



# Optimizing Pain Management for Our Warriors and Their Families

COL Chester 'Trip' Buckenmaier III, MD

Walter Reed Army Medical Center

Defense and Veterans Pain Management Initiative



“What an infinite blessing.”







# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Evacuation Realities





www.apsf.org

# NEWSLETTER

The Official Journal of the Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation

Volume 19, No. 1, 1-16

Circulation 36,825

Spring 2004

## Can We Alter Long-Term Outcome? The Role of Inflammation and Immunity in the Perioperative Period (Part II)

by Steffen E. Meiler, MD, Terri G. Monk, MD, James B. Mayfield, MD, and C. Alvin Head, MD

**Editor's Note:** The fall 2003 issue of this Newsletter contained an article entitled "Can We Alter Long-Term Outcome? The Role of Anesthetic Management and the Inflammatory Response," by Drs. Meiler, Moond, Mayfield, and Head. The following article is the second in this two-part series and provides a glimpse into evidence linking perioperative inflammation and long-term morbidity and mortality. It raises some very interesting and provocative questions.

As part of this initiative exploring perioperative inflammation, the APSF is organizing a multi-specialty Expert Panel entitled "Anesthetic Depth, Inflammation, and Surgical Outcomes," to be held in Washington, DC, in September 2004, under the leadership of David Gaba, MD. A world-class group of investigators will meet to consider the current data, identify gaps in understanding, develop research strategies, and discuss the potential impact on perioperative management. Surgical leaders will participate, including Shukri Khuri, MD (VA), Thomas Russell, MD (ACS), and David Hunt (CMS), as well as anesthesiologists and scientists including Charles Serhan, MD, Simon Gelman, MD, Lee Fleisher, MD, Rober Legasse, MD, Marcel Durieux, MD, Steffen Meiler, MD, and Terri Monk, MD. Patient Safety experts will include Robert Stoelting, MD, and Jeffrey Cooper, PhD. This panel will be co-sponsored by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, represented by Jerold Loeb, PhD, and the National Quality Forum, represented by Kenneth Kizer, MD.



Our short-term interventions may have long-term consequences.

The first article in this two-part series introduced the APSF readership to the concept that medical decisions during the perioperative period may have long-term consequences for patient safety.<sup>1</sup> The potential relationship between anesthesia management and long-term outcome is not intuitively obvious. Anesthesia practice typically functions within a "beat-to-beat" environment where intraoperative complications happen suddenly, anesthetic drugs wear off quickly, and patient outcomes are measured within hours or at

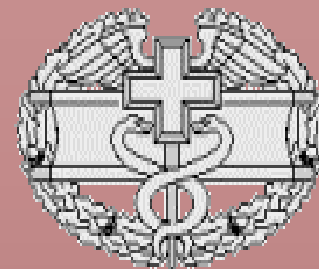
most a few days following surgery. Most anesthesia patient safety initiatives have naturally focused on events that occur while anesthesiologists are actively involved with care—a period that has now become extraordinarily safe. This focus may need to shift as the risk of dying during the first postoperative year may be as high as 5% to 14% in certain patient populations. New evidence suggests that this mortality might be influenced by specific anesthetic interventions at the time of surgery.<sup>2,4</sup>

Recent biomedical research has demonstrated the importance of inflammation in the progression of chronic diseases such as atherosclerosis, cancer, and dementia. Anesthesia and surgery are also associated with a dramatically increased inflammatory response and concurrent suppression of cell-mediated immunity.<sup>5,6</sup> Since most long-term deaths after surgery are due to cardiovascular events and cancer, it is reasonable to postulate that perioperative immune responses play some role in these outcomes.

See "Outcome," Page 3

### Inside:

Complications Associated With Regional Anesthesia.....	Pg 5
Burton Dole Becomes Largest APSF Donor .....	Pg 7
Misplaced Valve Poses Potential Hazard (Dear SIRS) .....	Pg 8
APSF Grant Program .....	Pg 10
Safe Use of Epidural Steroids.....	Pg 14





# Perioperative Inflammation- Long Term Outcome



## Conclusions of *Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation Workshop on Postoperative Long-Term Outcome*

There are things that happen during surgery that have lasting effects and may have a long-term impact on morbidity and mortality.

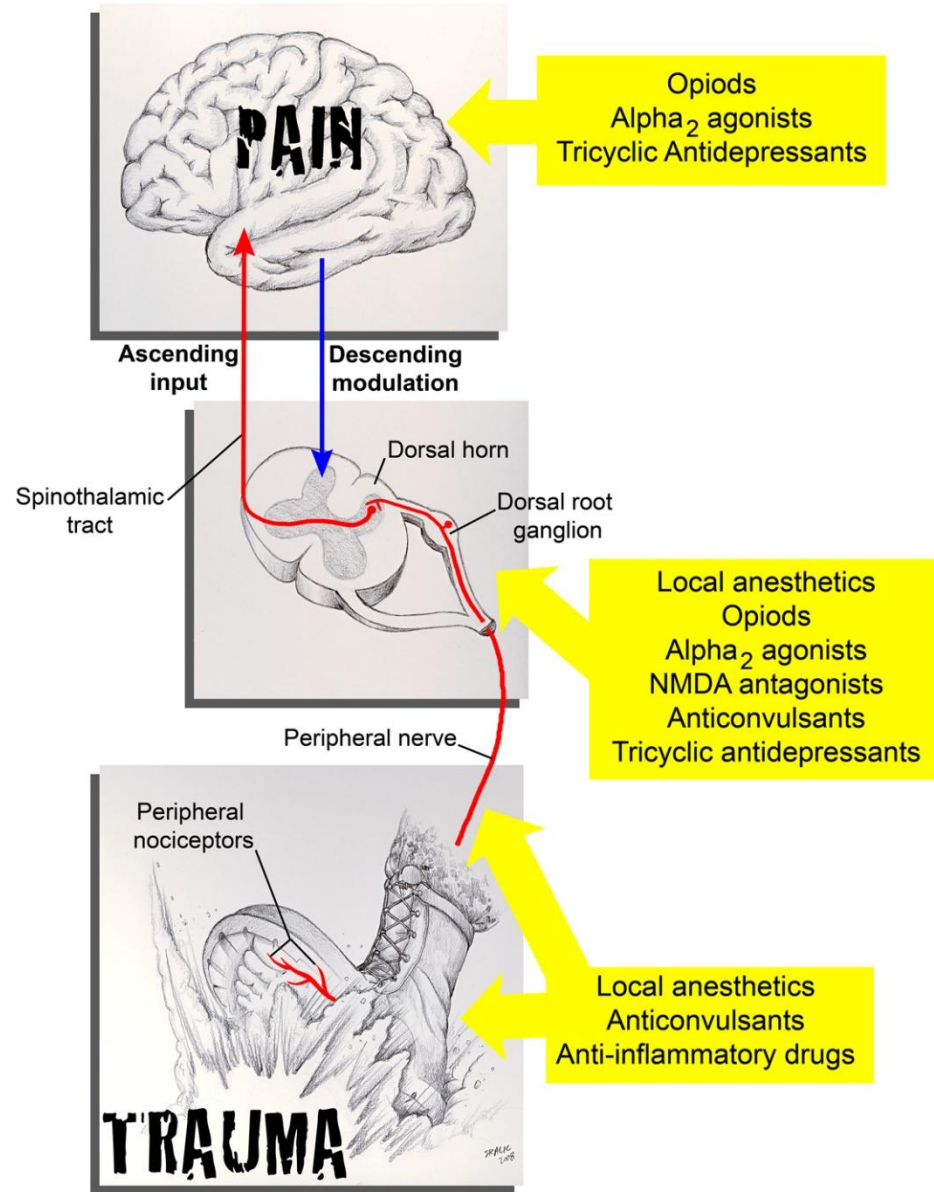
Inflammation has been implicated in many disease processes and it is definitely possible that there exists a relationship between inflammation and the long-term outcomes associated with surgery and anesthesia.

Gaba, D.M., Morell, R.C. Report of APSF Workshop on Postoperative Long-Term Outcome, *APSF*. 2005

This distinguished panel included such well known people as Robert Stoelting, Terry Monk and Lee Fleisher.

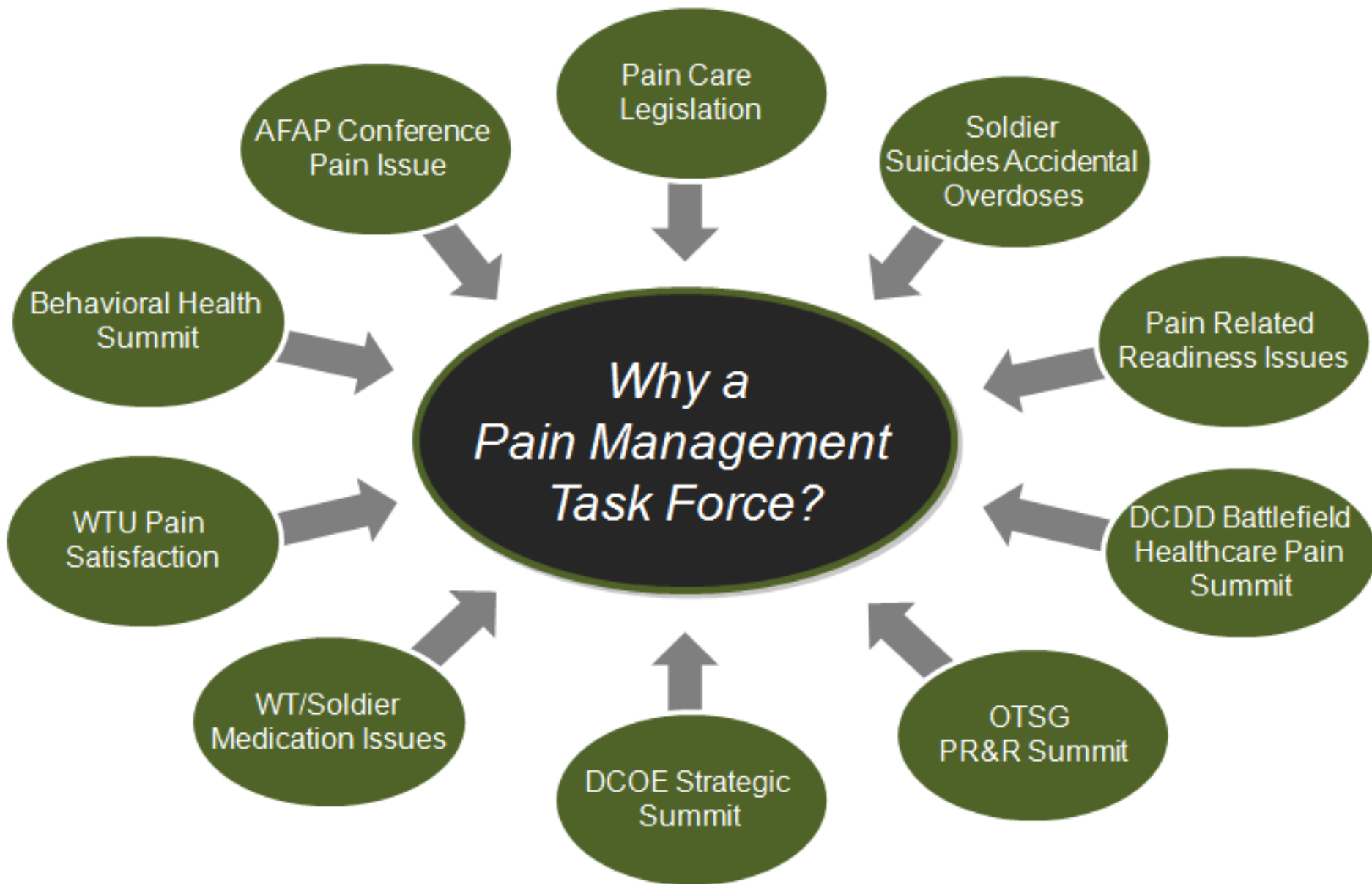


# Multimodal Analgesia



Source:

MARAA book -  
[www.DVPMI.org](http://www.DVPMI.org)





# Army Pain Management Task Force



## Mission

To provide recommendations for a MEDCOM comprehensive pain management strategy that is holistic, multidisciplinary, and multimodal in its approach, utilizes state of the art/science modalities and technologies, and provides optimal quality of life for Soldiers and other patients with acute and chronic pain.

» *from Army Pain Management Task Force Charter; signed  
21 Aug 2009*

## Vision Statement

A Standardized DoD & VHA Approach to Pain Management to  
Optimize the Care for Warriors and their Families



# Task Force Recommendations



## Providing a Standardized DoD and VHA Vision and Approach to Pain Management to Optimize the Care for Warriors and their Families

- 1 Focus on the Warrior and Family - Sustaining the Force
- 2 Synchronize a Culture of Pain Awareness, Education, and Proactive Intervention (Medical Staff, Patients and Leaders)
- 3 Provide Tools and Infrastructure that Support and Encourage Practice and Research Advancements in Pain Management
- 4 Build a Full Spectrum of Best Practices for the Continuum of Acute and Chronic Pain Care, Based on a Foundation of the Best Available Evidence



# Novel pain control methods and equipment

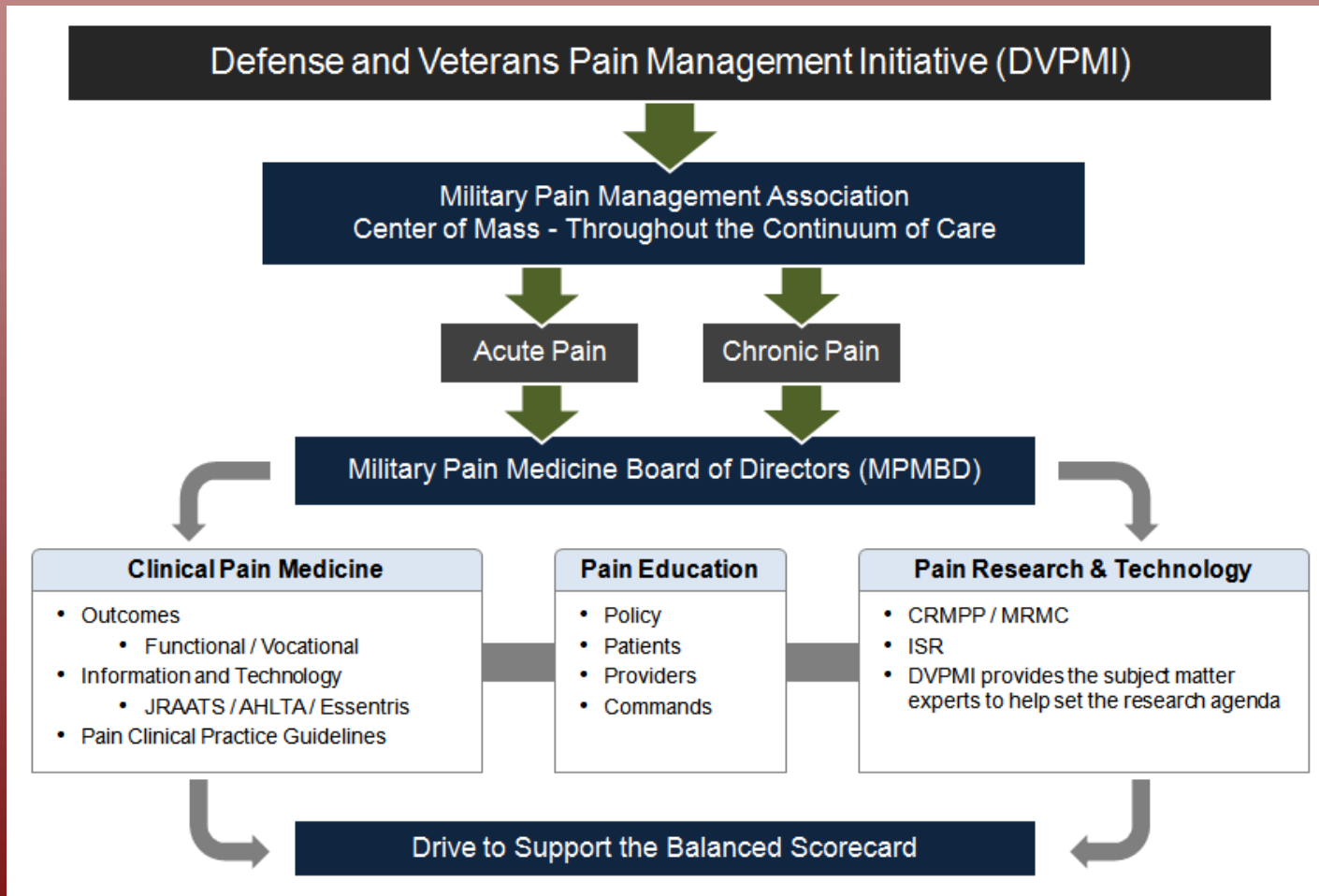


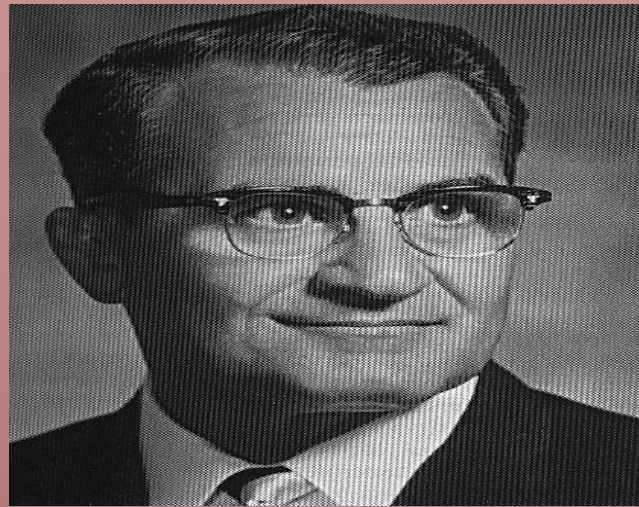
Paracetamol



# The Future of Acute & Chronic Pain Management in the Military and VHA Care Continuum







“The proper management of pain remains, after all, the most important obligation, the main objective, and the crowning achievement of every physician.”

John J. Bonica, M. D. in *The Management of Pain*.



# Questions?



[Chester.Buckenmaier@amedd.army.mil](mailto:Chester.Buckenmaier@amedd.army.mil)

[www.dvpmi.org](http://www.dvpmi.org)