



In Motion

Highlighting Articles Advancing Pain Research in Canada and the World

Featured article:

Walton, D.M., Marsh, J. **Reliability, Discriminative, and Prognostic Validity of the Multidimensional Symptom Index in Musculoskeletal Trauma.** *The Clinical Journal of Pain*, 2020;36:700-706. DOI: 10.1097/AJP.0000000000000856

Key insights from the study:

- **Robust Reliability and Validity of MSI:** The Multidimensional Symptom Index (MSI) demonstrated strong test-retest reliability and was effective in discriminating between patients with and without major depressive disorder.
- **Prognostic Capability:** The tool proved useful in predicting the recovery outcomes of patients with musculoskeletal trauma, identifying those likely to experience poor recovery.
- **Clinical Utility:** By enabling quick and effective assessment of symptom severity and interference, the MSI can significantly aid in personalized patient management and treatment planning.

What happened?

Researchers conducted a comprehensive analysis using data from a cohort study involving individuals with acute musculoskeletal injuries. The MSI's performance was assessed across various parameters, including its reliability over one-month intervals, its ability to differentiate patients based on the presence of depressive symptoms, and its predictive accuracy regarding patient recovery trajectories.

Why is it important?

The MSI addresses a critical need in musculoskeletal trauma care for a reliable, discriminative, and prognostic tool that can guide clinical decisions. Its ability to provide detailed insights into a patient's symptomatology and likely recovery path can improve both immediate and long-term treatment strategies, enhancing overall patient outcomes.

What now?

Given the positive findings, there is potential for wider adoption of the MSI in clinical practice for musculoskeletal injuries. Further studies are recommended to explore its applicability in other clinical conditions and settings, potentially broadening its utility across different patient populations.

Explore the Multi-Dimensional Symptom Index app:

<https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/ptpub/80/>