



Massachusetts Pain Initiative

A Member of the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives

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Greetings members of MassPI,

The MassPI steering council is pleased to share with you the accomplishments and major activities of our three councils from June 2008 to June 2009 as well as MassPI's strategic planning goals for 2009-2011.

MassPI Steering Council Members

Carol Curtiss, MSN, RN-BC, Steering Council Advisor

Cindy Steinberg, Chair, Legislative Council

Anne Marie Kelly, BSN, RN-BC, CHPN, Co-Chair, MassPI

Cheryl Pacella, MSN, HHCNS-BC, CPHQ, Chair, Professional Education Council

Ann Marie Harootunian, MS, APRN, CO-Chair, MassPI

Jeanne Connolly-Horrigan, MS, CO-Chair, Communications Council

Ginger Newell-Stokes, MS, RN, Treasurer

Cyndie Rodman, MS, Co-Chair, Communications Council

Hannah Lyons, MSN, RN-BC, AOCN, Chair, Public Awareness Council

Claire Sampson, RN, OCN, BC, new council member (2009-2011)

Peggy Flood, MSN, RN-BC, AOCN, Co-Chair, Public Awareness Council

Evelyn Corsini, MSW, LICSW, new council member (2009-2011)

Gretchen Kindstedt, MS, Administrative Assistant

MassPI Public Awareness Council Activities

Council Chairs - Peggy Flood, RN-BC, MS, AOCN, Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist at Emerson Hospital in Concord, MA and Hannah Lyons, RN-BC, MSN, AOCN, Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA.

The Public Awareness Council's accomplishments include:

- ◆ Development of a Pain Resource Guide identifying pain clinics in Massachusetts. The guide is available on the Mass PI website at:
http://www.masspaininitiative.org/PDFs/Pain_resource_guide_Nov%2008.pdf
- ◆ Completion of revisions to the Partners Against Pain education booklet called *Taking Control of Your Pain* that is distributed on a national basis.
- ◆ Revision of the Massachusetts Pain Initiative brochure
- ◆ Continued to provide PREP (pain resource education programs) presentations to the public in various venues including hospitals and community organizations
- ◆ Contributed to the revisions of the Mass PI PREP programs

MassPI Professional Education Council Activities

Council Chair: Cheryl Pacella, MSN, HHCNS-BC, CPHQ, Quality Improvement Manager, Hebrew Senior Life

The Professional Education Council's accomplishments include:

- The Council coordinated two educational offerings: the first in April 2008 held at the Publick House in Sturbridge where the speakers were Jane Ballantyne, MD ("Opioids in Society") and Ron Kulich, PhD ("Pain Management and Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes' 19th Century Evidence-Based Practice"). The second program took place in October 2008 at Masspro, in Waltham, where the guest speaker was Debra Heath, RN ("Comfort and Care in a Combat Support Hospital: Challenges in an Austere Environment").
- Two in-person meetings, one in April 2008 and a second in October 2008 (these were in conjunction with educational offerings).
- A series of conference calls, initially quarterly, but increasing in frequency as we approached the April 2009 program.
- Topics discussed included:
 - Planning for all-day conference scheduled for April 2009 (selecting site, arranging for speakers, planning for funding, promotion, etc.) Review of Pocket Tool regarding additions/corrections to format, plan for promotion of Pocket Tool
 - Review of content changes made to Power Over Pain Program and education surrounding the transition to MassPI PREP, brainstorming around promotion of the MassPI PREP program
 - Scheduling formal Train-the-Trainer programs (conference calls) for MassPI PREP
 - Review of content posted on MassPI website
 - Compilation of a list of speakers/resources for the membership
 - Identifying learning needs of the membership
- Assisted in garnering support for the Legislative Council regarding adoption of Pain Policy.
- Assisted in compiling items for the MassPI Newsletter distributed in March 2008 and February 2009.

MassPI Legislative Council Activities

Council Chair: Cindy Steinberg, New England Director, American Chronic Pain Association, Board Member and Power Over Pain Action Network MA Leader, American Pain Foundation

The Legislative Council's accomplishments include:

- **Regulatory/Executive Branch Accomplishments**

The Legislative Council worked collaboratively through a year long effort to get four Massachusetts professional licensing boards to adopt rulings on the management of pain which culminated in February and March 2009 with unanimous adoptions by the Massachusetts Boards of Registration in Nursing, Physician Assistants, Pharmacy and Dentistry. The Rulings were created to insure patient access to appropriate, effective pain assessment and management. The Rulings are available on the website www.masspaininitiative.org.
- **Implementation of Roll-Out Plan to Support Rulings**

A roll-out plan was developed and implemented with the Division of Health Professions Licensure to educate and communicate the Rulings to licensees. This was accomplished through newsletters, web sites and publications and continuing education programs given by MassPI pain management professionals. Multiple MassPI PREP (pain resource education programs) have been given around the state in which the Rulings have been announced, distributed and discussed (listing of educational programs available on website www.masspaininitiative.org)
- **Pain Proclamation from Governor Patrick**

The Legislative Council led an effort to obtain a proclamation signed by Governor Deval Patrick declaring September 2008 as Pain awareness Month in the Commonwealth (available on website).
- **Important Bills Filed in 2009**

In the new legislative session that began in January 2009, MassPI for the first time, worked with lawmakers to introduce legislation that, if enacted, would help in achieving our goals of improving the quality of life for pain sufferers and removing barriers to effective pain management. The bills MassPI worked with lawmakers to file in this session include:

1. An Act Requiring Pain Assessment and Management in Healthcare Facilities (HB 2078); Representative Jay Kaufman
 2. An Act Requiring Pain Management and Prescription Drug Abuse Training for Prescribing and Medical and Healthcare Providers (HB 3479); Representative Steven Walsh
 3. An Act Relating to the Safe Dispensing of Pain Management Medication (this bill was primarily introduced by ACS with support from MassPI); Representative John Scibak.
- Legislative council members testified at May 19, 2009 hearings on six bills and submitted written testimony to the public health committee.
 - Redrafted and moved forward legislation on mandatory pain management continuing education.

MassPI Strategic Planning Goals for 2009-2011

1. Develop a strategic communications plan for MassPI (ongoing from last year)
 - Redesign MassPI website
 - Acquire funding source for survey of Mass residents to identify needs related to pain
2. Develop two internally focused councils: Communications & Development
 - Communications council (focus on website, marketing, media)
 - Development council (focus on fundraising and membership)
3. Provide continuing education programs and PREP for professionals and the public
4. Increase number of active legislative members to advance pain management agenda through public policy and raise MassPI profile.

MassPI volunteers have done a tremendous job in advancing the mission and goals of our Initiative over the past years. As you can see, we have very ambitious goals for the next two years and are seeking more volunteers to help us move forward with our strategic plan for 2009-2011.

We are developing two new councils and are seeking volunteers who may have some experience, or can refer us to persons with experience, in the areas of website, graphic design, marketing, media, fundraising and membership. We are also seeking more volunteers to help on existing committees for our professional, public awareness and legislative councils.

Volunteer time is very flexible and can be simply assisting on a special project for a few months, helping with a program, assisting with a legislative issue or passage of a bill, working with legislators, assisting on a committee or serving on the steering council. MassPI has a great team of volunteers who are dedicated to improving pain management for those who suffer in pain and are seeking the help of others to join in this endeavor. Please let us know if you have a particular area in which you may be interested in volunteering some of your time. Your consideration is appreciated.

To volunteer, or for more information, please contact:

Anne Marie Kelly at annemariekelly@verizon.net

Ann Marie Harootunian at AnnMarie.Harootunian@caritaschristi.org

Carol Curtiss at Carol.Curtiss@verizon.net

More information on MassPI's Fall Education Program will be available soon. Please visit the MassPI website for upcoming events and programs. Hope you enjoy the rest of the summer.

Warm regards,
Anne Marie Kelly, BSN, RN-BC, CHPN
Co-Chair, MassPI