WHAT IS CHRONIC PAIN?
Chronic pain can be defined as pain that persists most days or every day for six months or more. For some individuals, pain can last an entire lifetime.

Prevalence

50 MILLION
American adults, or 20 percent of the population, live with chronic pain.

20 MILLION
American adults live with high-impact pain, or pain that limited life or work activities on most or every day for the last six months.

Musculoskeletal pain, back pain, neck pain, migraine or headache pain, and knee pain are the MOST COMMON CAUSES of chronic pain.

Impact and costs

Chronic pain is THE LEADING CAUSE of long-term disability in the United States. It can affect every aspect of an individual’s quality of life.

People with chronic pain are 3-4X MORE LIKELY to experience anxiety and depression and are 2x as likely to consider suicide.

Since 2010, the nation spends up to $635 BILLION EACH YEAR in medical treatments, disability payments, and lost productivity.

CHRONIC PAIN PATIENTS ARE OFTEN OVERLOOKED AND UNDERTREATED.

Veterinary students SPEND 5X as many education hours focused on pain management as medical students.

For every 10,000 PEOPLE with severe pain, there is only ONE BOARD-CERTIFIED pain specialist.

The National Institutes of Health dedicates approximately 2 PERCENT of its funding to pain research.

There is NO SINGLE, FULLY EFFECTIVE treatment for chronic pain.

Patients receive an average of ONLY 30% PAIN REDUCTION from their various treatments.

Studies have shown that MINORITY GROUPS and other marginalized populations are at risk of receiving suboptimal pain management.

For more information or to get involved, visit www.uspainfoundation.org.

SOURCES
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