

USASP

US Association for
the Study of Pain

Monthly Newsletter

November 9th, 2022

Volume 13

2022 Board of Directors Election



The graphic features a dark blue background with a pattern of light blue stars. On the left, the USASP logo is displayed in a white box, with the text "USASP" in large blue and green letters and "US Association for the Study of Pain" below it. Below the logo, the word "VOTE" is written in large white letters, followed by "BOARD OF DIRECTORS" in smaller white letters. A red button with white text says "2022 ELECTION". At the bottom left, it says "MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL WITH A LINK TO CAST THEIR VOTES". On the right, there are 11 portrait photos of candidates arranged in three rows: the first row has four photos, the second row has four photos, and the third row has three photos. A large white star is positioned at the bottom right of the graphic.

USASP Members will receive a unique link in their email to use the rcv123 rank choice voting platform to vote. All candidate rankings must be submitted by November 23 at 11:59PM eastern time zone. [Click here to learn more about the 2022 Board of Directors Slate.](#)

Save the Date!



2023 USASP ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

April 11-14, 2023
Washington Duke Inn
Durham, NC

This meeting will include:

Symposia presentations
Early Career Forum
Professional Development Activities and
Workshops
Poster presentations
Special Interest Group Meetings
Committee Meetings
And more!

Symposia Deadline:

November 10, 2022

Research Abstracts Deadline:

January 13, 2023

[Call for Symposia](#)

November USASP Trainee Spotlight



Dr. Mohd Sami Ur Rasheed is a Postdoctoral Fellow with Dr. Peter Grace in the Department of Symptom Research at MD Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Rasheed research work involves understanding the role of Nrf2 activators in treating neuropathic pain. His research won the second prize for the best poster award at the 2022 Internal Medicine Research Retreat organized by the Division of Internal Medicine, MD Anderson Cancer Center from July 23-24, 2022. Earlier, Dr. Rasheed received the "Trainee Travel Award" from USASP to present his research work and was also invited to give an oral talk at the 2022 USASP Annual Scientific Meeting that was held in Cincinnati, Ohio from May 18-21, 2022.

Achievements

Mohd Sami Ur Rasheed, PhD
Postdoctoral Research Fellow
University of Texas MD
Anderson Cancer Center

- Poster Award for the 2022 Internal Medicine Research Retreat & Poster Session
- 2022 USASP Travel Award Recipient

Applications are open for investigators of basic science pain research.



Rita Allen Foundation

The Award in Pain provides \$150,000 over three years to early-stage faculty who are pursuing innovative research on mechanisms that initiate and propagate pain in the nervous system. Applicants should submit proposals for research topics that are directed toward the molecular biology of pain and/or basic science topics related to the development of new analgesics for the management of pain due to terminal illness. **Completed applications must be submitted by 11:59 PM EASTERN TIME on December 15, 2022.** Applications are reviewed by a selection committee that includes past Award in Pain recipients, as well as other leading pain researchers. Grant awards will be announced in summer 2023. Please click the link below for more information about eligibility, application requirements, and past award recipients.

[Click to view more information about the award](#)

TODAY!

**USASP
TODAY**
A CALLING OF A
PAIN SCIENTIST

Katherine Martucci
Ph.D.

Assistant Professor in the
Department of
Anesthesiology's Center for
Translational Pain Medicine
(CTPM) at Duke University.

 **9 NOVEMBER**
3:30 PM ET

[REGISTER NOW](#)

www.usasp.org

You are invited to join us for our third **USASP Today: A Calling of a Pain Scientist to be held on November 9th, 2022 at 3:30pmET.** This event will feature Dr. Katherine Martucci.

Katherine Martucci Ph.D. is a neuroscientist specializing in human clinical research of chronic pain, reward and motivation behaviors, sensory and acute pain perception, and opioid use and addiction. Dr. Martucci is an assistant professor in the Department of Anesthesiology's Center for Translational Pain Medicine (CTPM) at Duke University. She is Director of the Human Affect and Pain Neuroscience (HAPN) Laboratory and uses a combination of neuroimaging techniques, including functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) of the brain and cervical spinal cord, as well as sensory, behavioral and psychological tests to study acute and chronic pain in humans.

Dr. Martucci earned her Ph.D. in Neurobiology and Anatomy in 2011 at Wake Forest School of Medicine. She then continued her training in clinical research and neuroimaging through a postdoctoral fellowship at Stanford University. While at Stanford, Dr. Martucci obtained a prestigious NIH K99/R00 award, and in 2018 she joined the faculty at Duke University. Recently, Dr. Martucci was awarded her first R01 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to continue her research program of opioid use and chronic pain.

USASP members can attend this event for free and non-members can attend for \$10.

Register here to attend: <https://usasp.memberclicks.net/martucci>

Jobs and Training

University of Florida

Is seeking a post-doctoral to assist with a new national consortium project (NIH RE-JOIN - <https://www.bme.ufl.edu/allen-and-researchers-awarded-major-nih-niams-grant-to-define-how-the-neurons-that-mediate-chronic-joint-pain-innervate-different-joint-tissues/>) to map changes in innervation patterns with health and disease. This project will involve samples from rodent models, as well as donated tissues from clinical services. This individual will help to understand how shifts in joint innervation relate to symptomatic pain, tracking changes in innervation related to age and chronic joint degeneration (such as osteoarthritis and temporomandibular joint disorders). Prior experience with rodent surgeries and behavioral testing would be useful, but not required, as we are able to train these skills in new staff.

[Details - Postdoctoral Associate \(ufl.edu\)](#)

NYU Pain Research Center

The Pain Research Center of New York University (NYU) solicits applications for tenure track research-focused positions at the level of Assistant, Associate or Full Professor. The Center is housed in state-of-the-art laboratories in the Department of Molecular Pathobiology of NYU College of Dentistry.

[Click here for more information.](#)

HEAL Pain Therapeutics Development Program Webinar

***Non-Addictive Analgesic Therapeutics Development
(Small Molecules and Biologics) to Treat Pain***

HEAL Pain Therapeutics Development Program (PTDP) Webinar: Focus on “Non-Addictive Analgesic Therapeutics Development (Small Molecules and Biologics) to Treat Pain”

This webinar aims to inform and answer participants questions on the HEAL Pain Therapeutics Development Program (PTDP) and the funding announcement RFA-NS-21-010. The goal of this announcement is to accelerate the optimization and development of promising small molecule and biologic hits/leads to Phase I clinical trials and readiness for the Early Phase Pain Investigation Clinical Network (EPPIC-Net) or other Phase II clinical studies.

EVENT INFORMATION

HEAL Pain Therapeutics Development Program (PTDP) Webinar: Focus on “Non-Addictive Analgesic Therapeutics Development (Small Molecules and Biologics) to Treat Pain”
November 18, 2022 3:30 pm Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Moderated by HEAL (PTDP) Program Director Dr. MaryAnn Pelleymounter

Register in advance for this webinar:

<https://nih.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltceqsrDkrHshoSMKMEwi2vwN3hlbnxHA>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Two NIH Funding Opportunities and Webinar on Sickle Cell Disease Pain Management

[RFA-AT-23-001](#) Funding Opportunity

Announcement—HEAL Initiative:

**Pragmatic and Implementation Studies
for the Management of
Sickle Cell Disease Pain**

(UG3/UH3, Clinical Trials Optional)

Purpose: To support multisite embedded pragmatic or implementation trials to inform the uptake of pharmacologic, nonpharmacologic, and/or multicomponent approaches for acute and/or chronic SCD pain management in health care systems that serve the SCD population.

[RFA-AT-23-002](#) Funding Opportunity

Announcement—HEAL Initiative:

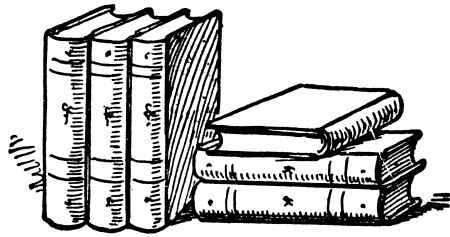
**Sickle Cell Disease Pain Management Trials
Utilizing the Pain Management Effectiveness
Research Network Cooperative Agreement**

(UG3/UH3, Clinical Trial Required)

Purpose: To support multisite effectiveness clinical trials of pharmacologic, nonpharmacologic, and/or multicomponent approaches for acute and/or chronic SCD pain management, allowing continued opioid pain management as needed.

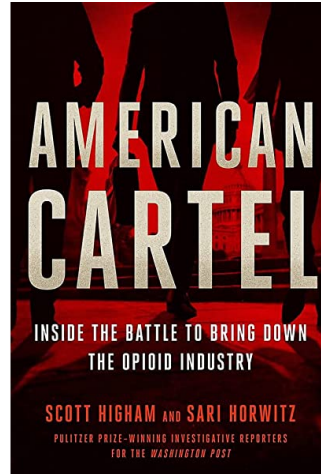
A [Frequently Asked Questions document](#) shares tips for applying and outlines research interests of each participating NIH organization.

The application deadline for both FOAs is **November 21, 2022**.



BOOK CORNER

EDITED BY JOHN LOESER &
DAVID TAUBEN



American Cartel by Scott Higham and Sari Horowitz.
New York, Hachette Book Group, 2022.
Hardcover, 400 pages. ISBN 978-1-5387-3720-0. \$25.99 (Amazon)

A review of American Cartel

The story of the litigation attempts to hold the three major drug distributors liable for the opioid epidemic

So much of what is wrong about current American society is revealed in this fascinating tale of the attempts to hold the distributors of drugs in the U.S. responsible for flooding our communities with oxycontin and other opioids in pursuit of profits. People are named and their roles are identified in this process. The evil effects of lobbying congress to write laws that protect businesses, the revolving door problem of federal employees joining private businesses working in the areas that they were responsible for as federal employees, clever-tongued attorneys influencing judges and juries to overcome the facts of a case, corporate leaders ignoring the effects of their products on the well-being of people in the community and laughing when they should be crying, health care providers who abuse their prescribing rights and run "pill mills," and misguided doctors who prescribe without an understanding of chronic pain and of opioid pharmacology and liability. There are not many heroes in this book that lays out the story of the attempt to hold the drug distribution industry responsible for contributing to our country's opioid disaster.

There are three major drug distribution companies in the U.S.: McKesson, Amerisource Bergen, and Cardinal Health. They basically have acted as a cartel. Although there is little doubt that the opioid epidemic was started by the drug manufacturer, Purdue, with the intensive sales of Oxycontin, the drug distributors have been responsible for dramatically increasing the sales volumes of all opioids. They have knowingly poured prodigious numbers of pills into small communities in Appalachia, which is where this type of litigation started. These distributors ignored the FDA rules for flagging suspicious drug sales and reporting them to the FDA. The discovery process in the litigation has uncovered communications between company

executives that related opioid sales to the sales of Doritos and revealed the indifference to the human suffering that opioids had created.

The book does have some heroes who tried to stem the tide of opioid flow into their communities. It has many villains who thwarted efforts to deal with the epidemic of overdoses and death. As we now kill more people with opioid overdoses than highway deaths, it is time to seriously address this flaw in our society. I am not optimistic that this will occur in the immediate future.

John D. Loeser, M.D.

Upcoming SIG Meetings and Events

- November 10 (11-12pm ET): Substance Use and Addiction SIG Meeting
 - November 14 (3-4pm ET): Diversity Inclusion and Access SIG Meeting
 - November 17 (2-3pm ET): Acute (to Chronic) Pain SIG Meeting
 - November 18 (11am PT/2pm ET): Pediatric Pain SIG
 - November 30 (12-1pm ET): Basic Science Pre-Clinical SIG Meeting
 - November 30 (3-4pm ET): Education and Professional Development Event on Alternative Careers with networking event (4-5pm ET)
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If your SIG or committee has updates or events you would like shared with USASP membership please email them using the contact below.

Contact Info:

US Association for the Study of Pain
admin@usasp.org

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