



In Motion

Highlighting Articles Advancing Pain Research in Canada and the World

Featured article:

Haroutounian S, et al. **Patient engagement in designing, conducting, and disseminating clinical pain research: IMMPACT recommended considerations.** Pain. 2023 Dec 19. doi: 10.1097/j.pain.0000000000003121. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38198239.

Key insights from the study:

- **Authentic Partnerships:** Urges a shift towards meaningful collaborations with patients, recognizing them as valuable partners in the research journey.
- **Diverse Voices:** Stresses the importance of inclusive strategies that encompass a wide range of patient experiences, especially from marginalized or underserved communities to enrich the research and enhance its applicability.
- **Impactful Measures:** Highlights the need for reliable metrics to evaluate the benefits of patient engagement in research outcomes.

Quick Article Link: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38198239/>



What happened?

An international group of key research partners have developed recommendations that underscore the transformative role of patient engagement in clinical pain research. This work, offered from the Initiative on Methods, Measurement, and Pain Assessment in Clinical Trials (IMMPACT) and lead authors Simon Haroutounian and Katie Holzer, offers a robust framework for integrating patient insights throughout the research lifecycle, from conceptualization to dissemination.

Why is it important?

Canadians are more aware than ever of the need for transformative approaches in health systems and care; these new recommendations on patient engagement in pain management align with the Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research Networks, like the Chronic Pain Network, funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. They offer a model for patient-centered, collaborative healthcare that responds to our current challenges and future needs.

What now?

Findings reaffirm the critical need for patient involvement in shaping pain research agendas and align with national efforts to improve the lives of Canadians living with chronic pain. This underscores a collective movement towards a more empathetic, evidence-based, and patient-informed healthcare landscape for chronic pain management. It calls upon researchers, healthcare professionals and policymakers to embrace patient engagement as a cornerstone of research and care strategies.



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