



THE PAIN PRACTITIONER



President's Message

Thomas J. Romano, MD, PhD

The summer has gone by all too quickly, but much to my surprise I got much more accomplished around my house than I thought possible. At the beginning of the summer the projects that needed to be completed seemed all but impossible. Although much still needs to be done, several large projects have been completed much to my satisfaction and surprise. I wish I could take credit for this accomplishment. I could not possibly have completed these tasks alone. The arrival of my daughter who just completed her Master's Degree and one of my sons who came home for a lengthy visit after completing a college summer school course made all the difference. With their help our finished attic is again habitable, all the leaders and gutters have been thoroughly cleaned, and other assorted tasks and errands have been dispatched with great efficiency. Given my work schedule these projects and others seemed daunting. With the proper assistance they were not only manageable, but were completed with success.

Is it really any different when a pain practitioner treats a challenging patient? Many of our patients have numerous and multifaceted problems. They are far more complex than the code books and manuals would lead one to believe. Such patients suffer from chronic pain, often quite severe,

almost all have had to modify their activities greatly, and quite a few have actually lost their jobs and face the real possibility of financial hardship. Many have become depressed, often requiring medication and counseling. Quite a few have had great difficulty with interpersonal relationships, some even having to endure the stress and pain of divorce. When such patients come for treatment the possibility of success can seem remote indeed. However, through teamwork such patients can make real progress resulting in an outcome that is not only desirable but actually attainable. How is one to know when and how to assemble an effective team and to monitor progress? This multidisciplinary approach can be quite successful, but where does one start? For example, when does the internist refer a patient for acupuncture? What is the best way for a chiropractor to coordinate care with a neurologist? What is the role of a psychologist or counselor in the treatment of patients with chronic pain? Every situation is different necessitating individualized treatment.

I truly believe the Academy can be a tremendous resource for virtually every clinician charged with the treatment of patients suffering from chronic pain. Not only are the didactic sessions at the annual meeting useful, but the interactions among professionals of many different disciplines in

1 President's Message

By Thomas J. Romano, MD, PhD

3 Executive Director's Message

*Where We Have Been
What We Have Been
Doing*

Where We Are Going

By Kathryn A. Weiner, PhD

9 Member Spotlight In Memory Classified Ads

10 Calendar of Pain Meetings

11 Trend Watch

AAPM 2003 Board of Directors

President

Thomas J. Romano, MD, PhD

President Elect

Paula L. Gilchrist, LPT, DPM

Immediate Past President

Scott Denny, DC, PhD, MS (Ac)

Secretary

Barbara Lum, BS

Treasurer

Carl H. McNeely, APRN, PNP

Co-Chairs, Board of Advisors

Samira Beckwith, LCSW, CHE

Nelson Hendler, MD, MS

Directors-at-Large

Christopher Brown, DDS, MPS

Gary W. Jay, MD

AAPM Staff

Executive Director

Kathryn A. Weiner, PhD

Director of Education

B. Eliot Cole, MD, MPA

Director of Special Projects

Alexandra Campbell, PhD

Education Coordinator

Lois Baker

Director of Sales and Marketing

Karen Lipnicki

Chief Financial Officer

Connie S. Mulalley

Membership Coordinator

Credentialing & Conference

Office Manager

Joy McCurry

General Membership Coordinator

Marcella Mateo

The Pain Practitioner is published by the American Academy of Pain Management, 13947 Mono Way, Ste. A, Sonoma, CA 95370, (209) 533-9744, fax (209) 533-9750, E-mail aapm@aapainmanage.org, web site <http://www.aapainmanage.org>. Copyright 2003 American Academy of Pain Management. All rights reserved. Send correspondence to Kathryn Weiner, PhD, Editor. Contact the Academy at (209) 533-9744 regarding advertising opportunities and prices.

The Pain Practitioner is published by the American Academy of Pain Management solely for the purpose of education. All rights are reserved by the Academy to accept, reject or modify any submission for publication. The opinions stated in the enclosed printed materials are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Academy or individual members. The Academy does not give guarantees, or any other representation that the printed material contained herein is valid, reliable, or accurate. The American Academy of Pain Management does not assume any responsibility for injury arising from any use or misuse of the printed material contained herein. The printed material contained herein is assumed to be from reliable sources, and there is no implication that they represent the only, or best, methodologies or procedures for the pain condition discussed. It is incumbent upon the reader to verify the accuracy of any diagnosis and drug dosage information contained herein, and to make modifications as new information arises.

All rights are reserved by the Academy to accept, reject or modify any advertisement submitted for publication. It is the policy of the Academy to not endorse products. Any advertising herein may not be construed as an endorsement, either expressed or implied, of a product or service.

(President's message continued)

the exhibit hall, the restaurants, and in other informal gatherings can enrich the knowledge base of each pain practitioner. The networking that occurs through the Academy has been a particularly useful way for me to treat many of my patients. I'm sure each and every pain practitioner can derive great benefit from such collaborations. The teamwork thus engendered can make an impossible task one that is manageable, albeit difficult.

Pain practitioners face many challenges in the years to come. They must be aware of new trends in the treatment of pain, as well as the ever evolving regulations governing that treatment. They need to keep themselves healthy and avoid "burn out" in order to be able to best treat patients and stay balanced.

Well-trained professionals should derive satisfaction from their work and be able to provide for their families. Together we can accomplish this and much more.

Learn all you can about multidisciplinary pain treatment! Our Academy can help through its annual meeting, audio tapes, textbook and other educational materials. Communicate with other members, whether to discuss difficult cases, to ask advice or just to socialize. In numbers there is strength. Our Academy is made up of thousands of highly talented professionals. Let's learn from each other; teach each other; be there for each other! Remember it is your Academy. Make it work for you! Together we can do great things. The health and well-being of our patients depend on it.

Congratulations to New Certificants

Charles Perry Allen, PhD	John Joseph McManus, LAC
Shanthi Aribindi, MD	Peter P. McRee, DC
Jitendra K. Baruah, MD	Marios Michael, DC
Corinne Dille Davis, MD	Cindy R. Nelson, RN, BSN
John F. Dimitri, DC	Ngoc-Lan T. Nguyen-Knoff, MD
Arlyn Sunshine Drew, MD	Giuseppe G. Paese, DO, DC
Ifeanyi E. Elueze, MD, PhD	Susan H. Pham, DC
Mark J. Escoto, DDS	Earl Quijada, MD
Victor Hugo Espinosa, MD	Ramin Rahimi, DO, FAAPMR
DaeJan H. Grigsby, DC	Hassanali Sewani, MD
E. Rackley Ivey, MD	Zubair A. Shaikh, MBBS, MD
Arthur E. Jordan, MD	Bilal F. Shanti, MD
Grigory Karmy, MD	Payam Shayan, DC
Farida Khan-Sewani, MD	Kenneth W. Sullivan, MD
Naeem Mahmood M. Kohli, MD	Ronald W. Swan, PhD
Mary Bess Kohrs, MD	Chitta Thiagarajah, MD
Gregory J. Lawler, DO	Kent D. Vosler, DO
Yuvaraj R. Manda, MD	Fair H. Wang, MD, MS