

The Journal of Pain

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CRITICAL REVIEWS

1091 Attentional and Interpretational Biases Toward Pain-Related Stimuli in Children and Adolescents: A Systematic Review of the Evidence

Melanie Brookes, Louise Sharpe, and Kasia Kozłowska

This review investigated whether youth exhibit attention or interpretation biases towards pain-related information, and whether such biases are more pronounced in youth with chronic pain. Three databases were searched. The authors conclude that, overall, there is weak evidence to support vigilance in youth with chronic pain compared to those without. However, whether pain affects the subsequent deployment of attention is unclear. Evidence suggests that anxiety and/or catastrophizing and attentional control may moderate pain-related attentional biases.

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ON THE COVER

Distal limb fracture is the most common cause of complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS), thus the rodent tibia fracture model (TFM) was developed to study CRPS pathogenesis. This comprehensive review summarizes the published TFM research and compares these experimental results with the CRPS literature. Multiple neuroimmune signaling mechanisms contribute to the pain, inflammation, and trophic changes observed in the injured limb of the rodent TFM. This model replicates many of the symptoms, signs, and pathophysiology of early CRPS, but most post fracture changes resolve within 5 months and may not contribute to perpetuating chronic CRPS, the authors report. See Birklein et al, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpain.2018.03.018>

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The Rodent Tibia Fracture Model: A Critical Review and Comparison With the Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Literature 

Frank Birklein, Alaa Ibrahim, Tanja Schlereth, and Wade S. Kingery

Distal limb fracture is the most common cause of complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS), thus the rodent tibia fracture model (TFM) was developed to study CRPS pathogenesis. This comprehensive review summarizes the published TFM research and compares these experimental results with the CRPS literature. Multiple neuroimmune signaling mechanisms contribute to the pain, inflammation, and trophic changes observed in the injured limb of the rodent TFM. This model replicates many of the symptoms, signs, and pathophysiology of early CRPS, but most post fracture changes resolve within 5 months and may not contribute to perpetuating chronic CRPS, the authors report.

Original Reports

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Hypnosis Enhances the Effects of Pain Education in Patients With Chronic Nonspecific Low Back Pain: A Randomized Controlled Trial 

Rodrigo R.N. Rizzo, Flavia C. Medeiros, Leandro G. Pires, Rafael M. Pimenta, James H. McAuley, Mark P. Jensen, and Leonardo O.P. Costa

Chronic non-specific low back pain is a common condition associated with high costs and disability. The combination between pain education (PE) with clinical hypnosis (CH) has not yet been investigated in this patient population. A total of 100 patients with chronic non-specific low back pain were randomized to receive either (1) PE or (2) PE plus CH. Outcomes were collected by a blinded assessor at 2 weeks and 3 months after randomization. This research supports the efficacy of another treatment option for teaching patients to self-manage chronic low back pain that has a relatively low cost and that can be offered in groups. Clinical hypnosis added to pain education could be offered to patients who are on waiting lists for physiotherapy treatment, the authors note.

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Prescription Medication Use Among Community-Based U.S. Adults With Chronic Low Back Pain: A Cross-Sectional Population Based Study

Anna Shmagel, Linh Ngo, Kristine Ensrud, and Robert Foley

Many classes of medications have been evaluated in chronic low back pain (cLBP), however their utilization in the community remains unclear. This report examined patterns of prescription medication use among Americans with cLBP in a nationally representative, community-based sample. The Back Pain Survey was administered to a representative sample of US adults aged 20-69. Findings show that opioids were the most common prescription pain medication, typically used long-term, in combination with other CNS-active agents, and disproportionately among subjects with less than a college education.

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