

# Prevalence of pain as a factor in admission and during hospital stay: A Retrospective survey

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## Introduction and background

Pain is widely reported throughout the hospital and is a factor for a good proportion of admissions. Though this is widely accepted there are very few studies that actually aim to measure this quantitatively, despite the fact that such information could be useful to a number of different departments and different members of the team.

It is also of paramount importance to the patients themselves as highlighting pain, particularly that which is uncontrolled will aid medical staff to better manage it.

## Aims

To assess the prevalence of:

- Admissions with pain as a factor.
- Admissions with acute on chronic pain as a factor.
- Pain in different sites.
- Pain presently in the hospital with its severity.
- Analgesic use: Paracetamol, NSAID, Weak opioid, Strong opioid and Neuropathic pain medication.

## Method

- First two authors surveyed inpatients at Royal Preston Hospital from 26-27th of June 2013.
- Verbal consent was obtained from each patient.
- 10 questions were asked with all answers input directly to a spreadsheet.
- All data collated and analyzed using simple methods.

## Results

### 307 patients were surveyed

- 155 male, 152 female.
- Mean age of 65.
- Over 19 wards.

### Pain was a factor in 53% of admissions

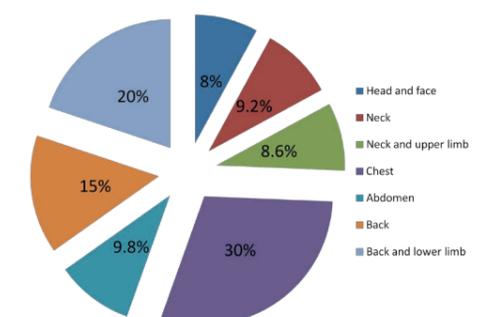
- 23% of patients presented with pain of >3 months duration.

### Overall 5505 days of admission were assessed

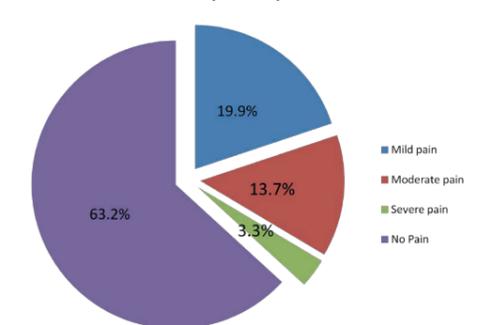
- Pain was a factor in 2835 days of admission.
- Acute on chronic pain was a factor in 1439 days.

Patients analgesia by group	%
Paracetamol	71
NSAIDS	7
Weak Opioids	30
Strong opioids	24
Neuropathic	10

% Pain at admission by site



% Pain by severity



## Discussion

The value of 36.8% of patients having pain at the time of the survey is lower than any of the other studies completed (range 43%-84%).

The number of patients who had moderate-severe in this study 16.9% , which is also lower than all of the studies completed (range 18.3%-51%). In reality, this could be due to a number of factors. In comparison with other studies completed the demographics are comparable.

### References

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