



## **FAER PAIN RESEARCH COUNCIL**

### **Request for Proposals: Chronic Opioid Use and Perioperative Management**

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Long-term opioid use has become a frequent means of managing chronic pain states.<sup>1,2</sup> Despite the widespread adoption of this treatment, the optimum perioperative management of patients receiving chronic opioids is poorly understood.<sup>3</sup> FAER is requesting proposals for projects that will improve our understanding of perioperative management of surgical patients concurrently receiving chronic opioids at the time of operation.

Projects may relate to any aspect of optimizing analgesic care of patients on chronic opioids, ranging from pharmacologic aspects of chronic opioid use in the perioperative period, to methods of best combining acute perioperative analgesic interventions with chronic opioid use. Clinical proposals should adopt a randomized controlled design that incorporates meaningful outcome measures beyond assessment of pain, however, alternative study designs will be considered. The outcomes of interest should be specified and relevancy of these outcomes to the patient considered. Power calculations for either a feasibility or outcome study should be reported.

Proposals will be judged on their potential to impact our understanding of combining acute perioperative analgesic interventions with patients on established chronic opioid therapy. Proposals will be evaluated and scored through the same process as other FAER grant applications. Both feasibility and costs of the trial will be critical to the funding decision. In the case of a proposed feasibility study, a rough estimate of the cost of the ultimate outcome study should be included.

Proposals must be submitted to FAER by February 15, 2011. For more information on FAER grants, including applications and deadlines, visit [www.faer.org/programs/grants](http://www.faer.org/programs/grants) or contact Carol Demulling, Grants Coordinator, at [demulling.carol@mayo.edu](mailto:demulling.carol@mayo.edu).

1. Rosenblum A, Marsch LA, Joseph H, Portenoy RK: Opioids and the Treatment of Chronic Pain: Controversies, Current Status, and Future Directions. *Exp Clin Psychopharmacol.* 2008; 16(5):405-16.
2. Brennan F, Carr BD, Cousins MJ. Pain Management as a Fundamental Human Right. *Anesth Analg* 2007; 105:205–21.
3. Paul F. White, and Henrik Kehlet: Editorial - Improving Pain Management: Are We Jumping from the Frying Pan into the Fire? *Anesth Analg* 2007; 105:10-12.
4. Management of Perioperative Pain in Patients Chronically Consuming Opioids. Carroll IR, Angst MS, Clark JD. *Reg Anesth Pain Med.* 2004 Nov-Dec; 29(6):576-91. Review.

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