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PRESS RELEASE

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Pharmacology of Pain Reviews New Developments for Treatment

SEATTLE, April 15, 2010 – From opium poppy extracts to new analgesics, this comprehensive look at the pharmacology of pain describes the rapid evolution of pain knowledge and promising new developments for treating patients with chronic pain. Thanks to an improved understanding of the mechanisms of pain at cellular, molecular, and synaptic levels, researchers have developed analgesics that act on new targets, providing new hope for better pain management and improved quality of life in millions of patients worldwide.

This authoritative hardbound volume, edited by Drs. Pierre Beaulieu, David Lussier, Frank Porreca, and Anthony H. Dickenson, brings together leading experts in anesthesiology, pharmacology, pharmacy, neurology, pain medicine, and palliative care to review developments in the pharmacology of pain. The book also includes a section on the clinical pharmacology of pain for pain management in different patient populations (e.g., obstetric patients, obese patients, infants and children, older patients, and palliative care patients). Special topics are also covered, such as the pharmacology of tolerance, dependency and addiction, pharmacogenetics, and models of pain. The authors also describe new insights into placebo analgesia.

"Multimodal analgesia (the simultaneous use of more than one family of analgesics) is crucial to obtain better results," Dr. Beaulieu explains. "Some current drugs such as opioids are effective in a large number of situations, but at the expense of troublesome or even life-threatening side effects. The complexity of pain targets is now obvious, and no one magic bullet will be able to address them all."

The editors believe this comprehensive review of the pharmacology of pain will be particularly useful for basic scientists, clinical researchers, clinicians, and other health professionals.

About IASP®: *Founded in 1973, the* International Association for the Study of Pain *is a nonprofit organization that brings together scientists, clinicians, health care providers, and policy makers to stimulate and support the study of pain and to translate that knowledge into improved pain relief worldwide.* IASP Press® *publishes timely, high-quality, reasonably priced books on a variety of topics related to pain research and treatment. IASP currently has nearly 7,000 members from 123 countries and in 80 chapters. For more information, visit: www.iasp-pain.org*

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