



THE  
AUSTRALIAN  
PAIN SOCIETY

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **AUSTRALIAN PAIN SOCIETY ENDORSES GLOBAL YEAR AGAINST PAIN IN THE JOINTS**

The International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) has just announced that 2016 is the Global Year against Pain in the Joints.

President of the Australian Pain Society (APS), Dr Geoffrey Speldewinde, is strongly supportive of the initiative of IASP in acknowledging such a widespread and disabling problem. There are more than 5 million Australians living daily with varying degrees of chronic pain, much of which is related to joints.

Dr Speldewinde went on to say "This International Year recognises that there is an increasing prevalence of people across all age groups living with a range of joint complaints. Painful joints cause substantial reductions in the physical capabilities of those affected. Often this results in difficulty with activities of daily living and with recreation; the ability to work can be dramatically reduced and working careers shortened."

It has been estimated that the world is facing a 7-fold increase in the numbers of joint replacements undertaken over the next 15 years. This is likely to have a dramatic impact on the cost to our health system and distribution of resources.

The Australian Pain Society (APS), a chapter of the IASP, is Australia's leading national forum of a wide range of university-trained health professionals (including doctors, nurses, occupational therapists, pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists and researchers) trained in the recognition, research, management and advocacy around all aspects of pain in Australia. The Australian Pain Society is well positioned and well resourced to provide support, education, and advocacy for patients and clinicians.

For more detailed information please refer to our webpage:  
<https://www.apsoc.org.au/global-year-against-pain>

For further comment, information or photos, please ring or email:

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