

Global burden of pain and global pain policy—creating a purposeful body of evidence

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1. Introduction

The global burden of pain is a significant public health problem. It is a leading cause of disability and is associated with substantial economic and social costs. The burden of pain is increasing worldwide, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. This is due to a combination of factors, including an aging population, the rise of chronic pain conditions, and limited access to pain relief. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that approximately 100 million people worldwide live with chronic pain, and this number is expected to increase to 200 million by 2050. The economic burden of pain is also substantial, with the WHO estimating that pain costs the world economy approximately \$600 billion annually. This is due to lost productivity, increased healthcare costs, and the impact of pain on quality of life. The WHO has also identified pain as a global health priority, and has called for a coordinated global response to address this problem. This response should include the development of a purposeful body of evidence to inform pain policy and practice. This body of evidence should be based on the best available scientific evidence, and should be used to guide the development of pain policy and practice at the national and global levels. This paper reviews the global burden of pain and global pain policy, and discusses the need for a purposeful body of evidence to inform pain policy and practice.

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2. The changing burden of disease, its measurement, and the organisation of policy response

The burden of disease is changing, and this has implications for the measurement of pain and the organisation of policy response. The WHO has identified pain as a global health priority, and has called for a coordinated global response to address this problem. This response should include the development of a purposeful body of evidence to inform pain policy and practice. This body of evidence should be based on the best available scientific evidence, and should be used to guide the development of pain policy and practice at the national and global levels. This paper reviews the global burden of pain and global pain policy, and discusses the need for a purposeful body of evidence to inform pain policy and practice.

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5. Conclusion

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