



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS CONVERGE IN SEATTLE TO FIGHT PAIN

Seattle, Washington, October 30, 2008- Physical therapists from around the world are converging on Seattle this week for the annual conference of the *American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists (AAOMPT)*. ***Pain: From Science to Solutions***, the conference theme, speaks to the unique role physical therapists have in combating pain. Pain from musculoskeletal problems such as back and neck pain is a leading cause of healthcare utilization. Manual physical therapy techniques such as spinal manipulation play an important role in pain relief for patients throughout the United States. Manual physical therapy includes the use of hands-on techniques including joint and soft-tissue mobilization designed to restore motion and reduce pain. AAOMPT members will be discussing emerging research suggesting that spinal manipulation has the ability to positively affect the brain's processing of pain signals. Keynote speaker and distinguished researcher, Richard Deyo, MD, MPH, will open the conference. Dr. Deyo is the Kaiser-Permanente Endowed Professor in Evidence-Based Medicine, Oregon Health Science University Department of Family Medicine.

AAOMPT president, Tim Flynn, PT, PhD, said about the conference, "This is an exciting time for physical therapy and for health care. On one side, we have a tremendous amount of research emerging in support of manual physical therapy for pain relief, and on the other side we see the stars aligning for great change in the health care industry." Flynn continued, "As a patient, your choices come down to drugs, surgery, or physical therapists. Physical therapists can offer a low-cost solution for patients with pain and high-quality research supports what we do."

For more on the benefits physical therapists can provide in the management of back and neck problems, contact your nearest physical therapist or visit the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists website at www.aaompt.org. AAOMPT represents physical therapists by promoting excellence in orthopaedic manual physical therapy practice, education and research.

The Bell Harbor International Convention Center in Seattle, WA is welcoming the American Academy of Manual Physical Therapists from Oct. 30th – Nov, 2nd, 2008.

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