



NEWS RELEASE

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WIP announces 2011 Excellence in Pain Practice Award recipients

WINSTON-SALEM, North Carolina, USA (March 2, 2011) – The World Institute of Pain (WIP) has conferred the WIP Excellence in Pain Practice (EPP) Award on 13 pain centers.

The EPP Award recognizes pain centers that demonstrate the highest standards of pain practice around the world. Varying levels of recognition are attainable, including specialization in a particular area of clinical pain practice, multidisciplinary clinical pain practice, and comprehensive recognition that encompasses all dimensions of pain management including cutting-edge research.

“We wanted a mechanism for establishing an international network of pain centers that personifies our mission of fostering the exchange of medical science in interventional pain management, encouraging research, and creating opportunities for continued learning and training – particularly among young trainees in the field,” said WIP President, Prof. Serdar Erdine. “The EPP network of pain centers provides WIP with a new channel for future growth, and promotes cooperation and collaboration among pain centers with similar interests.”

“The specialty of pain management has evolved so fast during the last two decades. The EPP Award program is another way of contributing to the need for an update of the organizational standards of pain centers,” said WIP President-Elect 2011, Dr. Ricardo Ruiz-Lopez.

WIP congratulates the directors, physicians, and staff of the following pain center recipients of the WIP EPP Award.

EPP Award for Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Pain Practice

- ◆ **Istanbul Pain Center**—Istanbul, Turkey
(Director: Serdar Erdine, MD, FIPP)
- ◆ **University of Washington Center for Pain Relief**—Seattle, Washington, USA
(Director: Alex Cahana, MD, FIPP)

EPP Award for Multidisciplinary Clinical Pain Practice

- ◆ **Centre de la Douleur Clinique Cecil** — Lausanne, Vaud, Switzerland
(Director: Philippe Mavrocordatos, MD, FIPP)
- ◆ **Centro de Atención Integral del Dolor** — Buenos Aires, Argentina
(Director: Juan Carlos Flores, MD, FIPP)
- ◆ **DARADIA: The Pain Clinic** — Kolkata, West Bengal, India
(Director: Gautam Das, MD, FIPP)
- ◆ **IRCCS Centro di Riferimento Oncologico della Basilicata** — Rionero in Vulture, Italy
(Director: Pasquale De Negri, MD, FIPP)
- ◆ **Multidisciplinair Pijncentrum Lievensberg Ziekenhuis** —Halsteren, The Netherlands
(Director: C.W.J. van Tilburg, MD, FIPP)
- ◆ **Pain Center of the Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul National University Hospital** — Seoul, Korea
(Director: Yong Chul Kim, MD; Chairman: Sang Chul Lee, MD, PhD, FIPP)



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- ◆ **Pain Management Division of the Department of Anesthesiology, University of Cincinnati**
Cincinnati, Ohio, USA.
(Director: Hammam Akbik, MD, FIPP)
- ◆ **Singular—Centro de Controle Da Dor** — Cambui, Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil
(Director: Fabrício Dias Assis, MD, FIPP)
- ◆ **Utah Center for Pain Management and Research, Inc. DBA Nexus Pain Care**
Provo, Utah, USA.
(Director: Richard M. Rosenthal, MD, FIPP)

EPP Award for Clinical Pain Practice

- ◆ **ACME Pain Care** — Algonquin, Illinois, USA
(Director: Vikram B. Patel, MD, FIPP)

EPP Award for Clinical Pain Practice Specializing in Musculoskeletal Pain Syndromes

- ◆ **Metro Spinal Clinic** — Caulfield South, Victoria, Australia
(Co-Medical Directors: David Vivian, MBBS; Bruce Mitchell, MBBS, FIPP; and Paul Verrills, MBBS, FIPP)

“The EPP Award concept symbolizes one of the initial cornerstones of WIP – educating the world in pain medicine. Centers of excellence positioned strategically around the world will help achieve this goal,” said WIP President-Elect 2013, Dr. Richard Rauck.

To qualify for the award, an online application is completed by or on behalf of the pain center director. A site visit is conducted by an FIPP (Fellow of Interventional Pain Practice) member of WIP’s inspector’s panel. The EPP Award Committee exercises its due diligence in the determination of each award given, in accordance with WIP’s guidelines for EPP Award recognition.

Serving on the EPP Award Committee are Dr. P. Prithvi Raj (Chairman) of the USA; Dr. Charles A. Gauci of the United Kingdom; Dr. Gabor B. Racz of the USA; Dr. Ricardo Ruiz-Lopez of Spain; and Prof. Giustino Varrassi of Italy.

WIP is an international, nonprofit organization founded in 1993 that brings together the most recognized experts in the field of pain medicine for the advancement and standardization of interventional pain practice. WIP achieves its purposes and objectives through organizing physician-oriented educational symposia, practical workshops, and World Congresses; certifying as Fellow of Interventional Pain Practice (FIPP) physicians who pass a competency-based, multi-part examination; publishing the scholarly journal, *Pain Practice*; and establishing liaisons with physicians and industry worldwide to promote the specialty of pain medicine.

For more information about the World Institute of Pain, please visit the Web site: www.worldinstituteofpain.org.

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