



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.

Covid-19 Update

We thought we would provide a little update from the PRI during this uncertain time. We hope you are all safe and well as we know Covid-19 has affected us all in one way or another ie working conditions, childcare, financially etc. We are still actively working during this period and should you need to contact us please feel free to email us as we are working from home. Please take a look through our newsletter as there a few exciting pieces of news we have to share....
Stay safe.

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





CRPS Grant News

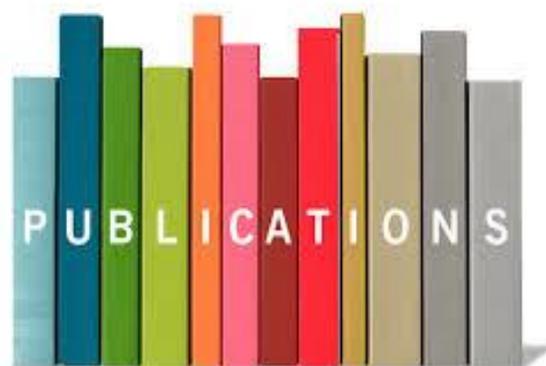
The most amazing news came in February when it was confirmed that a grant of 0.5 million pounds has been received from a US philanthropist to fund a trial into CRPS. The trial will involve the drug Anakinra which has recently been shown to cure the symptoms of CRPS in a mouse model.

Keep checking the PRI webpage for updates on this trial.



Dr Andreas Goebel has been working with World Health Organization (WHO) to help define the new diagnostic code for CRPS ICD11

We are extremely proud of the ongoing research that our researchers have been continuously working on so have decided to add a new dedicated section on the PRI website just for this. We aim to update this as regularly as possible so keep your eyes peeled. <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/pain-research-institute/our-research/publications/>



APIF Study recruitment on hold

We reported on our recruitment progress back in November 2019 where we had done the fantastic job of recruiting 43 patients for the APIF study in just 12 months. We continued to progress quickly as by February 2020 we had increased our figure to 48 nearly hitting the 50% mark. Unfortunately due to the Covid-19 situation we have had to put recruitment on hold until further notice. As soon as the situation is deemed safe for all parties involved we will be back up and running, ready to hit our target.

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 Ulam@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**- Understanding Perceptions around Forming & Maintaining Intimate Relationships for Women and Chronic Pelvic Pain . Principal Investigator Hannah.Twiddy@thewaltoncentre.nhs.uk
- **Doctorate Clinical Psychology trainee project**- How do people with fibromyalgia relate to their romantic partners? A qualitative study' Principal Investigator Sean.Harris@thewaltoncentre.nhs.uk
- A study for long term benefit of Spinal Cord Stimulator –Principal Investigator Bernhard.frank@thewaltoncentre.nhs.uk



Pain Relief Foundation Social Group

Do you fancy a chat & a cuppa with those who also suffer with chronic pain?

Come & join us on the Last Thursday of every month at PRF, 2nd floor, Clinical Sciences building, L9 7AL.

Contact Jo Stephens on 0151-529-5820 for more info

The Pain Relief Foundations Social Group is also on hold at the moment but they are still very much contactable through their social media platforms

Fibromyalgia News

Dr Chris Barker & Dr Andreas Goebel have been commissioned by the Royal College of Physicians to produce a Diagnostic Guideline on Fibromyalgia Syndrome to include recognition, diagnosis information. The first meeting of the national group was held in January this year and was supported by staff & patients of the Walton Centre amongst 8 others from throughout the UK. The next stage will be to complete the write-up draft guidance document, and then organise a second meeting mainly aiming at and inviting representatives from surgical specialities.



We have been fortunate enough to receive a grant from Versus Arthritis to convene an international workshop to discuss the implications of our FMS research discovery for future research worldwide. The meeting was held in Versus Arthritis offices in London in February. The idea was to create a "Consensus statement" which can be used by researchers to underpin their own research applications. There were 20+ participants including Andreas Goebel, Andy Marshall, & Chris Barker from Liverpool, there was also the current IASP president Claudia Sommer, Herta Flor (a leading fMRI pain-scientist) and Daniel Clauw from Michigan (the most published FMS scientist). More information re this will follow later on in the year

VERSUS ARTHRITIS

For any information on news that is published in our newsletter please contact the editor
Hayley.McCullough@liv.ac.uk