

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD
Patient Advocate in Chronic Pain Communities
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EDUCATION

1962-1966 California Polytechnic College, San Luis Obispo CA
BS Electrical Engineering (with Honors)

1967-1969 University of Washington, Seattle
MS Electrical Engineering

1972-1976 University of California, Los Angeles
PhD Engineering Systems (Dynamic Systems Control)

CAREER OVERVIEW

1966-1988 (Colonel) 21 years uniformed military service concluded as Lt Colonel, USAF (Select). Last military position, Director of Integration for the B-52 Bomber Modernization Program, Wright Patterson AFB, OH.

papers Career assignments in evaluation of emerging technologies, systems engineering and acquisition management. Published peer-reviewed

electronic in classified and unclassified literature for air traffic control testing, radar propagation in heavy rain, space based radar systems technology, intelligence collection systems, strategic nuclear attack detection and warning, advanced target location techniques from low altitude aircraft.

1988- 2009 21 years civilian service in defense aerospace industry as operations research analyst, computer assisted training developer, military intelligence domain architect, course developer and lecturer in open source intelligence collection and internet-based market research. Last position Chief

Systems Engineer, Technology Integrated Product Team - US ARMY Future Combat Systems program (SAIC Inc, Tysons Corners VA).

Extensive papers in classified literature, addressing large-scale systems acquisition and systems analysis for systems of systems; evaluation of emerging military technologies; modeling of military command, control and communications networks.

1996-Present Volunteer patient advocate and healthcare writer, medical literature analyst, information miner. Website designer, webmaster and moderator for chronic pain patients, families and medical professionals in peer to peer social media.

1996 – 2001 US Trigeminal Neuralgia Association - webmaster and member of the Board.

Revised, re-hosted and researched source materials for a website serving 5000+ chronic neurological face pain patients. With Cindy Fleishman,

in designed the first US national survey of diagnosis and treatment outcomes

Trigeminal Neuralgia, compiling over 12,000 patient responses. 2001 Aesculapius Award for Excellence in Web-Based Healthcare Communication, by the Health Improvement Institute.

2001-2010 Volunteer moderator, commentator and Web author in multiple chronic pain forums for peer to peer support groups including About.com, WebMD, and US Trigeminal Neuralgia Association.

2010-2015 Subject matter expert, research analyst and moderator for “Living With TN”, an online-community within the Ben’s Friends group for patients rare medical disorders.

2013-2021 Subject matter expert and healthcare writer for ~50 Facebook groups focused on chronic pain patients and families. Extensive publications on issues of public policy in the prescription of opioid analgesics for management of chronic intractable pain. Director of Research for the Alliance for the Treatment of Intractable Pain, a network of ~450 medical professionals, healthcare writers, support group leaders, knowledgeable patients and family members.

EARLY CAREER PUBLICATIONS

US DEFENSE COMMUNITY

Conference Proceedings: Co-Editor, “Proceedings of the Conference on Analytical Thinking and Organizational Culture,” CIA Colloquium on the 21st Century, October 1998

Presentations: “Internet Sites of Interest to Department of Defense – A Corporate Perspective,” invited presentation to the November 1995 users conference of the Defense Technical Information Center, Alexandria VA

“Impacts of the Internet on Post-Secondary Education,” invited presentation to the 1995 faculty off-site conference of Shenandoah University, Front Royal VA.

Web Publications: “Quick Search the Internet” – Internet research training course on “Voice of The Shuttle”, University of California Santa Barbara, 1993
<http://vos.ucsb.edu/shuttle/Lawhern.html>

Websites: Allegheny General Hospital Department of Neurosurgery – Cranial Nerve Center: <http://www.asri.edu/AGH/neuro/janetta/>

CURRENT PUBLICATIONS

Richard A Lawhern, PhD, “Who Gets TN – Demographics of a Social Networking Website” *Ben’s Friends communities for patients with rare medical disorders*. March 15, 2012. Archived at <http://www.Lawhern.org/DemographicsFacialPain.docx> .

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “Psychogenic Pain and Iatrogenic Suicide”, *Global Summit for Diagnostic Alternatives*, Society for Humanistic Psychology, July 5, 2013 <http://dxsummit.org/archives/1002>

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “It’s NOT All In Your Head”, *Mad in America*, October 27, 2013, <https://www.madinamerica.com/2013/10/head/>

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “Somatic Symptom Disorder”, *Blog of Dr. David Healy, Psychiatrist, Psychopharmacologist, Scientist*. February 2014.

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD “Stop the War on Chronic Pain Patients” *National Pain Report*, May 26, 2016
<http://nationalpainreport.com/opinion-stop-the-war-on-chronic-pain-patients-8830555.html>

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “An Opportunity to Make Ourselves Heard” *Pain News Network*, July 3, 2016
<https://www.painnewsnetwork.org/stories/2016/7/3/s0jywevzlbm6jdoiwil01xdsi2vr1k>

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “Tracking Down the ‘Research’ Behind The CDC’s Opioid Prescribing Guidelines”, *National Pain Report*, August 10, 2016.
<http://nationalpainreport.com/tracking-down-the-research-behind-the-cdcs-opioid-prescribing-guidelines-8831122.html>

Erika Conrad, “The CDC is Wrong – A Speech By Richard A. Lawhern, PhD,” *Face Facts* - The Facial Pain Advocacy Alliance (FPAA), October 27, 2016.
<http://face-facts.org/3000-2/>

Josh Bloom, PhD, “In Search of Sane Pain Policies – An Interview With Richard A. Lawhern, PhD”, *American Council on Science and Health*, November 10, 2016
<https://www.acsh.org/news/2016/11/10/search-sane-pain-policies-interview-richard-Lawhern-phd-10430>

Josh Bloom, PhD, “A Report Card on the American Healthcare System -- F” - Opinion, *American Council on Science and Health*, November 26, 2016.
<https://www.acsh.org/news/2016/11/26/report-card-american-healthcare-system-10486>

Richard A. Lawhern, Ph.D. “The CDC’s Fictitious Opioid Epidemic Part I”, *Journal of Medicine* of the US College of Physicians, January 15, 2017
<https://www.ncnp.org/journal-of-medicine/1929-doctors-fleeing-pain-management-dumping-patients.html>

Richard A. Lawhern, Ph.D “CDC Opioid Guidelines Violate Standards of Science Research”, March 25, 2017. *American Council on Science and Health*,
<https://www.acsh.org/news/2017/03/25/cdc-opioid-guidelines-violate-standards-science-research-11050>

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “How Would Opioid Prescription Guidelines Read If Pain Patients Wrote Them?” *National Pain Report*, April 10, 2017
<http://nationalpainreport.com/how-would-opioid-prescription-guidelines-read-if-pain-patients-wrote-them-8833330.html>

Article above is reprinted in *The Journal of Medicine* of the National College of Physicians, on April 15, 2017.
<https://www.ncnp.org/journal-of-medicine/1980-the-cdcs-fictitious-opioid-epidemic-part-2.html>

This piece was also introduced by *PAIN-Week* under the title “What if Prescribing Guidelines Were Patient Centered? Rethinking Public Policy for Better Patient Outcomes and Expanding CDC Guidelines”
https://www.painweek.org/news_posts/what-if-prescribing-guidelines-were-patient-centered.html

Richard A Lawhern, PhD, “The CDC’s Fictitious Opioid Epidemic, Part 2” *The Journal of Medicine*, US National College of Physicians, April 2017, <https://www.ncnp.org/journal-of-medicine/1929-doctors-fleeing-pain-management-dumping-patients.html>

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “Public Comment to “Training for Opioid Analgesic Prescribers – Exploring the Path Forward.” FDA Workshop, Silver Spring MD, May 9, 2017

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “Warning to the FDA: Beware of Simple Solutions for Chronic Pain and Addiction”, June 1, 2017, *National Pain Report*, June 1, 2017
<http://nationalpainreport.com/warning-to-the-fda-beware-of-simple-solutions-in-chronic-pain-and-addiction-8833744.html>

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “A Government in Disarray Over Opioid Therapeutic Use Vs. Addiction,” *National Pain Report*, June 13, 2017
<http://nationalpainreport.com/institutional-schizophrenia-in-the-us-government-8833851.html>

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “An Open Letter to the President’s Commission on Combating Addiction and the Opioid Crisis: You Need to Hear a Tenth Voice”. *National Pain Report*, June 21, 2017
<http://nationalpainreport.com/an-open-letter-to-the-presidents-commission-on-combating-addiction-and-the-opioid-crisis-you-need-to-hear-a-tenth-voice-8833880.html>

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, comment to “Prescribing Opioids: Balancing pain relief and addiction haunted my early days in medicine” By Jennifer Aadaeze Okwerekwu, MD. *STAT News*, August 3, 2017
<https://www.statnews.com/2017/08/03/opioids-pain-addiction-prescription/>

Pat Anson, Editor, “Patient Advocates Call on Brandeis to Fire Kolodny, *Pain News Network* October 3, 2017, letter signed by Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, Andrew Tennant, MD, Aimee Chagnon, MD, Steven Henson, MD, 51 others
<https://www.painnewsnetwork.org/stories/2017/10/3/patient-advocates-call-on-brandeis-to-fire-kolodny>

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Richard A. Lawhern, PhD “Catch 22 – Denied Pain Relief and No Way Out”, *National Pain Report*, October 24, 2017,
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Richard A. Lawhern, PhD, “National Policy on Drug Abuse is Fundamentally Misdirected” *Medium*, November 15, 2017,
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Richard A. Lawhern, Ph.D “An Open Letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee”, *National Pain Report*, December 20, 2017.

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Richard A. Lawhern, PhD “Criminalizing the Opioid Epidemic is No Way to Help Chronic Pain Sufferers”, *The Crime Report*, January 9, 2018.

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Richard A. Lawhern, PhD “White Paper on Prescription Opioids and Chronic Pain” *Alliance for the Treatment of Intractable Pain*, April 2, 2018, <https://atipusa.org/2018/04/02/atip-white-paper-on-prescription-opioids-and-chronic-pain/>

Richard A Lawhern, PhD and Stephen E Nadeau, MD, “White Paper on Principles for a Revised Opioid Prescription Guideline”, *Alliance for the Treatment of Intractable Pain*, April 17, 2017, <https://atipusa.org/2018/04/23/principles-for-a-revised-opioid-prescription-guideline/>

Richard A. Lawhern, PhD “The DEA Draws a Firestorm of Criticism”, *National Pain Report*, April 27, 2018. <http://nationalpainreport.com/opinion-the-dea-draws-a-firestorm-of-criticism-8836146.html>

Richard A Lawhern, Ph.D and John Alan Tucker, PhD “Analysis of US Opioid Mortality and ER Visit Data”, Powerpoint Presentation, April 2018 <http://face-facts.org/atip/>

Richard A Lawhern, PhD “One Opioid Epidemic or Many?” *American Council on Science and Health*, May 14, 2018. <https://www.acsh.org/news/2018/05/14/one-opioid-crisis-or-many-12956>

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Richard A Lawhern, PhD “Once Again Congress Practices “Burn Before Reading”, *National Pain Report*, June 9, 2018, <http://nationalpainreport.com/opinion-once-again-congress-practices-burn-before-reading-8836470.html>

Richard A Lawhern, PhD and Stephen E Nadeau, MD, “Alliance Offers Patient-Centered Opioid Prescribing Recommendations”, *Practical Pain Management*, June 13, 2018. <https://www.practicalpainmanagement.com/resources/news-and-research/alliance-offers-patient-centered-opioid-prescribing-recommendations>

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<https://www.practicalpainmanagement.com/resources/practice-management/behind-ahrq-report>

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<http://nationalpainreport.com/opinion-oregon-health-authority-has-it-wrong-8837642.html>

Richard A Lawhern, Ph.D. “Commentary to ‘Opioid Withdrawal Not Deadly? Wrong”, by Jeffrey E. Keller, MD, *Medpage Today*, November 1, 2018
<https://www.medpagetoday.com/blogs/doing-time/7606>

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<https://internationalpain.org/a-good-man-speaks-truth-to-power/>

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<http://nationalpainreport.com/a-good-man-speaks-truth-to-power-8838268.html>

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Richard A Lawhern Ph.D., and Stephen E. Nadeau, MD, “Draft Report on Pain Management Best Practices: Updates, Gaps, Inconsistencies, and Recommendations [Pain Management Best Practices Task Force]”, *Practical Pain Management*, March 10, 2019.
<https://www.practicalpainmanagement.com/painscan/abstract/draft-report-pain-management-best-practices-updates-gaps-inconsistencies>

Richard A Lawhern, Ph.D. “An Agonized Death That Didn’t Have to Happen”, *International Pain Foundation*, March 17, 2019,
<https://internationalpain.org/an-agonized-death-that-didnt-have-to-happen/>

Richard A. Lawhern, Ph.D., “Over Prescribing Did Not Cause America’s Opioid Crisis”, Blog of Dr Lynn Webster, Updated April 5, 2019
<http://www.lynnwebstermd.com/over-prescribing/>

Richard A Lawhern, Ph.D. “April Fools Day – A National Day of Pain”, *National Pain Report*, March 23, 2019,
<http://nationalpainreport.com/april-fools-day-a-national-day-of-pain-8839272.html>

Richard Lawhern, Ph.D., and Stephen E Nadeau MD, “Inside the National Institutes of Health “HEAL” Initiative Research Plan”, *Pain Monitor* newsletter, at *Practical Pain Management*.

Richard A Lawhern, Ph.D. “Joint Meeting of Two FDA Advisory Committees: Are The Blind Again Leading the Blind?” *National Pain Report*, May 20, 2019

Richard A Lawhern, PhD, Stephen E Nadeau, MD, Andrea Trescot, MD, “Recommendations of the HHS Pain Management Task Force - A Response by Medical Professionals and Patient Advocates - *Practical Pain Management*, June 14 2019.

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“Chasing the Wrong Opioid Epidemic”, US FDA Opioid Policy Steering Committee, Silver Spring MD, January 30, 2018. <https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/MeetingsConferencesWorkshops/ucm583543.htm> [See second presentation of Segment 1, Webcast]

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PENDING PUBLICATION

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EDITORIAL AND ADVISORY BOARDS

1998-2002: US National Trigeminal Neuralgia Association

2018-Present: American Council on Science and Health, Board of Advisors

January 2020–Present: Patient Advocate for *Practical Pain Management*, Editorial Board.