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# News from TRIPLL

## September 2011

## News

### Conference on Disparities and Chronic Pain to Take Place in October

TRIPLL, the Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) & the Comprehensive Center of Excellence in Disparities Research and Community Engagement (CEDRIC) are collaborating to host "Confronting the Realities of Pain: A Conference Examining Disparities in Pain". The Conference will offer opportunities to learn and network with New York City's premier professionals in the areas of geriatric, translational and disparities research, community based elder services, and aging policy.

The Keynote Speaker is Dr. Carmen Green, MD, Professor of Medicine at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In addition to her faculty appointments, Dr. Green is Co-Director of the Dissemination and Health Policy Initiative and the Community Liaison Core and Director of the Healthier Black Elders Center for the Michigan Center for Urban African-American Aging Research. Her current focus is on differences and disparities in pain care with a focus on elder, minority, and women's health as well as health policy.

The Conference is being held on October 12, 2011 from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm with cocktails and conversation to follow. For more information and to RSVP (space is limited), please email Allison Nickerson at [als2053@med.cornell.edu](mailto:als2053@med.cornell.edu).

### TRIPLL and Central Harlem Senior Citizen's Coalition Receive CTSC Funding

TRIPLL and Central Harlem Senior Citizen's Coalition (CHSCC) have received a Community Engagement Award from the Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) at Weill Cornell Medical College. The funding will evaluate an ongoing support group for those who suffer from chronic pain. The support group, "Beyond the

Pain" (BTP), began at CHSCC after collaborating with TRIPLL on an NIH-funded project designed to culturally adapt the "Arthritis Self Help Program" for use by African-American older adults. Both TRIPLL and CHSCC believe this is an exceptional opportunity to explore the value of practice-based evidence regarding intervention design, and propose to evaluate this self-help model in partnership with CHSCC and new partner agencies.

### **Work-in-Progress Seminars Start Up After Summer**

Every month TRIPLL hosts Work-In-Progress (WIPs) seminars that are designed to deliver collaboration and support across disciplines and institutions on specific projects. Professionals, researchers and affiliates are encouraged to present at the WIPs to receive peer review in which participants will offer suggestions, encouragement, and methods of improvement for the project. TRIPLL is looking for presentations that focus on research, programming, papers and presentations in the areas of translational science, pain studies, aging research and services, and more.

All WIPs take place on the third Wednesday of every month from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm. To participate in a WIP please contact Marcus Warmington at [maw2054@med.cornell.edu](mailto:maw2054@med.cornell.edu) or (212) 746-1801.

### **Institute of Medicine Report on Pain**

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) released a pain report in June titled "Relieving Pain in America: a blueprint for transforming prevention, care, education and research." The IOM was asked to conduct a study on the growing chronic pain issue in the United States, and in doing so discovered a need to treat pain as a public health issue moving forward. The study revealed a list of expected chronic pain challenges the US may face, and the necessary interventions that would need to be implemented to solve them. The suggested national treatment plan is to develop a population-level prevention and management strategy that will heighten awareness about pain, emphasize the prevention of pain, and address disparities in pain treatment.

The entire report can be found at-

<http://www.iom.edu/~media/Files/Report%20Files/2011/Relieving-Pain-in-America-A-Blueprint-for-Transforming-Prevention-Care-Education-Research/Pain%20Research%202011%20Report%20Brief.pdf>

### **TRIPLL Director Dr. Cary Reid Quoted in Huffington Post Article**

Dr. Reid was referenced and quoted in a recent Huffington Post article addressing the "Stigma around Aging and Chronic Pain". The article looks to challenge the notions in medical treatment that have led to the continuous misdiagnosis of chronic pain in the United States. The article notes that "Nearly three out of four older adults have multiple chronic illnesses, such as diabetes and arthritis, and often experience chronic pain from these and other disorders", which further proves that more attention should be focused on chronic pain treatment in the future. Dr. Reid was cited

for his research dedicated to improving pain management options for older adults.

The link to the article is provided below-

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/richard-w-besdine-md/aging-chronic-pain\\_b\\_905719.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/richard-w-besdine-md/aging-chronic-pain_b_905719.html)

### **Huffington Post Launches Chronic Pain Blog**

As a direct response to the growing chronic pain epidemic, the Huffington Post has created a blog under their healthy living section dedicated that specifically addresses chronic pain. The blog is updated with new posts on chronic pain from various physicians, authors, professors, etc, who recount their own personal experiences dealing with chronic pain and treating the condition. The blog takes an in depth look at the various aspects of pain and offers insight on how to effectively treat, monitor, and relieve it. The blog also promotes awareness of chronic pain and addresses the need to treat it as a serious national problem that requires more consistent and in depth medical attention. The full article is available here-

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/news/chronic-pain/>

### **ACPA Consumer Guide Released**

The American Chronic Pain Association (ACPA) recently released a consumer guide for pain and medication treatments. The "ACPA Consumer Guide to Chronic Pain Medication & Treatment" is updated regularly and includes web links for certain medications and treatments and relevant Internet sites of interest. The new consumer guide is very informative and provides information on various types of chronic pain, the positive and negative effects of medications, as well as a list of complementary and alternative medicine treatments that includes methods such as acupuncture, magnetic therapy, and the usage of herbal supplements. The links to the guide are listed below:

[http://www.theacpa.org/uploads/ACPA\\_Consumer\\_Guide\\_2011%20final.pdf](http://www.theacpa.org/uploads/ACPA_Consumer_Guide_2011%20final.pdf)

<http://www.annals.org/content/155/1/1.full.pdf+html>

## **Upcoming Events**

The following list includes upcoming seminars, meetings, and conferences that focus on aging, pain, or general research methods

### **September Work-in-Progress Seminar**

September 21, 2011

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

More information on presentations will be announced at a later time.

To attend please contact Marcus Warmington at [maw2054@med.cornell.edu](mailto:maw2054@med.cornell.edu) or (212) 746-1801.

**TRIPLL Fall Networking Event at Hospital for Special Surgery**

Hospital for Special Surgery  
Richard L. Menschel Education Center  
535 70th Street, 2nd floor  
4:00 pm - 7:30 pm, October 11th  
Wine and Cheese will be served.

**The Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) Monthly Walk-in Clinics**

Open to investigators, coordinators and other members of the research community affiliated with the WCMC CTSC. These clinics will provide consultation and advice related to submitting an application to the CTSC using the electronic Protocol Authoring and Review system (ePAR), preparing a study budget, navigating regulatory/compliance issues, and utilizing services available through the CTSC and its partners. Payson Solarium, 2nd floor of the Payson Building, 525 East 68th Street. Please contact James Holahan at [jph2003@med.cornell.edu](mailto:jph2003@med.cornell.edu) or 646-962-8154 with any questions.

**Palliative Care Collaborations: Advancing Across the Continuum**

Oct 27, 2011 - The Gideon Putnam Hotel & Conference Center, Saratoga Springs, NY.

The Hospice & Palliative Care Association of NYS and the Healthcare Association of NYS (HANYNS) are sponsoring this exciting one day conference designed to bring together palliative care providers, administrators and interdisciplinary team members from across the state for a day of Inspiration, Education and Connection.

**Conference Objectives:**

- Identify innovative approaches and advances in palliative care to expand the continuum of care and increase access to hospice and palliative care;
- Learn about the latest legislative, health policy and regulatory updates and how they impact your program;
- Gain knowledge about procedures and strategies to demonstrate the business case for palliative care;
- Participate in strategic networking opportunities for sharing best practices, discipline specific problem solving and finding inspiration in providing quality palliative care.

Who should attend: Hospital Administrators, Strategic Planners, CFOs, CEOs, Hospital Medical Directors, Business Development persons, and Clinicians. All Hospice and Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Team Members: Doctors, Nurses, Social Workers, Chaplains and alternative therapy providers.

Register online at-

<http://www.hpcanys.org/events/PalliativeCare.asp>

**Grants.Gov Training (Adobe-Forms-B) @ WCMC**

RASP is providing training sessions for investigators and administrators who are preparing competing (new, renewal, resubmission, or revision) grant applications that must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov for deadlines in October and November.\* In the training sessions, we will explain and demonstrate the procedures and forms necessary for Grants.gov electronic submission using the Adobe-Forms-B Adobe-based form packages. We encourage anyone who will prepare applications for Grants.gov submission in October and November to attend Grants.gov Training Sessions in the Samuel J. Wood library computer room:

Please visit <https://survey2.med.cornell.edu/perseus/se.ashx?s=61B4E5045846E7D7> to make your reservation September 27, 2011, 10:00am-12:30pm (limited availability)

\*These training sessions are for those preparing competing applications that must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov for deadlines in October and November.

### **Fall 2011 Community Education Programs**

Hospital for Special Surgery offers a wide range of educational lectures and workshops for the community. Lectures range from managing osteoarthritis pain and falls prevention, to movement classes including dance and Tai Chi. See our Event Calendar for course descriptions and to register online. To request copies of brochures please email [pped@hss.edu](mailto:pped@hss.edu)

### **9th Annual Geriatric Palliative Care Conference**

The conference is a yearly event hosted by Jewish Home Lifecare in New York City. The conference addresses palliative care issues and works to improve palliative care treatment methods. An excerpt from the conference website states "This year's conference will focus on clinicians and communication: how we talk to and interact with patients, family caregivers, government agencies, politicians, and, equally important, one another."

November 15th, 8:30 AM - 4:45 PM

UJA Federation of New York

130 East 59th Street

New York, NY 10022

Register online via-

<http://www.jewishhome.org/who-we-are/9th-annual-geriatric-palliative-care-conference>

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **Pain Related Funding**

#### **Mayday Fund of New York**

The Mayday Fund is dedicated to alleviating the incidence, degree, and consequence of human physical pain. The Mayday Fund's current grant-making targets are projects that result in clinical

interventions to reduce the toll of physical pain, pediatric pain, pain in non-verbal populations, and pain in the context of emergency medicine. Mayday will also continue to be proactive in its commitment to promote networking between veterinary and human medicine, especially in an effort to inform measurements of pain in non-verbal populations. Finally, the trustees of the Mayday Fund wish to be nimble enough to respond as special opportunities present themselves. Grants are made only to public charities and educational institutions officially recognized as such by the IRS. The Mayday Fund concentrates its activities in the United States. On occasion, grants have been made to Canadian organizations when the project has an effect that reaches beyond Canada. Grants cannot be made to individuals. Applications are continuous and no specified due date is applied.

### **Arthritis Foundation Research Grants**

The Arthritis Foundation is pleased to announce the 2011 RFA for Postdoctoral Fellowships, Doctoral Dissertation Awards, and New Investigator Grants. Proposals must be submitted through proposal CENTRAL (<https://proposalcentral.altum.com/>). Application forms are available through proposal CENTRAL. Do not submit more than one application per applicant. Application Due (deadline) September 26, 2011 (5:00 pm Eastern)

### **Collaborative Research on the Transition from Acute to Chronic Pain: New Models and Measures in Clinical and Preclinical Pain Research (R01)**

Request for Applications (RFA) Number: RFA-DE-12-003  
Purpose. The overall goal of this FOA is to stimulate preclinical and clinical research that will accelerate our understanding of the biological and behavioral determinants driving the transition from acute pain to chronic pain disorders. An understanding of the mechanisms and risk factors that determine who will transition to a chronic pain state is necessary in order to intervene in this transition and to design new, effective treatments to resolve acute pain before it becomes chronic. The objectives of this FOA are to: 1) assemble research teams with expertise in basic and clinical pain research and related expertise outside the pain field that will provide novel, collaborative, multidisciplinary approaches to answer crucial questions about the transition from acute to chronic pain; 2) discover biological and behavioral mechanisms that drive the transition from an acute pain state to a chronic dysfunctional pain condition; 3) develop new clinical and preclinical models and measures of pain that will be essential to identify and characterize these mechanisms. Studies that involve considerable risk but with the potential for breakthroughs in the field are strongly encouraged. The participating National Institutes of Health intend to commit \$3 million in 2012 to fund approximately 6-8 awards in response to this FOA. Awards issued under this FOA are contingent upon the availability of funds and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

Letter of intent due date (deadline)  
September 27, 2011 (5:00pm local time of applicant organization)

Application due date (deadline)

October 27, 2011 (5:00pm local time of applicant organization)

<http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/GetGrantFromFedgrants?opportunity=RFA-DE-12-003>

**Blueprint for Neuroscience Research Grand Challenge on the Transition from Acute to Chronic Neuropathic Pain (R01)**

Request for Applications (RFA) Number: RFA-DE-11-002 Purpose.

This FOA is issued as an initiative of the NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research. The Neuroscience Blueprint is a collaborative framework through which 16 NIH Institutes, Centers and Offices jointly support neuroscience-related research, with the aim of accelerating

discoveries and reducing the burden of nervous system disorders.

The goal of this FOA is to facilitate research collaborations between pain scientists and non-pain neuroscientists with expertise in neuroplasticity in order to study biological mechanisms underlying the transition from acute to chronic pain. These collaborations will capture insights and

expertise from disciplines where transitions from health to disease have been extensively examined. The purpose of this FOA is to encourage submission of multi-PI grant applications that propose highly collaborative, multidisciplinary research projects addressing neuropathic pain conditions. An expected outcome of this FOA will be

the formation of partnerships between pain researchers and non-pain neuroscientists to develop new collaborations focused on understanding the maladaptive neuroplastic changes that occur during the transition from acute to chronic neuropathic pain. Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards. The participating Neuroscience Blueprint Institutes intend to commit \$2.5 million in 2012 to fund awards in response to this FOA. Awards issued under this FOA are contingent upon the availability of funds and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

Letter of intent due date (deadline)

September 4, 2011 (5:00pm local time of applicant organization)

Application due date (deadline)

October 4, 2011 (5:00pm local time of applicant organization)

<http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/GetGrantFromFedgrants?opportunity=RFA-DE-12-008>

**Leveraging Existing Data or Longitudinal Studies to Evaluate Safety and Effectiveness of Pharmacological Management of Chronic Pain in Older Adults (R03)**

Request for Applications (RFA) Number: RFA-AG-12-006

This FOA solicits Small Research Grant (R03) projects that aim to leverage existing data or longitudinal studies in order to evaluate the safety and/or effectiveness of pharmacological management for chronic pain in older adults. Applicants are invited to submit innovative proposals using administrative databases, health care records, clinical trial datasets, patient registries, cohort studies, or

other resources to further our understanding of treatment outcomes from pharmacologic or combination pharmacologic/non-pharmacologic interventions, particularly involving non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) or opioids, in older individuals with chronic pain. Proposed studies may include, but are not limited to 1) identification of patient-, medication-, provider-, or system-level predictors of treatment outcomes in older individuals; 2) comparative safety and/or effectiveness studies of different treatment approaches for chronic pain in older adults; 3) development of methodologies linking datasets to address pain-related questions; or 4) evaluation of the utility of pain-related measures or indices in guiding treatment initiation, titration, or discontinuation in specific populations of older adults (e.g., individuals with dementia.)

Letter of intent due date (deadline)

October 3, 2011

Application due date (deadline)

November 3, 2011

<http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/GetGrantFromFedgrants?opportunity=RFA-AG-12-006>

### Age Related Funding

#### **NIA Accepting Applications for Grants for Early Medical/Surgical Subspecialists Pursuing Aging Research (GEMSSTAR)**

Request for applications (RFA) Number: RFA-AG-12-002

The National Institute on Aging is now accepting applications for funding through the Grants for Early Medical Surgical Subspecialists Transition to Aging Research (GEMSSTAR) Program,

which provides critical research support to physician-scientists pursuing research concerning the care of older adults. The program offers two years of support for small-scale research projects to physicians trained in medical or surgical specialties who are interested in becoming clinician-scientists focusing on the aging-related aspects of their specialties. Recipients can qualify for up to \$100,000 of direct research funding. The GEMSSTAR grant is a successor to the American Geriatrics Society's (AGS) Jahnigen Career Development Award (JCDA), a privately funded career development award offered for the past 10 years. The NIA intends to commit \$1.5 million in FY 2012 for approximately 18-20 awards. Awards issued under this FOA are contingent upon the availability of funds and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

Application due date (deadline)

October 3, 2011 (5:00pm local time of applicant organization)

<http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/GetGrantFromFedgrants?opportunity=RFA-AG-12-002>

#### **NIA and NINDS Paul Beeson Clinical Scientist Development Award in Aging (K08)**

Request for applications (RFA) Number: RFA-AG-12-003  
The National Institute of Aging (NIA), and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), working in part with funds contributed by the John. A Hartford Foundation and the American Federation for Aging Research, are pursuing this initiative to encourage and assist the development of future leaders in the field of gaining by supporting clinically trained (primarily physician) faculty members early in their careers to gain additional research training and to establish independent programs in aging research. The National Institute on Aging, and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke intend (in combination) to commit approximately \$1 million in FY 2012 to support 5 to 7 awards. The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations, and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications

Application due date (deadline)  
October 27, 2011 (5:00pm local time of applicant organization)  
<http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/GetGrantFromFedgrants?opportunity=RFA-AG-12-003>

#### **Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR) and Coordinating Center (P30)**

Request for applications (RFA) Number: RFA-AG-12-012  
This FOA invites applications from qualified institutions to create or continue Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR) and a RCMAR Coordinating Center. The RCMAR Program's mission is to address the national priority of reducing health disparities with special emphasis on health disparities in an aging population. The RCMARs will organize themselves so as to create an infrastructure that will: (1) increase the number of researchers focusing upon the health and well-being of minority elders and (2) enhance diversity in the professional workforce by mentoring diverse academic researchers for sustained careers in minority elder health-related research.

Application due date (deadline)  
November 9, 2011  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms.htm>

#### **T1 Translational Research on Aging: Small Business Innovation Awards (R43/R44)**

Request for application (RFA) Number: RFA-AG-12-009  
The involvement of small businesses in translational aging research could hasten the pace at which scientific advances are transformed into commercial products to improve or maintain the health and functional independence of older adults. Therefore, this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is intended to support innovative research conducted by small businesses to advance the availability of novel devices, products, health care practices and programs with the potential for commercial success and the likelihood to benefit the lives of older adults. For the purposes of this FOA, T1 translational research on aging is defined as the application of basic and clinical biomedical or basic behavioral and social

research findings towards the development of new strategies for prevention and treatment of age-related pathologies. T1 translational research approaches could include the development of new or existing technologies to diagnose, prevent or treat age-related conditions, functional decline and disability or for the promotion of health and well-being in mid- and later life. Application due date (deadline) November 4, 2011 (5:00pm local time of applicant organization). You can apply for the grant at <http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/GetGrantFromFedgrants?opportunity=RFA-AG-12-009>

### **Renal Function and Chronic Kidney Disease in Aging (R21)**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications that propose basic, clinical, and translational research on chronic kidney disease (CKD) and its consequences in aging and in older persons. Applications should focus on the (1) biology and pathophysiology of CKD in animal models; (2) etiology and pathophysiology of CKD in the elderly; (3) epidemiology and risk factors for the development of CKD with advancing age; or (4) diagnosis, medical management and clinical outcomes of CKD in this population. Research supported by this initiative should enhance knowledge of CKD and its consequences in the elderly and provide evidence-based guidance in the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of CKD in older persons. The following organizations and institutions are eligible to apply: domestic and foreign, public and private institutions of higher education, including Hispanic-serving institutions and Historically Black Colleges and Universities, tribally controlled colleges and universities, and Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions; nonprofits with and without 501(c)(3) IRS status; small businesses and for-profit organizations; federal, state, and local governments; Indian and Native American tribal governments and tribally designated organizations; independent school districts; public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities; U.S. territory or possession; and faith-based or community-based organizations.

Application due date (deadline)  
November 9, 2011 (5:00 pm local time of applicant organization)

### **Brookdale Leadership in Aging Fellowship Program**

The award is a two-year grant paid to the candidate's sponsoring institution in support of the candidate's research project to provide salary and fringe benefit support for the candidate commensurate with the wage scale of the institution. A grant award of up to \$125,000 each year is intended to cover 75 percent of the fellow's time, base salary, and fringe benefits. Additionally, a financial incentive of \$3,000 will be provided by the foundation for the mentor each year for the two years of the fellowship. It is the responsibility of each sponsoring institution receiving fellowship support to provide all supportive services necessary for the candidate's research. This includes office and lab space, equipment, supplies, research assistants if needed, conference and travel expenditures, secretarial assistance and all expenditures other than the candidate's salary and fringe benefits covered by the Brookdale Fellowship. If the candidate selects a mentor at their

base institution, it is the responsibility of that institution to support the mentor's time and expertise. Institutional commitment must be assured and are an integral part of the application. It is the policy of The Brookdale Foundation Group not to allow indirect costs for the administration of this award.

Further information can be found at the following link:

<http://bf.ianet.org/bf/index.html>

Application due date (deadline)

November 1, 2011

### Other Funding Opportunities

#### **2012 NIH Director's New Innovator Award Program (DP2)**

Request for application RFA-11-005- The NIH Director's New Innovator (DP2) Award program was created in 2007 to support a small number of early stage investigators of exceptional creativity who propose bold and highly innovative new research approaches that have the potential to produce a major impact on broad, important problems in biomedical and behavioral research. The New Innovator Awards complement ongoing efforts by NIH and its Institutes and Centers to fund early stage investigators through R01 grants, which continue to be the major sources of NIH support for early stage investigators. The NIH Director's New Innovator Award Program is a High-Risk Research initiative of the Common Fund.

Application due date (deadline)

October 14, 2011 (5:00 pm local time of applicant organization)

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The **Translational Research Institute on Pain in Later Life (TRIPLL)** is an **NIA funded Edward R. Roybal center** with a focus on persistent pain due to both cancer and non-cancer related causes. TRIPLL is a collaboration between investigators at Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell-Ithaca, Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, Hospital for Special Surgery, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Visiting Nurse Service of New York and Council of Senior Centers & Service of NYC, Inc.

For more information on TRIPLL please contact Samantha Parker at [sap2013@med.cornell.edu](mailto:sap2013@med.cornell.edu).



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