



## ► Editor's Note

### Partnerships in Pain – Change to the way we “do” business?

There is an imminent change to the way that tertiary pain medicine units are to be funded. Malcolm Hogg, in his president's report highlights some of concerns of activity based funding (ABF). The understanding of this revision of funding models may in some cases be a “game changer”, whilst for some pain medicine units it may be “life as usual”. However, taking the time to understand the environment within which business managers and hospital executives “live” is likely to enable clearer communication, and in the long run, maintenance of multidisciplinary pain services which are key for many people with persistent pain.

Notwithstanding, that a significant proportion of pain services are provided by health care professionals who are primarily in private practice in the community as part of “virtual multidisciplinary teams”, which are largely funded directly by the patients or their carer's, or third party payers (workers compensation, motor vehicle insurance).

On-line web-based resources are also enabling people with pain to access evidence-informed information and facilitate “system navigation”, connecting consumers with pain services. A snapshot of some of the difficulties that arise for peo-

ple with pain is also being captured by consumer led websites. It maybe that the “stories” captured in this way evoke more reality for decision makers who by necessity are divorced from the “front line” than research and data on health-economics and patient outcomes in area's where the ABF model doesn't currently reflect the multidisciplinary pain model.

The following words are from such a consumer website, the writer was a mother of a 10 year old girl with 2 months of significant back pain:

“I can't find the words to describe my distress about the inadequacy of resources available to children suffering with chronic pain at Hospital X. While Hospital X seems equipped to deal with the acute pain accompanying injury and subsequent rehabilitation, it is my experience that they are ill-equipped to deal with children dealing with complex chronic pain. I thank my stars that I can privately access many of the services supposedly offered at Hospital X. Your website will help me connect with some of those services. Thank you. “. In addition the mother commented: “I would like it to be made clear that I have found, without exception, all the health

professionals we have seen to be lovely, competent and genuine in their attempts to help my daughter. What is upsetting is the lack of resources at Hospital X for treating children like my daughter.”

Will Howard (warming himself in sunny Canada – not), in April's editorial, reported on Dr Montanaro, the president of the SA AMA, who spoke on South Australia's failure to make headway in equitable access to pain services. The 7.30 report then captured the perspective of a consumer with pelvic pain.

It maybe that the consumer and carer's voice provides “ground zero” reality for policy makers to provide context in the ABF environment. Importantly, inclusion of good news stories of multidisciplinary model may well support information being provided by health care providers and researchers.

Regards,

**Stephanie Davies**

Newsletter Co-Editor

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT JULY 2014



**By Dr Malcolm Hogg**

At our Hobart ASM, the society board introduced discipline specific forums to promote stronger communication with our membership and gather feedback regarding issues facing

different disciplines. We thank members for their participation and have begun digesting the input we received.

A recurring theme of concern, which prompted a swift response, was your concern about "activity based funding" (ABF) for public hospitals and its pending implementation. We sought some further information and wrote of our society's concerns to the relevant administrator, with this letter attached for your consideration. The complexity of the pricing structure and range of organisations involved, their coding manuals and pricing calculations is impressive, and worthy of the significant bureaucratic input which this topic is receiving at federal, state and territory level!

Essentially, the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) is overseeing

the establishment of a funding formula for hospital activity, including general inpatient, critical care, emergency department and outpatient clinic activity. It is the latter that is most relevant to outpatient pain management services.

This activity, referred to as [Non Admitted Patient \(NAP\) activity is to be coded based on NHDCDC \(National Hospital Cost Data Collection\) - Tier 2 Outpatient Clinic Definitions V2.0.](#)

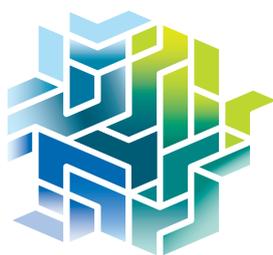
The pain management clinic code (class 20.03) sources NSW and Queensland data collection manuals from 2011, with "usual provider" not listing pain medicine physician.

Similarly, the allied health activity is listed in single disciplines under the class 40 grouping, without recognising the multi and interdisciplinary roles of allied health clinicians in pain management. Multi-disciplinary assessments and group activity is not clearly identified, with suggestion that only one client service event can be claimed for multidisciplinary assessments or prolonged activity, although group activity appears to be coded as multiple single client events. In addition, the education and research activity of many multidisciplinary pain

services is not well recognised in this service delivery funding model, although some "block funding" arrangements for hospitals may have a role in contributing to the health of a pain service.

The innovation in clinical service delivery models demonstrated by pain management services in Australia over recent years is to be commended and partly reflects historical difficulties in our development (and funding) as a clinical discipline. The society's approach is to engage the relevant authorities so as to contribute to the refinement of ABF regulations to better reflect our improving models of care delivery, rather than changing our practice to fit outdated classifications. We have received a positive response to concerns raised, such that we are hopeful of contributing to the establishment of appropriate classifications of multidisciplinary pain units for the July 2015 coding systems. I encourage you to consider similar feedback to decision makers and engagement at your local level where relevant.

2015 Australian Pain Society 35th Annual Scientific Meeting



## Managing Pain: from Mechanism to Policy



15 - 18 MARCH 2015 | BRISBANE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE, QLD

Expressions of Interest online at [www.dconferences.com.au/aps2015](http://www.dconferences.com.au/aps2015)

For Sponsorship and Exhibition opportunities or more information please contact the APS Secretariat

DC Conferences Pty Ltd | P 61 2 9954 4400 | E [aps2015@dconferences.com.au](mailto:aps2015@dconferences.com.au)

### SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Topical Sessions **16 July 2014**

Free Papers & Posters **3 October 2014**

Early Bird Registration **23 January 2015**

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT JULY 2014

Dr Tony Sherbon  
Chief Executive Officer  
Independent Hospital Pricing Authority  
PO Box 483  
Darlinghurst NSW 1300

Sent via email: [tony.sherbon@ihpa.gov.au](mailto:tony.sherbon@ihpa.gov.au)

06 May 2014

Dear Dr Sherbon,

Re: Pain Management Consultation Clinic (20.03) definitions - Tier 2 Outpatient Clinics

The Australian Pain Society (APS) is the professional body representing health providers from the broad range of disciplines related to pain management. Our secretariat has received communications from its membership relating to concerns about the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) *Pricing Framework for Australian Public Hospital Services 2014-15* document. This includes reports that some hospital managers across more than one jurisdiction are asking clinicians to change their model of care in order to maximise funding. Specifically, clinicians are being requested to move away from multidisciplinary care and to instead book patients to see individual clinicians on different days in order to maximise the number of 'service events' reported.

We understand that this is due to how pain management clinical activities in outpatient departments are defined and counted for ABF purposes in IHPA's 2014-15 determination. We request that these problems be resolved in time for inclusion in the 2015-16 determination.

It is our members opinion that the current definitions and business rules are creating financial incentives to change the current patient-centred model of care to one tailored to best fit business rules but with increased inefficiencies and patient attendance requirements. We believe that this will lead to the erosion of the availability of multidisciplinary care, a clinical approach with a strong evidence base that is most appropriate for persons suffering persistent pain.

We believe this is not the intent of IHPA and that relatively simple modifications to the definitions and general business rules will allow for a more accurate representation of activities.

The most frequent model of assessment utilised up until the present by hospital multidisciplinary pain clinics for individuals with complex chronic pain conditions involves a series of individual assessments by a specialist pain management team. The team typically includes medical (pain medicine specialist physician, rehabilitation physician, anaesthetist, psychiatrist, addiction medicine specialist),

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT JULY 2014

allied health (psychology, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work) and clinical nurse specialist providers – each contributing to the assessment process from the perspective of their own discipline. Assessment commonly involves 3-4 different disciplines and takes 3-5 hours with an additional component of an interdisciplinary meeting and treatment plan formulation.

The current definitions of Tier 2 outpatient pain management consultation clinics (20.03) does not include specialist pain medicine physician (AHPRA-accredited) within the list of providers, nor is there mention of allied health or clinical nurse specialist providers. It appears that a non-admitted multidisciplinary assessment process of several hours duration involving even a modest predomination of non-medical providers may be ruled to be an allied health/nurse specialist clinic with significant financial implications. An alternative approach to separate out individual assessments over a number of days may maximise hospital funding but is not in the interests of either the patient or the service.

The APS requests that IHPA create a “multidisciplinary pain management clinic” category with a definition that recognises the mix of providers (including specialist pain medicine physician, allied health and clinical nurse specialists) contributing to a comprehensive assessment and interdisciplinary management plan. This item would be in addition to code 20.03, which would be reserved for those occasions when a medical practitioner is the only person who sees the patient.

Over the last five years, the Australian Pain Society has encouraged its members to develop innovative ways to deliver best practice care. This is partly based on our waiting in pain project, which detailed significant wait times due to high demand and difficulty with access *Waiting in Pain: a systematic investigation into the provision of persistent pain services in Australia, Medical Journal of Australia 2012; 196(6): 386-390*. Some of these innovations include interdisciplinary assessment processes, utilisation of outcome measures to improve engagement and selection of most appropriate care models, and community education programs prior to pain clinic assessments, e.g. *Self Training Educative Pain Sessions (STEPS) programs*.

Activity based funding arrangements based on out-dated assumptions will reduce these gains, with subsequent increase in wait times and reduction in these efficiency gains.

The APS would welcome the opportunity to work with the IHPA to develop new definitions of Tier 2 outpatient pain management clinics in order to enhance the efficiency gains achieved to date.

Yours sincerely



Dr Malcolm Hogg  
President  
Australian Pain Society

CC: Prof Debora Picone AM, Australian Commission on Quality and Safety in Health Care  
Hon Jillian Skinner MP, Chair Standing Committee on Health  
Dr Arn Sprogis, Chair, Australian Medicare Local Alliance

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# APS 2015 TOPICAL SESSIONS

2015 Australian Pain Society 35th Annual Scientific Meeting



## Managing Pain: from Mechanism to Policy



15 - 18 MARCH 2015 | BRISBANE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE, QLD

## TOPICAL SESSION SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN!

**On behalf of the Scientific Program Committee and the Local Organising Committee, we are pleased to advise topical session submissions for the APS 2015 ASM is now open.**

**The deadline for Topical Session submissions is: 1 AUGUST 2014**

View the [topical session submission guidelines](#)

Visit the [online topical session submission page](#)

**We look forward to receiving your submissions.  
Should you have any queries regarding your submission or  
the process, please contact the [Conference Secretariat](#).**

**Abstract Submissions for Free Papers and  
Posters will open on 1 AUGUST 2014**

# NATIONAL PAIN WEEK 2014 21 – 28 JULY - "PAIN IS AGELESS"



This year Chronic Pain Australia is partnering with the **Cronulla Sharks** to heighten awareness that pain affects people across the lifespan and

has a huge impact on the lives of a cross section of ordinary Australians. It also affects sports people. Which player lives with pain? It's ok to say you live with pain even if you are an athlete.

## What is happening this year?

National Pain Week will be held 21-27 July 2014. A focal point will be a rally to bring together people affected by pain in the Sydney CBD at the Martin Place amphitheatre. The rally will be held to help people understand the experience and what can be done about it.



This year on 18 July the Cronulla Sharks will be dedicating their game with the Cowboys at the Remondis Stadium

to raising awareness about the impact of chronic pain on people's lives. Watch out for Beau Riley on the Footy Show on 17 July and come along to the Rally to meet the players.

24 July 12 noon - 2pm Martin Place Amphitheatre with a Q&A panel consisting of a great family – Jo, Grant, Bayly and Violet (which one lives with pain?) players from the Sharks Rugby team, Dr Chris Hayes, Dr Roberta Chow, Dr Ian Relf, Dr Caroline West and the inspirational Ms Petrea King.

The Buzz Band will provide entertainment and the Big Red London Bus will be cruising around Sydney shuttling people to the Rally on the day.

In the lead up to the Rally, the big double-decker red London bus will be out and about around Sydney on Thursday 17th, Monday 21st, Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd - with a call to action for people to rally in Martin Place.



New research will be launched to better understand the impact of pain on Australians. This is linked to progress with the National Pain Strategy from the consumer point of view. Chronic Pain Australia is working with University of Newcastle to analyse this comprehensive research which will be undertaken each year as a snapshot of where Australians are in relation to the National Pain Strategy.

## What you can do:

1. Go to [www.nationalpainweek.org.au](http://www.nationalpainweek.org.au) to learn more about what is happening this year. You can join the 10,000 faces of pain campaign. You can upload to the NPW14 blog your event for National Pain Week, you can download posters and surveys. Send messages to [npw@chronicpinaustralia.org.au](mailto:npw@chronicpinaustralia.org.au)

2. The survey will close on 28th June, there is still time to distribute it to your patients for completion. There have been over 1100 completions of the "I live with chronic pain" and nearly 150 completions of the "I care for someone in pain" surveys. Go here to complete online:

<http://chronicpinaustralia.org.au/index.php/2013-09-04-07-55-27/chronic-pain-surveys>

3. Send us your soft copy resources for uploading to the website – the aim is to

provide resources across the lifespan for people whose lives are affected by pain. Send us your logo too, we will upload you as a supporter

4. Come to the Rally! Participate in the Q & A and have some fun.

5. Like us on Facebook, be a part of our online community

Proudly supported by Pfizer Australia, BioCSL and the Australian Medical Acupuncture College.





# NATIONAL PAIN WEEK

21-27 July 2014

**PAIN  
IS  
AGELESS**

“ Which family member has chronic pain? You don't have to be old to live with chronic pain. ”

### 10,000 faces of pain

Join the campaign, go to:

[www.nationalpainweek.org.au](http://www.nationalpainweek.org.au) & upload your photo. Tell us your story and shed light on the impact of pain on your life.

### Growing Hope

A new repository of information and resources will be launched on:

[www.nationalpainweek.org.au](http://www.nationalpainweek.org.au) to help those people affected by chronic pain no matter what their age.



**pain care**  
personalised pain relief

**bioCSL**



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For more info, visit our site [www.chronicpinaustralia.org.au](http://www.chronicpinaustralia.org.au)

Email: [media@chronicpinaustralia.org.au](mailto:media@chronicpinaustralia.org.au)

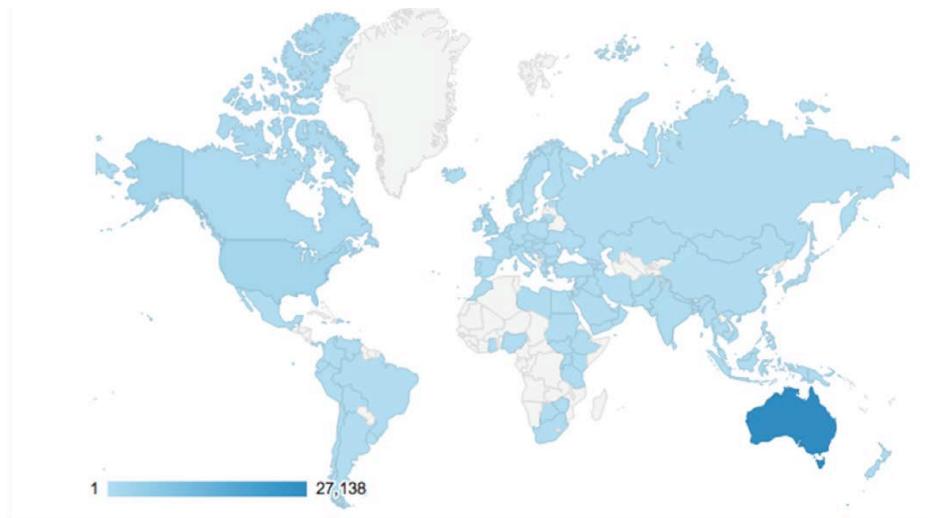
[www.nationalpainweek.org.au](http://www.nationalpainweek.org.au)

# THE PAINHEALTH WEBSITE

The [painHEALTH website](#): A Western Australian policy-into-practice initiative to deliver integrated, consumer focused pain management to people with musculoskeletal pain.

SJ Davies<sup>1</sup>, H. Slater<sup>2</sup>, G.J. Milne<sup>3</sup>, J. Kelso<sup>3</sup> A.M. Briggs<sup>2,4</sup>

1 Anaesthetic Department & Pain Medicine Unit, Fremantle Hospital & Health Service, Perth, Australia. 2 School of Physiotherapy, Curtin University, Perth, Australia. 3 Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia. 4 Department of Health (WA), Perth, Australia.



## Objective

Development, evaluation and implementation of a web platform which facilitates access to evidence-informed pain management, aligned with health policy.

The website development was informed by input from consumers with musculoskeletal pain and expert health professionals working in pain medicine. The co-leads, Dr Stephanie Davies (Pain Medicine Specialist), A/Prof Helen Slater (Specialist Musculoskeletal Physiotherapist and clinical researcher) worked closely with A/Prof Andrew Briggs (Senior Officer, Department of Health WA and NH &MRC Fellow) on this

project. We used a cross sector approach partnering with the Department of Health WA, Curtin University, the University of Western Australia and Fremantle Hospital to iteratively develop, test, evaluate, and implement painHEALTH. The cross sector, multi-stakeholder approach was pivotal to leveraging the effective implementation of painHEALTH and its widespread uptake.

## Design

Policy-into-practice implementation project with 4 phases: 1. Development of prototypes; 2. Development of evidence-based knowledge and skills with translation to ensure consumer-oriented

messages; 3. Evaluation and optimisation of web platform; 4. Implementation and monitoring.

Phases 1, 2 and 3 utilised an external reference group (ERG: health consumers (n=8); interdisciplinary pain management clinicians/researchers (n=10); health policy officers (n=3)) to provide evaluation data. Three prototypes with different user interfaces were developed and trialled. Evaluation measures incorporating Likert scales (strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5)) were used to assess website quality (11 categories; rating 0-100; 100 = best possible outcome) and responses to standardised questions (8 categories). Based on evaluation outcomes, a single prototype was selected.

## Have you had an article accepted for publication this year?



Reminder that we are keen that members inform us when they have publications so that this can be shared with your APS colleagues. Please send the newsletter editor (via the APS Secretariat, [aps@apsoc.org.au](mailto:aps@apsoc.org.au)) the title, authors and reference (i.e. the journal, volume etc.) of the article, preferably with a short explanatory note to give our readers the gist of the article, e.g. the conclusions part of the abstract; if you would like to supply a short commentary on the article, even better.

**Will Howard, Editor**

# SCHOLARSHIPS CURRENT & PAST

## The painHealth website

Evidence-based content was developed and assessed for accuracy, and clinical appropriateness, by the ERG. The final website was rated favourably (mean 89/100;N=18; 11 categories). Responses to the majority of questions were also favourable (Likert mean for each: 4.0-5.0).

Phase 4 commenced with full implementation and worldwide internet visitor access on 10th April 2013. Since

the launch of painHEALTH monitoring data indicate 2,159,341 hits with 111,804 visitors from > 82 countries (45% from Australia), since its launch on 10th April, 2013. The site averages 224 visitors per day with a reach of over 82 countries (see above Figure).

This evidence-based resource is consumer-focused, accessible and sustainable web-based resource for

consumers with musculoskeletal pain. It was a product of aligning health policy and best practice to support consumers and health care professionals in taking a 'whole' person co-care approach to pain management. This uptake argues the need for such innovation in health care, where consumers act as effective 'agents of change'.

## CURRENT SCHOLARS:

PhD Scholarship Sponsor Scholar Topic	Mundipharma #3-APS-APRA Audrey Wang "An investigation of the role of the brain in recovery from CRPS, using fMRI"
PhD Scholarship Sponsor Scholar Topic	Janssen Cilag #2-APS-APRA Sarah Kissiwa "Pain induced synaptic plasticity in the amygdala"
PhD Scholarship Sponsor Scholar Topic	APS #5-APRA James Kang "Epigenetic influence in cognitive impairments in chronic neuropathic pain"

## PAST SCHOLARS:

PhD Scholarship Sponsor Scholar Completed Topic	APS #1-APRA Samantha South 1999 "Antinociceptive pharmacology of morphine and its major glucuronide metabolites"
PhD Scholarship Sponsor Scholar Completed Topic	CSL #1-APS-APRA Lara Winter 2004 "Antinociceptive properties of the neurosteroid alphadolone"
PhD Scholarship Sponsor Scholar Completed Topic	CSL #2-APS-APRA Anne Pitcher 2006 "Conditional comfort: A grounded theory study in nursing approaches to acknowledging and responding to pain in nursing home residents with dementia"

# SCHOLARSHIPS CURRENT & PAST

<b>PhD Scholarship Sponsor</b> <b>Scholar</b> <b>Completed</b> <b>Topic</b>	<b>Mundipharma #1-APS-APRA</b> <b>Kathryn Nicholson Perry</b> <b>2007</b> <b>“Pain Management Programmes in Spinal Cord Injury: Cognitive Behavioural Pain Management Programmes in the Management of Sub-acute and Chronic Spinal Cord Injury Pain”</b>
<b>PhD Scholarship Sponsor</b> <b>Scholar</b> <b>Completed</b> <b>Topic</b>	<b>APS #2-APRA</b> <b>Debbie Tsui</b> <b>2008</b> <b>“Preclinical studies in painful diabetic neuropathy”</b>
<b>PhD Scholarship Sponsor</b> <b>Scholar</b> <b>Completed</b> <b>Topic</b>	<b>Mundipharma #2-APS-APRA</b> <b>Zoe Brett</b> <b>2011</b> <b>“Individual differences in vulnerability to the development of chronic pain following injury”</b>
<b>PhD Scholarship Sponsor</b> <b>Scholar</b> <b>Completed</b> <b>Topic</b>	<b>APS #3-APRA</b> <b>Susan Slatyer</b> <b>2013</b> <b>“Caring for patients experiencing episodes of severe pain in an acute care hospital: Nurses’ perspective”</b>
<b>PhD Scholarship Sponsor</b> <b>Scholar</b> <b>Completed</b> <b>Topic</b>	<b>Janssen Cilag #1-APS-APRA</b> <b>Mary Roberts</b> <b>Due 2013</b> <b>“An investigation of the role of sleep in chronic pain”</b>
<b>PhD Scholarship Sponsor</b> <b>Scholar</b> <b>Completed</b> <b>Topic</b>	<b>APS #4-APRA</b> <b>Amelia Edington</b> <b>2013</b> <b>“Defining inhibitor binding sites unique to the glycine transporter, GLYT2: A potential target for the treatment of chronic pain”</b>

## Have you had an article accepted for publication this year?



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Will Howard, Editor

## 2014 ACNP award for Quality Use of Medicines in Pain Management



The award recipient  
will receive  
registration, travel  
and accommodation  
to attend ACNP  
2014 Conference in  
Sydney!

**Have you made a difference to people with persistent pain through the quality use of medicines?**

***We want to hear from you!***

**In collaboration with Mundipharma Pty Ltd, ACNP will be recognising a Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nurse who works consistently with consumers with persistent pain to optimise their health and wellbeing.**

To be considered for the award please tell us about strategies you have implemented in your area of practice to contribute to achieving one or more of the key goals of the National Pain Strategy. Your contributions may be in one or more of the following practice areas:

- Assessment, diagnosis and outcome identification
- Pain Management plan
- Patient education – including principles of pain management, medications, therapeutic devices
- Prescribing medicines for pain management

Nominations for the award can be made by anyone. If you know a worthy candidate please contact us.

For further information and to download an application form please visit:  
<http://www.acnp.org.au/content/acnp-scholarships.html>



This award has been supported  
by an educational grant from  
Mundipharma Pty Ltd

# DR THONG HELPS EASE THE PAIN IN WESTERN NSW

This article was first published in the **Dubbo Daily Liberal newspaper 10 April 2014**

A Western NSW GP with a Graduate Certificate in Pain Management and a strong belief in equity of treatment has helped create a flagship website ([ACI Pain Management Network](#)) aimed at improving the quality of life of people living with chronic pain across the state.

The NSW-first website has been built on the latest scientific evidence on how to manage chronic pain and includes practical tools and resources for patients and health professionals.

Dr Ian Thong's work in the field as a Bathurst GP led to his co-chairing a primary care committee that informed the Pain Management Network website, developed by the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation (ACI).

Having just completed training at Royal North Shore Hospital, he currently works in a clinic in Orange as a pain management

GP with plans to do the same in Bathurst and Lithgow.

"My role in Western NSW is to improve the delivery of pain services to the local community," Dr Thong told the Daily Liberal.

"The reason for this is that rural patients deserve the same care as our city patients."

"By bringing the services to the country these patients no longer have to travel as far, usually at great expense financially, physically and emotionally."

Dr Thong said the new website was designed by health professionals with the input of consumers so that it delivered a product that was user-friendly, helpful and accessible.

"Key features of this website are videos about pain, education, tools to help you self-manage your pain, a directory of resources including pain services, support groups and information for health

professionals," he said.

NSW Health Minister Jillian Skinner launched the [ACI Pain Management Network website](#) at the State Library of NSW where she left behind a collection of pain management books in recognition that not everyone had access to online information.

The collection will be made available in 70 other public libraries across NSW.

Mrs Skinner said chronic pain affected one in five Australians, both young and old.

"It reduces our ability to work, to attend school, to undertake hobbies," she said. "Indeed it impacts on every aspect of daily life."

The minister said improving the management of chronic pain was a key priority for the NSW government.

## Research partnership opportunities



The Australian Pain Management Association Inc. (APMA) is a consumer health organisation for all Australians who live with persistent pain. APMA is a charity which promotes health by providing advocacy, information and practical support

for people living with persistent (chronic) pain and their families.

APMA services include advice and information to people with pain and the health community via a telephone helpline (**Pain Link**), a national network of pain support

groups, a comprehensive website, facebook and social media presence, and high quality newsletters and other publications, and the delivery of presentations and community education.

APMA is seeking to partner with researchers and health practitioners working in the areas of pain management and self-management who wish to seek NHMRC research funding for research about such services in order to effect changes in the delivery, organisation, funding and access to pain management services. Please contact APMA CEO Elizabeth Carrigan on 0438 000 841 or [secretary@painmanagement.org.au](mailto:secretary@painmanagement.org.au) to discuss potential research opportunities.

# PSA Grant for QUM in Pain Management



The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA), in association with Mundipharma, has again announced it will award an educational grant to a pharmacist who has made an outstanding contribution to the quality use of medicines (QUM) through direct clinical care of consumers with persistent pain.

The award highlights pharmacists' key role in pain management and builds on PSA's professional development and practice support programs.

All areas of pharmacists' contributions to QUM in pain management will be considered, including non-prescription medicines and therapeutic devices, dispensing, medication review or disease state management.

Anyone can nominate a pharmacist they believe worthy of the award, and nominations close on 7 August 2014.

For more information or to download and application form, click here. <http://www.psa.org.au/about/excellence-awards/qum-in-pain-management>

2015 Australian Pain Society 35th Annual Scientific Meeting



15-18 MARCH 2015 | BRISBANE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE, QLD

## Want the latest information on the 2015 Australian Pain Society 35th Annual Scientific Meeting?

Follow our hashtag **#aps2015** and check out our  
blog and YouTube channel



## Arthritis and Osteoporosis Victoria Webinar

### Optimal use of opioids in musculoskeletal pain

When: Wednesday 16 July, 7-8pm (AEST)

Presented by Dr Malcolm Hogg; President, Australian Pain Society

Opioid analgesics are established therapy for acute pain states, including that from musculoskeletal trauma. The role for opioids in persistent non-cancer pain is less clear, however, due to lack of population benefits in clinical trials, lowered effectiveness in long term dosing and potential for harm. In well selected patients, however, benefit of opioid therapy can be attained as part of a multimodal approach, incorporating patient education, adjuvant

medications, an exercise program and regular review. The potential for aberrant opioid use behaviors and subsequent management requires consideration at both initiation and in the review phase of long term therapy. An approach to the assessment of patients with musculoskeletal pain and guidelines for opioid therapy in non-cancer pain will be presented and discussed.

Please note that the discounted price of \$30.00 will be available to members of the Australian Pain Society.

To register or for further information please visit,  
[http://www2.redbackconferencing.com.au/AOV\\_16TH\\_JUNE\\_14](http://www2.redbackconferencing.com.au/AOV_16TH_JUNE_14)



### The 9th Conference of the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners

1 – 4 September 2014 | SMC Conference & Function Centre | 66 Goulburn Street, Sydney 2000

The conference organising committee extends a warm invitation to the 9th Conference of the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners. This conference is the major forum for the College to exchange ideas and create discussion around clinical and professional issues that affect nurse practitioners and advanced practice nurses. Through the conference theme,

**“NEW FRONTIERS, Building future generations”,**

the conference will explore clinical expertise and innovative role development.



**Keynote Speaker: Professor Sandy Middleton**, Director of the Nursing Research Institute, St Vincents Health and ACU.

#### Topics/Clinical streams to be covered:

- Complex and Chronic Disease
- Cancer/Haematology
- Pain, Palliative and Supportive Care
- Paediatrics
- Mental Health - removing the stigma
- Primary and Acute Care
- Aged Care
- Wound Management
- Professional Issues and Leadership
- Research

#### Important dates:

Poster Abstract Submission Deadline:  
**4 April 2014**

Topical/Workshop Submission Deadline:  
**4 April 2014**

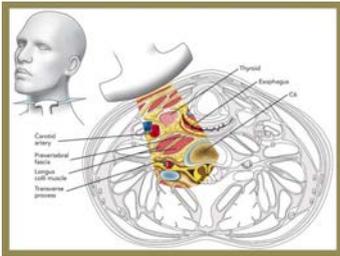
Registration Opens:  
**2 June 2014**

Early Bird Deadline:  
**11 July 2014**

For sponsorship and exhibition opportunities, or further information, please contact the ACNP Conference Secretariat:

DC Conferences | PO Box 637, North Sydney NSW 2059 Australia  
P: (61) 2 9954 4400 E: [acnp2014@dcconferences.com.au](mailto:acnp2014@dcconferences.com.au) | W: [dcconferences.com.au/acnp2014](http://dcconferences.com.au/acnp2014)

## Ultrasound for Pain Medicine Workshop



Official Satellite Symposium of the 15th World Congress on Pain Buenos Aires, Argentina

Oct 4-5, 2014 BA SOHOTEL#  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

We hope to see you there! Mark it in your diary.

Visit the website: <http://www.usra.ca/iaspconf.php>



International Association for the Study of Pain

# IASP

Working together for pain relief

## 5 Hot Topics, Plus Airfare and Hotel Discounts

Still deciding whether to attend the 15th World Congress on Pain in Buenos Aires, October 6-11? Consider these hot topics you will not want to miss:

- Can We Better Predict Neuropathic Pain and the Response to Analgesics? (Sponsored by NeuP SIG)
- Innovative Approaches to Pain Education (Sponsored by Pain Education SIG)
- New Techniques to Reveal Novel Pain Mechanisms Mediated by Primary Nociceptors
- Acute Pain in Hospitalized Children: What Do We Know and Where Do We Go From Here? (Sponsored by Acute Pain SIG)
- Chronic Post-Surgical Pain: Epidemiology, Risk Factors, and Prevention

### Travel and Hotel

IASP has secured thousands of hotel rooms at significantly discounted prices. Visit [Accommodations](#) to book your room before August.

### New! Airfare Discounts

Getting to Buenos Aires just became easier. Oneworld has been designated as the official airline alliance of the World Congress. Download the [informational flyer](#) to get the code to book your travel today—and save!



**We look forward to seeing you in Buenos Aires!**

Visit us online or follow us on Facebook or Twitter for regular updates on the Congress:



### Essential Travel Information - Reciprocity Fees and Visas

US, Australian, and Canadian citizens will be required to pay a reciprocity fee. This fee cannot be paid as part of Congress registration and must be paid before embarking for Argentina. The Reciprocity Fee can only be paid through the [Argentine Immigration Department website](#).

Do you need a visa for Buenos Aires? [Please click here](#) to view the country visa requirements.

For more information on visas and reciprocity fees please visit our [travel and logistics page](#).

You don't want to miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit the Paris of South America—Buenos Aires, Argentina. Register for the Congress today.

Web: [www.iasp-pain.org/BuenosAires](http://www.iasp-pain.org/BuenosAires)

On Facebook: [www.facebook.com/IASP.pain](http://www.facebook.com/IASP.pain)

On Twitter: [www.twitter.com/IASPCongress](http://www.twitter.com/IASPCongress)

On LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/international-association-for-the-study-of-pain](http://www.linkedin.com/company/international-association-for-the-study-of-pain)

Queensland Pain and Palliative Care Conference 2014

# Fifty Shades of Pain

Managing complex pain across the continuum

**REGISTER ONLINE FROM 1 MAY 2014**



3-5 December 2014  
Southbank Institute of Technology, Brisbane  
[www.50shadesconference2014.com.au](http://www.50shadesconference2014.com.au)

**40<sup>TH</sup>** **New Zealand pain society**  
**2015 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING**

[www.nzps2015.org.nz](http://www.nzps2015.org.nz)

25 - 29 March, 2015 THE LANGHAM HOTEL, AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

**PAIN THROUGH THE AGES**



## Items of interest for our members:

- Painaustralia eNewsletter latest issue, available online at <http://www.painaustralia.org.au/media-news/e-news.html>
- **Facility Directory Update**  
Please advise the APS Secretariat of any updates so we may endeavour to keep the Facility Directory current: <http://www.apsoc.org.au/facility-directory>
- **Secret World of Pain**  
Don't miss this informative BBC documentary featuring Professor Irene Tracey. See it now on our list of Video and Weblinks: <http://www.apsoc.org.au/useful-links>
- **New APS Online Membership System**  
Please remember to update your member profile on the new online membership system to ensure we can stay in touch: <https://www.apsoc.org.au/Login.aspx>
- **ABC News Victoria:**  
Please see this link to a recent

new item broadcast on 19MAY14 on a "Call for monitoring of prescription drugs as chronic pain sufferers risk addiction: <http://blog.apsoc.org.au/2014/05/20/call-for-monitoring-of-prescription-drugs-as-chronic-pain-sufferers-risk-addiction/>

- **Understanding pain – and what's to be done about it in 10 minutes!:**

This YouTube video was developed by the German Paediatric Pain Centre for adolescents with chronic pain unexplained by any chronic medical condition, but it may be of interest to all young people: <http://blog.apsoc.org.au/2014/05/22/understanding-pain-and-whats-to-be-done-about-it-in-10-minutes/>

- **Veterans' MATES (Medicines Advice and Therapeutic Education Services)**

Information for health professionals and veterans provided by the Department of Veterans' Affairs in conjunction with the University

of South Australia. Check out the link from our website publications page: <https://www.apsoc.org.au/publications>

- Topic 27: Managing Constipation with Pain Medicines\_JUN11  
- [Veterans Brochure](#)  
- [Therapeutic Brief](#)
- Topic 35: Neuropathic Pain\_JUN13  
- [Veterans Brochure](#)  
- [Therapeutic Brief](#)
- Topic 38: Musculoskeletal Pain\_MAR14  
- [Veterans Brochure](#)  
- [Therapeutic Brief](#)
- **National Pain Week 21-27 July 2014 – Pain is Ageless**  
Visit the National Pain Week 2014 website for the latest news and links to surveys: <http://www.nationalpainweek.org.au>

## NEW MEMBERS

Title	First Name	Surname	Discipline Group
Dr	Kal	Fried	Sports Medicine
Ms	Susan	Gerichter	Nursing
Ms	Jacqueline	Hunt	Nursing



## History of the Australian Pain Society

### Next year we celebrate our 35th Annual Scientific Meeting!

We would like to gather members' recollections and any materials of the early days of the APS.

If you would like to contribute anything to this project, please contact the Australian Pain Society Secretariat on (02) 99016 4343 or via email [aps@apsoc.org.au](mailto:aps@apsoc.org.au)

We look forward to gathering your reflections and celebrating our 35 years of achievements.



## Online Membership Applications

**NEW**

[apply online here](#)

**The next stage of our new online membership system has been launched.**

**Please encourage your colleagues to [apply online here](#).**

### POSITION VACANT

#### **Specialist Pain Medicine Physician Persistent Pain Service, Royal Hobart Hospital, TAS**

**Employment Status: Contract 2014-2016  
Hours per fortnight: 0.5 – 0.75 FTE  
Contact: Dr Max Sarma**

The DHHS Persistent Pain Service (PPS) and Royal Hobart Hospital Department of Anaesthesia are seeking a Specialist Pain Medicine Physician to provide FPM ANZCA Supervisor of Training and Clinical Services in Pain Medicine. The Applicant has or will have an FFPM and be acceptable to FPM as a Supervisor of Training.

The PPS is an FPM accredited, tertiary level, multidisciplinary, pain management service provider. Staffing includes nurses, physiotherapists, psychologists, a psychiatrist and Specialist Pain Medicine Physicians from anaesthesia, general practice, neurosurgery and rheumatology backgrounds.

For Further Job Related Information: contact Dr Max Sarma, Joint FPM Supervisor of Training, Royal Hobart Hospital, email [max.sarma@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:max.sarma@dhhs.tas.gov.au) or phone 0409 283 050.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## POSITION VACANT

### Occupational Therapist Grade 2 Caulfield Pain Management and Research Centre, VIC

**Employment Status: Permanent Part Time**  
**Hours per fortnight: 20**  
**Contact: Alison Johnson**  
**Applications Close: 14 July 2014**

The Caulfield Pain Management and Research Centre is an ambulatory service providing specialist assessment and treatment for adults with chronic non-malignant pain and cancer survivors with chronic pain.

This multidisciplinary outpatient pain service seeks a suitably qualified and experienced OT, to undertake assessment and treatment of clients (individual and group). The centre uses a combination of medical, physical and cognitive behavioural approaches in the management of chronic pain conditions. Postgraduate qualifications and amount of clinical experience will dictate the number of hours and grade level of employment.

**Applications:** For further information and to apply for any of this position, contact Alison Johnson on Tel (03) 9076 6834 or visit [www.alfredhealth.org.au/careers](http://www.alfredhealth.org.au/careers) and enter **933919** in search.

<p><b>16 Jul 2014</b>  <b>Arthritis and Osteoporosis Victoria</b>  <i>Webinar - Optimal use of opioids in musculoskeletal pain</i>                      Webinar 7-8pm  <a href="http://www2.redbackconferencing.com.au/16JULY2014">http://www2.redbackconferencing.com.au/16JULY2014</a></p>	<p><b>21-27 Jul 2014</b>  <b>Chronic Pain Australia National Pain Week 2014</b>  <i>Pain is Ageless</i>                      Nationally  <a href="http://www.nationalpainweek.org.au">http://www.nationalpainweek.org.au</a></p>	<p><b>23-25 Jul 2014</b>  <b>Primary Health Care Research Conference</b>  <i>Integrating knowledge exchange to improve primary health care outcomes</i>                      National Convention Centre, Canberra ACT  <a href="http://www.phcris.org.au/conference">http://www.phcris.org.au/conference</a></p>
<p><b>24-26 Jul 2014</b>  <b>Cancer Nurses Society of Australia 17th Winter Congress</b>  <i>Cancer Nursing - Leading in a time of Change</i>                      Pullman Albert Park, Melbourne VIC  <a href="http://www.cnsawintercongress.com.au">http://www.cnsawintercongress.com.au</a></p>	<p><b>2-5 Sep 2014</b>  <b>The Australian and New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine</b>  <i>Palliative medicine Past present and future</i>                      Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort and Spa, Gold Coast QLD  <a href="https://www.etouches.com/ehome/65181">https://www.etouches.com/ehome/65181</a></p>	<p><b>2-4 Sep 2014</b>  <b>Australian College of Nurse Practitioners</b>  <i>New Frontiers - Building future generations</i>                      The Masonic Conference Centre, Sydney NSW  <a href="http://www.dconferences.com.au/acnp2014/">http://www.dconferences.com.au/acnp2014/</a></p>
<p><b>4-7 Sep 2014</b>  <b>Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR)</b>  <i>2014 Combined Scientific Meeting</i>                      Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Melbourne VIC  <a href="http://www.csm2014.com">http://www.csm2014.com</a></p>	<p><b>11-12 Sep 2014</b>  <b>Australian Disease Management Association 10th Annual National Conference</b>  <i>CDM the 2020 Vision - Managing the Rising Tide of Chronic Conditions</i>                      Melbourne Convention Centre, Melbourne VIC  <a href="http://www.adma.org.au/images/ConferenceFlyer2014.pdf">http://www.adma.org.au/images/ConferenceFlyer2014.pdf</a></p>	<p><b>20-21 Sep 2014</b>  <b>New York School of Regional Anesthesia - NYSORA 13th Annual Symposium</b>  <i>Regional Anesthesia, Pain and Perioperative Medicine</i>                      Marriott Marquis Hotel, New York USA  <a href="http://www.nysorasymposium.com">http://www.nysorasymposium.com</a></p>

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p><b>21-26 Sep 2014</b>  <b>Childrens Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota</b>  <i>Pediatric Integrative Medicine Master Class: Advanced pain and symptom management</i>            Marquette Hotel, Minneapolis MN USA  <a href="#">Open event website</a></p>	<p><b>1-4 Oct 2014</b>  <b>Lievensberg Hospital, Holland</b>  <i>4th Biannual International Multidisciplinary Pain Congress</i>            Van der Valk Hotel Eindhoven, Eindhoven The Netherlands  <a href="http://www.paincongress.org">http://www.paincongress.org</a></p>	<p><b>4-7 Oct 2014</b>  <b>Australian Society of Anaesthetists</b>  <i>National Scientific Congress 2014</i>            Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, Gold Coast QLD  <a href="http://www.asa2014.com.au/">http://www.asa2014.com.au/</a></p>
<p><b>4-5 Oct 2014</b>  <b>Ultrasound for Regional Anesthesia USRA Official Satellite Symposium of IASP 15th World Congress on Pain</b>  <i>Ultrasound for Pain Medicine Workshop</i>            BA SoHotel, Buenos Aires Argentina  <a href="http://www.usra.ca/iaspconf.php">http://www.usra.ca/iaspconf.php</a></p>	<p><b>6-11 Oct 2014</b>  <b>International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP)</b>  <i>15th World Congress on Pain</i>            La Rural Convention Centre, Buenos Aires Argentina  <a href="http://www.iasp-pain.org/Meetings/WorldCongress.aspx?ItemNumber=714">http://www.iasp-pain.org/Meetings/WorldCongress.aspx?ItemNumber=714</a></p>	<p><b>9-11 Oct 2014</b>  <b>Royal Australian College of General Practitioners RACGP</b>  <i>GP14 Lead. Inspire</i>            Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide SA  <a href="http://www.gpconference.com.au">http://www.gpconference.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>16-18 Oct 2014</b>  <b>Medical Research Support - MedicReS</b>  <i>2014 World Congress on Good Medical Research</i>            Marriot New York Downtown, New York USA  <a href="http://www.nyc2014.medicres.org">http://www.nyc2014.medicres.org</a></p>	<p><b>30 Oct - 1 Nov 2014</b>  <b>Australian College of Rural &amp; Remote Medicine (ACRRM) and Rural Doctors Association of Australia</b>  <i>Rural Medicine Australia 2014</i>            Four Seasons Hotel, Sydney NSW  <a href="http://www.acrrm.com.au">http://www.acrrm.com.au</a></p>	<p><b>13-15 Nov 2014</b>  <b>Asia Pacific Cervical Spine Society</b>  <i>8th Asia Pacific Cervical Spine Meeting</i>            Barbaros Point Hotel, Istanbul Turkey  <a href="http://apcss2014.org">http://apcss2014.org</a></p>
<p><b>3-5 Dec 2014</b>  <b>Australian Pain Management Association and Palliative Care Queensland</b>  <i>Fifty Shades of Pain: Managing complex pain across the continuum</i>            Southbank Institute of Technology, Brisbane QLD  <a href="http://50shadesconference2014.com.au">http://50shadesconference2014.com.au</a></p>	<p><b>15-18 Mar 2015</b>  <b>Australian Pain Society 35th Annual Scientific Meeting</b>  <i>Managing Pain: From Mechanisms to Policy</i>            Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane QLD  <a href="http://www.dconferences.com.au/aps2015/">http://www.dconferences.com.au/aps2015/</a></p>	<p><b>25-29 Mar 2015</b>  <b>New Zealand Pain Society 40th Annual Scientific Meeting</b>  <i>Pain through the Ages</i>            The Langham Hotel, Auckland New Zealand  <a href="http://www.nzps2015.org.nz">http://www.nzps2015.org.nz</a></p>
<p><b>29 Apr - 2 May 2015</b>  <b>NWAC World Anesthesia Convention</b>  <i>6th NWAC 2015</i>            Vancouver Convention Centre, Vancouver Canada  <a href="http://www.nwac.org">http://www.nwac.org</a></p>	<p><b>24-27 May 2015</b>  <b>National Rural Health Alliance 13th National Rural Health Conference</b>  <i>People, Places, Possibilities</i>            Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin NT  <a href="http://ruralhealth.org.au/13nrhc/">http://ruralhealth.org.au/13nrhc/</a></p>	<p><b>31 May - 4 Jun 2015</b>  <b>IASP Pain in Childhood SIG and Seattle Children's Hospital Research Foundation</b>  <i>10th International Symposium on Pediatric Pain</i>            TBA, Seattle Washington USA  <a href="http://www.ispp2015.com">http://www.ispp2015.com</a></p>

# APS DIRECTORS & OFFICE BEARERS 2014

## Directors:

## Office Bearers :

<p><b>President:</b>  <b>Dr Malcolm Hogg</b>            Department of Anaesthesia and Pain Management            Royal Melbourne Hospital,            Parkville VIC 3052 Tel: 03 9342 7540            Fax: 03 9342 8623</p>	<p><b>QLD Director:</b>  <b>Ms Trudy Maunsell</b>            Princess Alexandra Hospital            199 Ipswich Road            Woolloongabba QLD 4102            Tel: 07 3176 5547 Fax: 07 3176 5102</p>	<p><b>Immediate Past President:</b>  <b>Dr Tim Semple</b>            Royal Adelaide Hospital Pain Clinic            North Terrace            Adelaide SA 5000            Tel: 08 8222 5403 Fax: 08 8222 5904</p>
<p><b>President-Elect:</b>  <b>Dr Geoffrey Speldewinde</b>            Capital Rehabilitation Multidisciplinary Injury &amp; Pain Management Centre            25 Napier Close            Deakin ACT 2600            Tel: 02 6282 6240 Fax: 02 6282 5510</p>	<p><b>SA Director:</b>  <b>Ms Anne Burke</b>            Royal Adelaide Hospital Pain Clinic            North Terrace            Adelaide SA 5000            Tel: 08 8222 4770 Fax: 08 8222 5904</p>	<p><b>SPC Chair:</b>  <b>Professor Michele Sterling</b>            Centre for National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine (CONROD),            Ground Floor, Edith Cavell Building            Royal Brisbane Hospital QLD 4029            Tel: 07 3365 5344 Fax: 07 3346 4603</p>
<p><b>Secretary:</b>  <b>Mr Michael Deen</b>            Metro South Persistent Pain Management Service            Level 3, 57 Sanders Street            Upper Mount Gravatt QLD 4122            Tel: 07 3339 5500 Fax: 07 3339 5599</p>	<p><b>TAS Director</b>  <b>Mr Simon Watt</b>            Physiotherapy - Outpatients            North West Regional Hospital            23 Brickport Road            Burnie TAS 7320            Tel: 03 6430 6608 Fax: 03 6430 6607</p>	<p><b>IASP Liaison:</b>  <b>Professor Michael Nicholas</b>            Pain Management Research Institute            Royal North Shore Hospital            St Leonards NSW 2065            Tel: 02 9926 7894 Fax: 02 9662 6279            Website: <a href="http://www.iasp-pain.org">www.iasp-pain.org</a></p>
<p><b>Treasurer:</b>  <b>Dr Gavin Chin</b>            Royal Darwin Hospital            PO Box 41326, Casuarina NT 0811            Tel: 08 8922 8888 Fax: 08 8922 8900</p>	<p><b>VIC Director:</b>  <b>Dr Richard Sullivan</b>            Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre – East Melbourne            Locked Bag 1,            A'Beckett Street VIC 8006            Tel: 03 9656 1111 Fax: 03 9656 1400</p>	<p><b>Website/Social Media Coordinator:</b>  <b>Dr Richard Sullivan</b>            Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre – East Melbourne            Locked Bag 1,            A'Beckett Street VIC 8006            Tel: 03 9656 1111 Fax: 03 9656 1400</p>
<p><b>ACT Director:</b>  <b>Mrs Joy Burdack</b>            Calvary Health Care ACT            PO Box 254            Jamison Centre ACT 2614            Tel: 02 6201 6854 Fax: 02 6201 6949</p>	<p><b>WA Director:</b>  <b>Dr Stephanie Davies</b>            Anaesthetic Department and Pain Medicine Unit            Fremantle Hospital Health Service            Alma St, Perth WA 6160            Tel: 08 9431 3296 Fax: 08 9431 3696</p>	<p><b>Newsletter Editor:</b>  <b>Dr William Howard</b>            Department of Anaesthesia            Austin Health            Studley Road, Heidelberg VIC 3084            Tel: 03 9496 3800 Fax: 03 9459 6421</p>
<p><b>NSW Director:</b>  <b>Ms Fiona Hodson</b>            Hunter Integrated Pain Service            John Hunter Hospital and Royal Newcastle Centre PO Box 664J            Newcastle NSW 2300            Tel: 02 4922 3435 Fax: 02 4922 3438</p>		<p><b>PhD Scholarship Chair:</b>  <b>Professor Maree Smith</b>            Centre for Integrated Preclinical Drug Development            University of Queensland            St Lucia QLD 4072            Tel: 07 3365 2554 Fax: 07 3365 1688</p>
<p><b>NT Director:</b>  <b>Ms Jenny Phillips</b>            Acute Pain Service, Royal Darwin Hospital            PO Box 41326, Casuarina NT 0811            Tel: 08 8922 8888 Fax: 08 8922 8325</p>	 <p>THE AUSTRALIAN PAIN SOCIETY</p>	<p><b>Secretariat:</b>  <b>DC Conferences Pty Ltd</b>            PO Box 637, North Sydney, NSW 2059            Tel: 02 9016 4343 Fax: 02 9954 0666            Email: <a href="mailto:aps@apsoc.org.au">aps@apsoc.org.au</a></p>

# OUR VISION OUR MISSION



THE  
AUSTRALIAN  
PAIN SOCIETY

[www.apsoc.org.au](http://www.apsoc.org.au)

## Vision

All people will have timely recognition, prevention and management of pain across their lifespan.

## Mission

The Australian Pain Society is a multidisciplinary body aiming to relieve pain and related suffering through leadership in clinical practice, education, research and public advocacy.

## Aims

- To promote the provision of healthcare services for pain management
- To promote equity of access to pain management services
- To actively engage with key stakeholders and contribute to their activities
- To provide a contemporary forum to discuss issues relating to pain research and treatment
- To foster and support a broad spectrum of pain-related research
- To share and promote the expertise of all disciplines involved in the treatment of pain
- To promote the formulation and use of Evidence Based Guidelines as they relate to pain
- To foster and support the prevention of persistent pain
- To promote and facilitate pain related education for health professionals and the community
- To promote the development and use of standards