

2017 AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGY MITCHELL B. MAX AWARD for NEUROPATHIC PAIN

Dr. C. Peter N. Watson is the 2017 recipient of the Mitchell B. Max Award from the American Academy of Neurology for his work in neuropathic pain. As a neurologist and clinician scientist he has made outstanding scientific contributions to the understanding of neuropathic pain and pharmacological treatment such as with postherpetic neuralgia (PHN) and diabetic neuropathy. Dr. Watson published the first well-conducted trial in PHN, demonstrating the efficacy of amitriptyline as an analgesic independent of its effects on depression. That design and those findings have been well replicated in other leading centers and increased our understanding of the pathophysiological and psychological aspects of pain. His subsequent series of pioneering and definitive trials of other oral medications, included maprotiline, nortriptyline, and oxycodone as well as topical applications including capsaicin and the combination of lidocaine and prilocaine. His paper on postmortem findings in postherpetic neuralgia was regarded as a classic by Noordenbos. Despite his busy clinical practice, he is well published in journals including Pain, Neurology, New England Journal of Medicine, Journal of Pain and Symptom Management, and Clinical Journal of Pain. He has contributed many book chapters, and both edited and contributed to two widely used editions of *Herpes Zoster and Postherpetic Neuralgia*. His latest book edited with Gershon and Oxman has just been published: *Herpes Zoster: Postherpetic Neuralgia and Other Complications: Focus on Treatment and Prevention*.

Dr. Watson, a neurologist in the Department of Medicine, Division of Neurology, University of Toronto, is a member of the U of T Centre for the Study of Pain, Canadian Pain Society, and International Association for the Study of Pain. He has received the Canadian Pain Society's Distinguished Career Award and the American Varicella Zoster Research Foundation Medal in recognition of his significant impact on the treatment of pain nationally and internationally.

MITCHELL B. MAX AWARD FOR NEUROPATHIC PAIN is sponsored by the American Academy of Neurology and endowed by the United States Cancer Pain Relief Committee, the Mayday Fund, and friends of Dr. Mitchell Max. Dr. Max was an internationally recognized neurologist and pain researcher, particularly in the area of neuropathic pain.

Past Award recipients are:

2011 Kenneth Casey, MD

2012 Howard Fields, MD

2013 Justin C. McArthur, MBBS, MPH, FAAN

2014 Kathleen Foley, MD, FAAN

2015 Robert Dworkin, PhD

2016 Michael C. Rowbotham, MD