



# Integrative Pain Care Policy Congress

## Executive Summary

### Second Annual Meeting – Boston – November 10, 2018

Comprehensive integrative pain management (CIPM) is the standard of care for people living with pain. CIPM must be understood by the public and health care professionals, covered by public and private insurers, and accessible to people with pain. Promoting CIPM is vital to solving our nation's overlapping public health crises of chronic pain, opioid misuse and overdose, and mental health disorders.

Improving access to CIPM should be a priority for all, according to the more than five dozen organizations that participated in the second in-person meeting of the Integrative Pain Care Policy Congress, hosted by the Academy of Integrative Pain Management, in partnership with the Integrative Health Policy Consortium and PAINS Project. Unified around agreement that CIPM is necessary to address our nation's opioid challenges, and that no one stakeholder can properly advance this kind of care alone, the in-person meeting brought together representatives from [76 organizations and agencies](#), including the full scope of licensed and certified health care professionals, public and private payers, people living with pain, federal agencies, purchasers of health care, researchers, policymakers, and policy experts.

Building on last year's inaugural meeting, at which a [consensus definition of CIPM](#) was developed, the primary goal of the 2018 meeting was to develop action steps around shared priorities. A pre-meeting survey completed by nearly 90% of participants brought to light areas of agreement and identified those requiring further discussion. At the meeting, after four robust panel discussions in the morning, three breakout sessions were held to generate recommended action steps related to improving access to CIPM, coverage for CIPM, and synchronizing CIPM efforts happening in the private and public spheres. A post-meeting survey will ask participants to prioritize the list of potential action steps developed during those breakout sessions. After the post-meeting survey results are processed, a full meeting summary, including action steps for the coming year, will be released in January 2019.

