

**For Immediate Release**

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**Effective Alternatives to Opioids for Chronic Pain:  
The Clinical Case Explored in April 29 Seminar**

(Washington, D.C.) April 14, 2017 – The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (AANP) will hold a half-day seminar exploring [Natural Approaches to Chronic Pain: Effective Alternatives to Opioids](#) at the Hyatt Regency – Crystal City, Virginia on Saturday, April 29 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

[According to the CDC](#), more than 15,000 Americans died from prescription opioid overdoses in 2015, and more than 2 million of our fellow citizens remain dependent on these drugs. A cross-section of licensed Naturopathic Doctors, integrative Medical Doctors, and other progressive health care providers will gather at this seminar to assess the evidence base for non-invasive, non-toxic, non-addictive treatments for pain and to share clinical experience gained from both the public and private sectors.

“There’s a tremendous need for truly patient-centric approaches that offer individuals safe and effective alternatives to opioids for their chronic pain,” said Jaclyn Chasse, ND, president of the AANP. “Providing safe and effective alternatives to opioids ought to be a national priority and this conference will lay out the case.”

The seminar will feature physicians who are successfully alleviating their patients’ pain through complementary and integrative approaches such as guided imagery, mindfulness meditation, acupuncture, and stress reduction techniques. A special forum will provide insight on cutting-edge approaches that are proving successful in treating veterans and active military personnel.

Speakers include:

- Wendy Weber, ND, Ph.D., MPH, [National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health](#)
- Michael Knep, Psy.D, Integrative Health and Wellness Program, Washington, DC VA Medical Center
- Eric Schoomaker, MD, Ph.D., former Army Surgeon General
- Chester “Trip” Buckenmaier, MD, [Defense & Veterans Center for Integrative Pain Management](#)
- Christopher Jones, Ph.D., Science and Data Policy Office, US Department of Health and Human Services
- Bob Twillman, Ph.D., executive director, [Academy of Integrative Pain Management](#)

Media representatives are invited to cover part of or the [entire seminar](#). Lunch will be provided. To register as media, contact Taryn Ward, manager of Public Relations, Marketing & Communications, at [taryn.ward@naturopathic.org](mailto:taryn.ward@naturopathic.org).

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The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (AANP) is the national professional association that represents 5,000 licensed Naturopathic Doctors. The AANP strives to make naturopathic medicine available to every American, and to increase recognition of naturopathic physicians as the identified authorities on natural medicine. Learn more at [www.naturopathic.org](http://www.naturopathic.org).