

**NCPI Advisory Group Conference Call  
June 13, 2005 5p-6p**

**Summary Notes**  
(Accepted 7/11/05)

Advisory Council Members present: Penney Cowan, Vicky Ferraresi, Kathy Keller, Beverly Nicholson, May Sung

Other participants: Cathy Dawson, Ann Gouré

May Sung called the conference to order and took roll. The summary notes of the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting had not been completed, so Kathy Keller reviewed the action items for continuity. Notes will be distributed for members' review prior to the next meeting.

*Action Item:* Website communication workgroup to oversee development of operating criteria for items to be included on the website and the process.

*Action Item:* Individual NCPI Advisory Council Members are advised to ensure the listing on the roster has the appropriate information they wish to have listed. (You know who you are.)

*Action Item:* Website workgroup to investigate steps needed to place a similar link endorsing the cancer guidelines, and eventually the NCCN guidelines on the NCPI website.

*Action Item:* Judy will follow up on progress of AB1782 and provide future reports.

**AACPI Annual Meeting Update** (Beverly Nicholson)

Beverly Nicholson and May Sung attended the AACPI Annual Meeting in St. Louis, MO, last week. Beverly reports it was good to attend and inspiring to see what others are doing. AACPI members appear to be a close-knit group, enjoying each other's company as well as sharing commitment to their mission.

The meeting content was mostly sessions on advocacy for improving the under treatment of pain, with one clinical topic scheduled versus 2 or 3 other topics at each session. Many state initiatives report struggling for their existence, but were very willing to share their challenges and successes.

Drew Edmondson, Oklahoma State Attorney General and the 2002-03 President of the National Association of Attorneys General, provided a very inspirational keynote address. Mr. Edmondson is an advocate for end of life care, and pain management in that context. His dedication is exemplified by the fact that he celebrated his 39<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and experienced his mother's death just the week before coming to address the AACPI. Beverly notes that his presidential initiative, beginning with the listening conferences held around the country, and culminating in the first Improving End of Life

Care: The Role of Attorneys General, is available and can be downloaded from the NAAG website at: <http://www.naag.org/issues/issue-endoflife.php>

Dr. Carmen Green presented an interesting discussion of social perspectives and disparities in pain care. Dr. Keela Herr, an RN from the University of Iowa discussed pain assessment issues in demented patients. Dr. Howard Heit, a gastroenterologist who subsequently became an addiction specialist presented the concept of universal precautions, which include mandatory urine testing for chronic pain patients. Tim Ives and David Joranson presented the bioethical perspective regarding invasion of privacy and patients' rights in their discussions. Penney Cowan provided her thoughts, that such approaches represent a defensive posture by the medical community, including pharmacists, which seems to be getting out of hand. The March 2005 issue of Pain Medicine contains an article by Douglas Gourlay, Howard Heit and Abdulaziz Almahrezi on universal precautions.

Beverly noted that there were several ideas presented with potential applications for NCPI. The Louisiana Initiative described the use of a statewide survey, which they used to improve awareness of pain issues by collecting data that was subsequently brought to the media. Beverly approached Barbara Whitlach of SCCPI at the meeting and asked that she check to see if any similar data on pain exists for California. Applications such as distribution of an information sheet and/or pill container and partnering with hospitals for funding could be used for initiative self-promotion while increasing awareness of pain issues.

***Action Item:* The question of developing an NCPI display was presented, especially since the American Academy of Pain Management has invited NCPI to display at their upcoming annual meeting. This will be discussed further at the next conference call, pending forthcoming information from Barbara Whitlach.**

Beverly reports that the Massachusetts Pain Initiative, also supported by ACS, emphasized paying attention to infrastructure. They presented examples of their bylaws and how to develop a board of directors. Theirs is a simple application process for a 2-year term. They recommended including someone with marketing expertise.

This discussion led to the question of restructuring NCPI to include regional representatives and increasing NCPI membership and committee participation was posed. Increased membership would enhance lobbying efforts. Also, what kind of projects should we consider for AACPI's Power over Pain initiative? May reports that Maryland and Washington states held "public listening" sessions. These can be supported by a grant from the American Pain Foundation. During these sessions a facilitator presents a question, then lets the conversation flow.

***Action Item:* Since NCPI has developed the use of conference calling as outreach for pain education in Northern California, explore and consider whether a public listening has ever been, or could practically be done as a conference call.**

***Action Item:* Beverly returns to the previous topic with the question of whether NCPI needs to make contact with the California Attorney General's office to let them know if there is a pain issue upcoming, we would like to be involved in the discussion?**

This action item stimulated additional information such as the fact that the California Coalition for Compassionate Care has several deputy attorneys general who attend their quarterly meetings. They have been invited to participate in NCPI in the past. Alliance with the Health Department would also be desired.

May reported that an announcement was made at the national meeting that the Lance Armstrong Foundation has formed a partnership with the AACPI to help support state pain initiative projects with grant funding over the next 3 years.

NCPI members congratulate May Sung upon receiving an **AACPI Pain Initiative Champion Awards** in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the growth, development and accomplishments of a Pain Initiative.

***Action Item:* Cathy Dawson is preparing a press release noting May Sung's Pain Initiative Champion Award.**

#### **Physician's Medical Foundation Pain Management Conference Report (May Sung)**

With Dr. Thurman Hunt's absence, May Sung reported that NCPI provided a tabletop exhibit for the conference, consisting of a history, structure and goals. Beverly reported that a colleague who attended the conference found it provided lots of good information.

***Action Item:* As Vicky suggested, maintaining such conference information up on the NCPI website for a few weeks following the event serves as a good reference for members and site visitors.**

#### **NCPI Website Update (Vicky Ferraresi)**

All members agreed the website looks great. Thanks again to Vicky and her husband Chuck for an outstanding job. Discussion was generated over copyright issues when items are submitted for posting on the website. Part of the ACS and NCPI guidelines prohibit postings without permission from the authors/owners.

***Action Item:* Draft an "information for those submitting material for posting" document to provide these guidelines on the website for potential submissions.**

May announces that there is now a link to the ACS Pain Page through NCPI. From home page click on “Links” then “Pain Management Resources.” ACS Pain Pages is the second link.

**September – Pain Awareness Month / Communicating Pain Information** (Cathy Dawson and Kathy Keller)

Kathy Keller announces that Purdue Pharma is making plastic “Partners Against Pain” bracelets available in quantity at no charge to organizations and institutions that can be used for fund-raising and pain awareness. Is NCPI interested?

Penney Cowan reports that the ACPA also has bracelets along with several other programs planned for Pain Awareness Month. These include: a visit to Capitol Hill with visits to congressmen urging support of HR 1020 on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Information on how to write letters and visit congressmen is on the ACPA website.

The ACPA supports asking for state proclamations and resolutions again this year. Penney is meeting with a woman this week who may already have a California state proclamation arranged. She will know by this Friday.

Last year the ACPA provided pain tool kits that could be downloaded from their website or mail-ordered, with a focus on pharmacists. The new focus this year is on pain in the workplace, in partnership with Oracle.

Cathy Dawson asks if anyone knows what SCCPI is doing? Should / can we collaborate? Beverly suggests doing something with local legislature or contacting state, similar to the Women In Pain and Women With Pain conferences held for other state legislators.

Penney offered to send a resource application for the ACPA, which can be included in the ACPA pain tool kit for distribution (attached to these notes). A public awareness campaign will be launched nationally. They are hoping for a press release and conference held for news people to disseminate the information. Penney notes that publishing any kind of survey will get media attention. Dr. Knox Todd surveyed ED patients’ opinions of pain management. Kathy Keller suggested that Dr. Pamela Palmer from UCSF might be willing to provide a statement for the NCPI website and/or ACPA toolkit, however, Kathy Dawson indicates that her research recently received national press attention, so might not be picked up again.

**Action Item: Continue to explore options for activities for September, particularly a statement about NCPI for the pain tool kit.**

The next Advisory Council conference call will be held at 5-6pm on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>.



PARTNERS for  
UNDERSTANDING PAIN

Please fill this out in **WORD** and return via e-mail to: [ACPA@pacbell.net](mailto:ACPA@pacbell.net).

**Webmaster Note :** This form is available separately for downloading with the filename **pupform.doc**

### NURSES AND PHARMACIST TOOL KITS

### EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

We can offer the following materials for **professional education**: *Simply tab over to fill in each column. The column will grow as you enter information. Add additional columns if needed by clicking on table then insert then row.*

Title & web site	Summary of Contents	Pages/length	Charge?

We can offer the following materials for **public awareness/patient education**:

Title & web site	Summary of Contents	Pages/length	Charge?

Please let us know how to place the order or learn more about your resources.

Contact:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

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**PAIN IN THE WORKPLACE`**

We can offer the following materials for **employers**: *Simply tab over to fill in each column. The column will grow as you enter information. Add additional columns if needed by clicking on table then insert then row.*

<b>Title &amp; web site</b>	<b>Summary of Contents</b>	<b>Pages/length</b>	<b>Charge?</b>

We can offer the following materials for **employees/consumers**:

<b>Title &amp; web site</b>	<b>Summary of Contents</b>	<b>Pages/length</b>	<b>Charge?</b>

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