPM ASM Visitor and Professor Fabrizio Benedetti (Turin) as the FPM Melbourne Visitor for 2013.

### **FPM QRC CME Evening**

The molecular basis of chronic inflammatory pain  
Date: Tuesday 18th October 2011  
Venue: Faculty of Pain Medicine Queensland Offices  
West End Corporate Park, River Tower  
20 Pidgeon Close West End

6.30pm – Dinner

7.00pm - CME Presentation by Professor Joe Lynch -Queensland Brain Institute The University of Queensland

### **ANZCA Research Grants**

Grant applications for 2012 are now closed. The FPM Research Committee would like Fellows to note that the last date for 2013 grant applications is April 1st 2012. For further information please visit <http://www.anzca.edu.au/fellows/Research/anzca-research-information.html>

## **External Events**

*Inclusion is for information only and does not imply Faculty endorsement*

### **Launch of new ANZCA website 11 September , 2011**

The new ANZCA and FPM websites went live on 11 September and include updated features and events, and more user-friendly navigation options. Initially there may be some broken links, but FPM Staff are working through the website to rectify any issues.

Visit the new-look FPM website at [www.fpm.anzca.edu.au](http://www.fpm.anzca.edu.au)

### **ACHS Education Workshop in Melbourne, October 2011**

Details of all ACHS workshops are available online at:  
<http://www.achs.org.au/EduCalendarmonth/>

Thursday 6 October, (am or pm session): ' EQuIP5: Understanding Criterion 1.5.7: Nutrition'.

These half-day workshops, presented by Ros Pearson, ACHS Survey Coordinator, are designed to help you understand how to apply the new nutrition criterion 1.5.7. The workshop will cover issues around: Understanding the intent and elements of the new EQuIP5 nutrition criterion 1.5.7, awareness of the type of evidence required for self-assessment under this criterion and knowing what the surveyors will be looking for when surveying 1.5.7. The target audience is that of Clinicians (Medical, Nursing, Allied Health), Quality & Risk / Safety Managers, Directors of Nursing, Nursing Administrators.

[Click here](#) to visit the ACHS website. e-learning is also available for ACHS Members.

For more information on any of these workshops or other education enquires please contact [educate@achs.org.au](mailto:educate@achs.org.au)

#### **ANZCA ACT Regional Committee**

On the 12th of November the ACT Regional Committee will be holding a one day workshop on the management of acute cardiovascular conditions relevant to anaesthesia. Particular topics which will be covered include the management of intra and post-operative dysrhythmia, cardiac pacing, implantable cardioverter-defibrillators, and the management of intra and post-operative ischaemia. The meeting will be held at The Canberra Hospital and will feature both lectures and practical hand-on simulation sessions. The content is aimed at both Fellows and trainees, with limited places available. Further information, including how to register will be available on the ACT website shortly.

#### **Anatomy for Anaesthetists**

Date: Saturday 26 November 2011

Venue: The University of Sydney

The NSW Anaesthetic Continuing Education Committee is pleased to present another full day of Anatomy Demonstrations using specimens especially dissected for anatomy relevant to nerve blocks.

Please [click here](#) for further information

#### **AFRM (RACP) 2012 ASM**

Innovations in NeuroRehabilitation

Date: 16-19 May 2012

Venue: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

Please [click here](#) for further information

#### **RACS 2012 Congress**

Date: 6-10 May, 2012

Venue: Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia

Please [click here](#) for further information

#### **RANZCP 2012 CONGRESS**

Cells, Circuits and Syndromes

ate: 20 to 24 May 2012

Venue: Hobart, Tasmania

Please [click here](#) for further information

#### **Australian Pain Society 32nd Annual Scientific Meeting: Integrated Perspectives of Pain- People, Policies, Science, Education**

Date: 1 - 4 April 2012.

Venue: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

Please [click here](#) for further information



#### **IASP World Congress 2012**

14th World Congress on Pain

Date: 27-31 August 2012

Venue: Milano Convention Centre, Milan

Please [click here](#) for further information

## **[RESOURCES](#)**



*Inclusion is for information only and does not imply endorsement.*

### **Pain in America: A Blueprint for Transforming Prevention, Care, Education, and Research**

Relieving Pain in America report.

To view the full report, go to this link [http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record\\_id=13172&page=1](http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=13172&page=1)

### **Australian Pain Management Research Review**

To view the latest issue of the Australian Pain Management Research Review, [click here](#). Selection and review of the trials is carried out by Dr David Gronow, Director of both the Sydney Pain management Centre and Multidisciplinary Pain Services at Westmead Hospital. The Review also provides website links to the abstract or fully published papers.

## **ANZCA Library- New Journals for 2011**

### **Pain Management Interventions for Hip Fracture**

Pain following hip fracture has been associated with delirium, depression, sleep disturbance, and decreased response to interventions for other disease states. Therefore, it is important to treat and manage complaints of pain adequately during acute treatment for hip fracture. Furthermore, poorly managed postoperative pain is associated with delayed ambulation, pulmonary complications, and delayed transition to lower levels of care. <http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productid=676>

Contact the [Library](#) to search for other books on pain [here](#) (College ID required).

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **Positions vacant**

#### **Queensland**

Registrar (Advance Trainee) In Pain Medicine 2012- Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

#### **South Australia**

Fellow in Pain Management Royal Adelaide Hospital 2012- (Full Time)

#### **Overseas**

Consultant Physician in Pediatric Pain Medicine, Palliative Care and Integrative Medicine- Childrens Hospital and Clinics of Minnesota, USA. For further information contact [Claudine Lagier](#) at the Faculty.

For further information please visit the website at: [http://www.fpm.anzca.edu.au/fellows/positions-available/positions-available/.](http://www.fpm.anzca.edu.au/fellows/positions-available/positions-available/)

## **Staff appointments**

### **Administrator- Accreditation and Communications**

The Faculty of Pain Medicine is pleased to welcome Claudine Lagier to the staff in the role of Administrator Accreditation and Communications. Claudine has a Bachelor of Arts in Contemporary European Studies and a Graduate Diploma of Education (Primary) and recently spent time living and teaching in London. She previously worked in administration at La Trobe University's Bundoora campus in International Admissions. Claudine will provide administrative support to the Faculty's Training Unit Accreditation Committee and its review activities, respond to trainee enquiries, maintain the FPM membership database, and provide support to Penny McNair and Jennah Collins in the organisation of events and coordination of Faculty communications. Please make her feel welcome.

### **Medical Educator**

We are delighted to welcome Ann Maree Bullard to the Faculty Staff in the role of Medical Educator. Ann Maree will be focusing on progressing the Faculty's curriculum blueprinting project which is a strategic priority of the Board in the lead up to the AMC accreditation review in 2012.

Ann Maree will work on a 0.2FTE basis and initial plans are that she will be in the office on Mondays. Please make her feel welcome.

### **Further College News**

Please [click here to view the ANZCA e-newsletter](#)

### **Synapse**

We look forward to receiving your contributions which should be directed to Claudine Lagier at the Faculty Office: [clagier@anzca.edu.au](mailto:clagier@anzca.edu.au).

The Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM) is the professional medical body in Australia and New Zealand that conducts the education, training, and continuing professional development of pain medicine specialists.

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