



Pain Research Institute

This is the Pain Research Institute newsletter, the purpose of which is to keep researchers and clinicians informed of the current research going on in the institute. We hope this will enable clinicians to identify areas of research that they may be interested in whilst keeping informed about studies opening to recruitment as they may have pain patients they wish to refer.



Dr. Andreas Goebel, Reader in Pain Medicine & Director of the PRI



Francis McGlone, Professor in Neuroscience, School of Natural Sciences & Psychology, Liverpool John Moores University



Dr. Bernhard Frank, Consultant in Pain Medicine and Anaesthesia Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust



Selina Johnson, Pain Specialist Physiotherapist



Manohar Lal Sharma, Consultant in Pain Medicine, Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust



Andy Marshall, Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant at Walton Centre



Francis O'Neill, Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant in Oral Surgery



Helen Poole, Reader in Applied Health Psychology, Liverpool John Moores University



Serena Sensi, Research Technician at the Rheumatology Laboratory, University Hospital Aintree



Hannah Twiddy, Specialist Clinical Psychologist & Research Lead for Pain Management Programmes



Hayley McCullough, PRI Administrator



We would like to welcome Dr Andrew Marshall after many years of working along side us he will now be joining us permanently as a Senior Lecturer in pain medicine. This is a joint role & will see Andrew working for both the Walton Centre & UOL. Dr Marshalls research focus involves investigating the structure & function of small nerve fibres, mainly C-Fibres, in both health & disease. His particular interest, and the thrust of his current work, relates to a relatively recently discovered C-Fibre, the C-Tactile afferent, which appears to be involved encoding pleasant, affiliative, touch as well as having a significant pain modulatory effect. He is also studying the spinal cord processing of the C-Tactile afferent system in collaboration with Dr Manohar Sharma at the Walton Centre.

We recently had the sad news that John Miles one of the founders & president of the PRF had sadly passed away aged 83. John made a tremendous contribution to the area of chronic pain in which together with Sam Lipton & David Bowsher set up the Pain Relief Foundation, which was able to fund the building of the Pain Research Institute. John will be truly missed by all.



15 November 2019
Liverpool, UK

#bsd2019

The British Symposium on Diabetic Neuropathy (BSDN) is an annual symposium which focuses on clinical aspects of diabetic neuropathy. Its primary aim is to inform and educate on all aspects of diabetic neuropathy by inviting internationally renowned clinicians and scientists to give keynote lectures. This symposium is aimed at clinicians (diabetologists, neurologists and neurophysiologists, pain teams, general practitioners with a specialist interest, specialist nurses) and allied health professionals.

The 2019 meeting will discuss key elements of diabetic neuropathy with a **focus on pain and practical management concepts** and will include keynote lectures from key voices in the UK as well as Europe.

Tickets go on sale 14th May and are priced at £30 each. For more information please go to

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/4th-british-symposium-on-diabetic-neuropathy-tickets-61047152677?utm_term=eventname_text

**CROHN'S &
COLITIS UK**



ITM 2019 Hilda Tracy lecture

Friday 17th May 2019 Liverpool Prof Maria Fitzgerald, a world expert in neonatal pain from UCL will be discussing "Pain: a lifelong journey". The Lecture will be held between 2pm-3pm in the North West Cancer Research Centre Lecture Theatre, 200 London Road with lunch/refreshments from 1.30pm

Collaborative Research Awards 2019

Crohns & Colitis UK is a charity who are now invested in targeted research looking specifically at under-researched areas of high priority for Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD). Our current Collaborative Research theme: **Managing Pain in People with IBD** is focused on the common symptom of pain experienced by people with IBD: its causes, patterns, impact, prognosis and treatment. Applications are invited for grants to be awarded in 2019. Grants up to a maximum of £120,000 over a period of three years are available. **Collaborative Research Fellowship grants** up to a maximum of £180,000 over the same period are also available to applicants seeking funding for a clinical fellow working towards a PhD. Prospective fellows will be interviewed in **November 2019** as part of the competitive selection process and successful candidates will be badged as Crohn's & Colitis UK Fellows.

Closing date for applications is 4pm on Tuesday 16th July 2019. Apply online: www.crohnsandcolitis.org.uk/research/looking-for-funding

If anybody has anything they would like to add to the newsletter please contact Hayley.McCullough@liv.ac.uk

Research Studies... a few to mention

- **Investigating Diabetic Neuropathy During Initiation of Intensive Glycaemic Control**
- **The Utility of Non-Invasive Ocular Imaging in Diabetic Foot Disease**
- **A Multicentre, double-blind, centre-stratified multi-period crossover trial to evaluate the efficiency of the Optimal Pathway for Treating neuropathic pain in Diabetes Mellitus (OPTION-DM)**
- **Pain Relief Foundation Studentship**-A study looking into validity of confocal corneal microscopy in patients with painful chemotherapy induced and idiopathic small fibre neuropathy.

For more information on all of the above studies please contact the Principal Investigator on Ualam@Liverpool.ac.uk

- **Serum IgG autoantibodies in patients with Fibromyalgia**-We require 100 patients with a diagnoses of FMS (>1year), without other conditions, we will be collecting blood to be used in laboratory experiments. Principal investigator at andreasgoebel@rocketmail.com
- **Doctorate Clinical Psychology trainee project**- 8 participants post PMP who may not have shown significant change. It is hypothesised that those who do not respond well to Cognitive Behavioural based intervention may respond better to therapy such as PIT. Principal Investigator Hannah.Twiddy@thewaltoncentre.nhs.uk
- A study for long term benefit of Spinal Cord Stimulator –Principal Investigator Bernhard.frank@thewaltoncentre.nhs.uk



Pain Relief Foundation Support Group

Do you need support, advice or just a good chat to those who also suffer with chronic pain?

Come and Join us on the last Thursday of the month at PRF, 2nd Floor, Clinical Sciences Building, L9 7AL . Contact Jo Stephens 0151-529-5820 for more info

Liverpool Course on Management of Chronic Pain **"A Practical Approach" 4th-6th July 2019**

Pain Relief Foundation have announced their next course and the fee will be £450. For more information on the course including a detailed programme or to register for the event then please contact Lorraine.Roberts@painrelieffoundation.org.uk or visit the PRF website

