



THE INTERNATIONAL PELVIC PAIN SOCIETY

IPPS VISION E-Newsletter

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Featured Pelvic Pain Article

[CLICK HERE](#) to read this month's featured article authored by IPPS Secretary Georgine Lamvu, MD, titled *Basic Tools Absent from the Field of Chronic Pelvic Pain: What We Need to Take Better Care of Our Patients*.

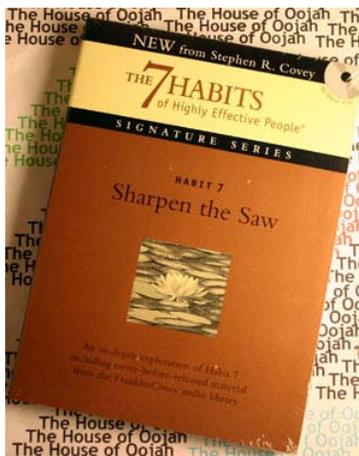
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President's Perspective: "Sharpen the Saw"



In the 1980s, Stephen Covey wrote the best-selling book, *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. The seventh habit is "Sharpen the Saw." He uses the story of an exhausted man, attempting to saw down a tree for over five hours. When asked by a passer by why he doesn't take a break and sharpen his saw, he replies, "I don't have time to sharpen the saw, I am too busy sawing." As healthcare providers for patients with pelvic pain, our saw might be the ability to ask the right question, look for a subtle sign, or to communicate effectively. We might just be

exhausted doing the same thing over and over. Periodically we need to sharpen our skills and re-energize.

Whether you have decided to dedicate your entire practice to caring for patients with pelvic pain, or if you only occasionally see such patients and want to become more proficient and confident in your skills, the IPPS has the perfect opportunity for you, this October at our annual scientific meeting. Dr. Georgine Lamvu has put together another outstanding meeting, featuring international experts who will instruct us about several challenging topics. Each time I have attended an IPPS meeting, I have left with something new and significant to use in my practice. For the special tools that are used in caring for our patients with pelvic pain, this is one of the few places where they can be *sharpened* by experts.

See you in Phoenix,

Howard T. Sharp, MD

Covey, Stephen R. *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. New York, Simon & Schuster, 1989.

2009 IPPS Annual Scientific Meeting

This year's meeting is set to take place in beautiful **Phoenix, Arizona** on **October 16 - 18, 2009** at the **Hyatt Regency Phoenix**. The meeting will feature an extensive scientific session, with presentations on the neurobiology of chronic pain, focusing on endometriosis,



fibromyalgia, irritable bowel syndrome and interstitial cystitis. Featured speakers will include Dr. Daniel Clawu, Dr. Suzie As-Sanie, Dr. David Peura, Dr. Henri Li, Dr. Lin Chang, Dr. Charles Ruddick and Dr. Jane Lesserman.

The meeting will also continue to have the introductory didactic sessions that focus on basic evaluation and management of chronic pelvic pain. The didactic lectures will feature a session on coding and billing for chronic pain disorders, as well as an instructional guide on starting a pelvic pain clinic.

Physical therapy treatment of chronic pain will continue to be an important topic, however, this year there is an additional hands-on workshop that will allow clinicians to learn and practice different physical therapy techniques used in the management of pain.

From the Chairman

As many of you know, with Dr. Paul Perry's death I assumed the position of Chairman of the Board of the International Pelvic Pain Society. Although this change in leadership marked a very sad time in the history of the Society, it also has stimulated the Board of Directors to reevaluate and reinvigorate the organization. At this time, I would like to let you know about some of the changes recommended by the Board and to seek your input as to ways we can further improve the International Pelvic Pain Society and make it meaningful to you, our members.

Here are some of the changes:

We are changing bylaws of the Society to make it a more democratic and representative organization. When the society was originally organized, it was structured to maintain consistent and constant leadership with Paul Perry, James Carter, and myself as permanent members of the Board of Directors. Also, the original bylaws had the election of officers of board members performed by the Board of Directors. As a new and fledgling organization, this was deemed necessary to try to ensure survival of the Society. Clearly that structure is neither necessary nor possible anymore. With the new bylaws, the members of the Society will be voting to elect the Board of Directors and the officers of the Society. The new bylaws should go into effect at this October's meeting.

Previously the Society had 3 officers. This has now been changed by separating the position of secretary-treasurer into two separate positions. After election as secretary of the Society, there will then be progression to the position of treasurer, then vice president, and then president. Also, the position of the Chairman of the Board will be changed from a permanent appointment to an appointment at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The chairman will continue to be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Society, but will become a non-voting member of the Board of Directors.

At the last Board meeting a revised pelvic pain questionnaire was approved and it is now on the website for your use. Please give us feedback so that we can continue to improve this questionnaire.

As you hopefully have noticed, another change that is that our newsletter is now electronic. Not only will this save money, but it will also allow us to expand content. We welcome your suggestions as well as your contributions to the newsletter.

The next annual meeting:

The International Pelvic Pain Society will be meeting in Phoenix, Arizona on October 16 - 17, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency. Georgine Lamvu, MD, is the scientific program director again this year and she has put together an outstanding program. We look forward to your joining us in Phoenix and also hope that you will submit your research for presentation. You can go to the website at www.pelvicpain.org to register and to submit your abstracts.

Fred Howard, MS, MD, Chairman of the IPPS Board of Directors

Pelvic Pain Announcements

- The National Vulvodynia Association has awarded a \$50,000 grant to IPPS members Georgine Lamvu, MD, Lori Boardman MD, and Denniz Zolnoun, MD. These investigators have been tasked with creating a 2-year multi-center national registry for the study of vulvodynia and vestibulitis. The registry will be operated out of Florida Hospital in Orlando, Florida. Initial participating sites include the University of Central Florida and the University of North Carolina. Any questions about the registry can be directed to Georgine Lamvu, MD, at georgine.lamvu@flhosp.org.
- We would like to congratulate the IPPS award recipients from the 2008 IPPS Annual Scientific Meeting.
 - *2008 Best Scientific Award:* David Klumpp, PhD
 - *2008 Best Poster Presentation:* Katy Vincent, MBBS, BSc

Find a Provider

Are you currently listed in the Find a Provider feature on the IPPS website? If you would like to be included or want to update your information, please email IPPS at info@pelvicpain.org.

Call for IPPS VISION E-Newsletter Contributions

If you wish to contribute an article or column to the newsletter, would like to submit information regarding job prospects, pelvic pain announcements or have comments about the newsletter, please email Stephanie Bodanyi at stephanie@wjweiser.com.