

A silhouette of a person in a running pose, facing right. The figure is dark blue and black. Below the figure is a large, horizontal splash of watercolor paint. The splash starts with dark blue on the left, transitions through purple and magenta, and ends with a bright red on the right. The text 'KNOW PAIN IN GENERAL' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the middle of the splash, partially overlapping the runner's legs.

KNOW PAIN IN GENERAL

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This program was sponsored by Pfizer Inc.

Learning Objectives



- After completing this module, participants will be able to:
 - Describe the classification of pain according to pain mechanisms, duration, severity and type of tissue involved
 - Discuss overall prevalence of pain
 - Assess patients presenting with pain
 - Select appropriate pharmacological and non-pharmacological strategies based on type of pain
 - Know when to refer patients to specialists
- 

Table of Contents

- What is pain?
 - How common is pain?
 - What are the underlying types of pain?
 - How should pain be assessed in clinical practice?
 - How should pain be treated based on its pathophysiology?
- 
- A decorative blue watercolor splash is located in the bottom right corner of the slide, extending from the bottom edge and slightly up the right side.



What is pain?

An unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with actual or potential tissue damage, or described in terms of such damage.

International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) 2011

Pain Is the 5th Vital Sign



Respiration



Pulse



Blood pressure



Temperature



Pain

Overview of Pain



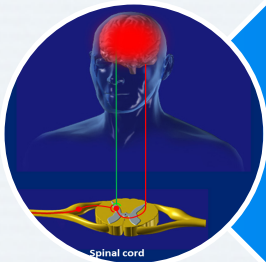
Protective role: vital early warning system

- Senses noxious stimuli
- Triggers withdrawal reflex and heightens sensitivity after tissue damage to reduce risk of further damage



Unpleasant experience:

- Suffering – physical, emotional and cognitive dimensions
- Continuous unrelieved pain can affect physical (e.g., cardiovascular, renal, gastrointestinal systems, etc.) and psychological states



Maladaptive response:

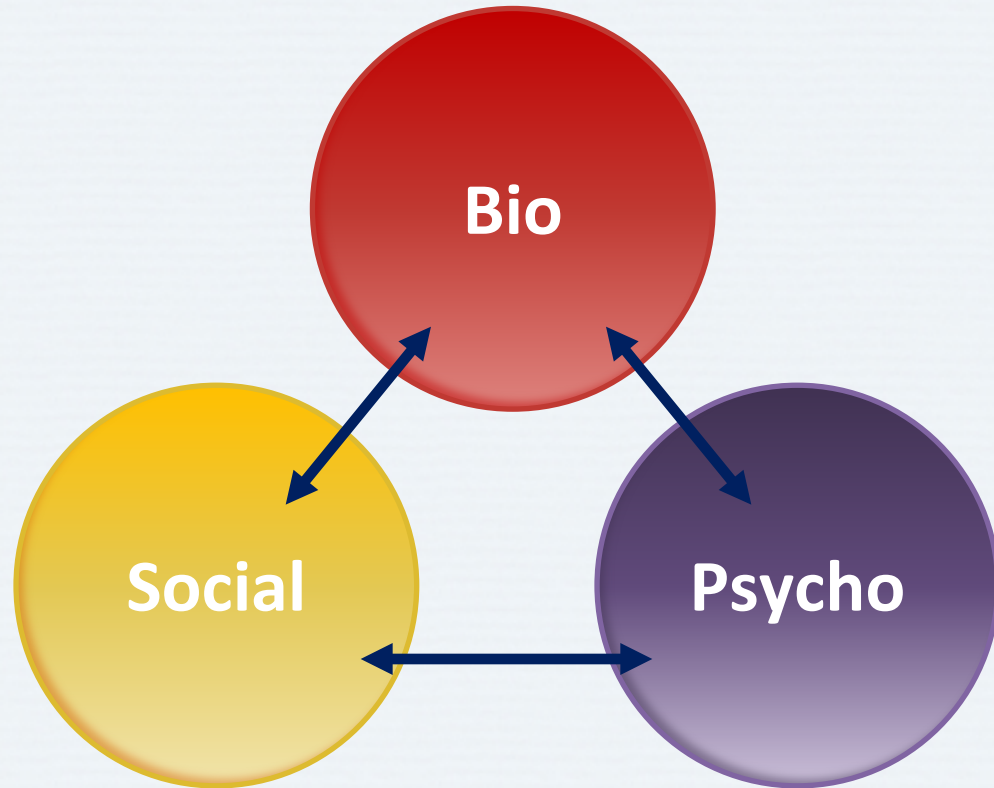
- Neuropathic and central sensitization/dysfunctional pain
- Not protective
- Lessens quality of life

Discussion Question



**DOES EVERYONE FEEL PAIN
THE SAME WAY?**

Biopsychosocial Model of Pain

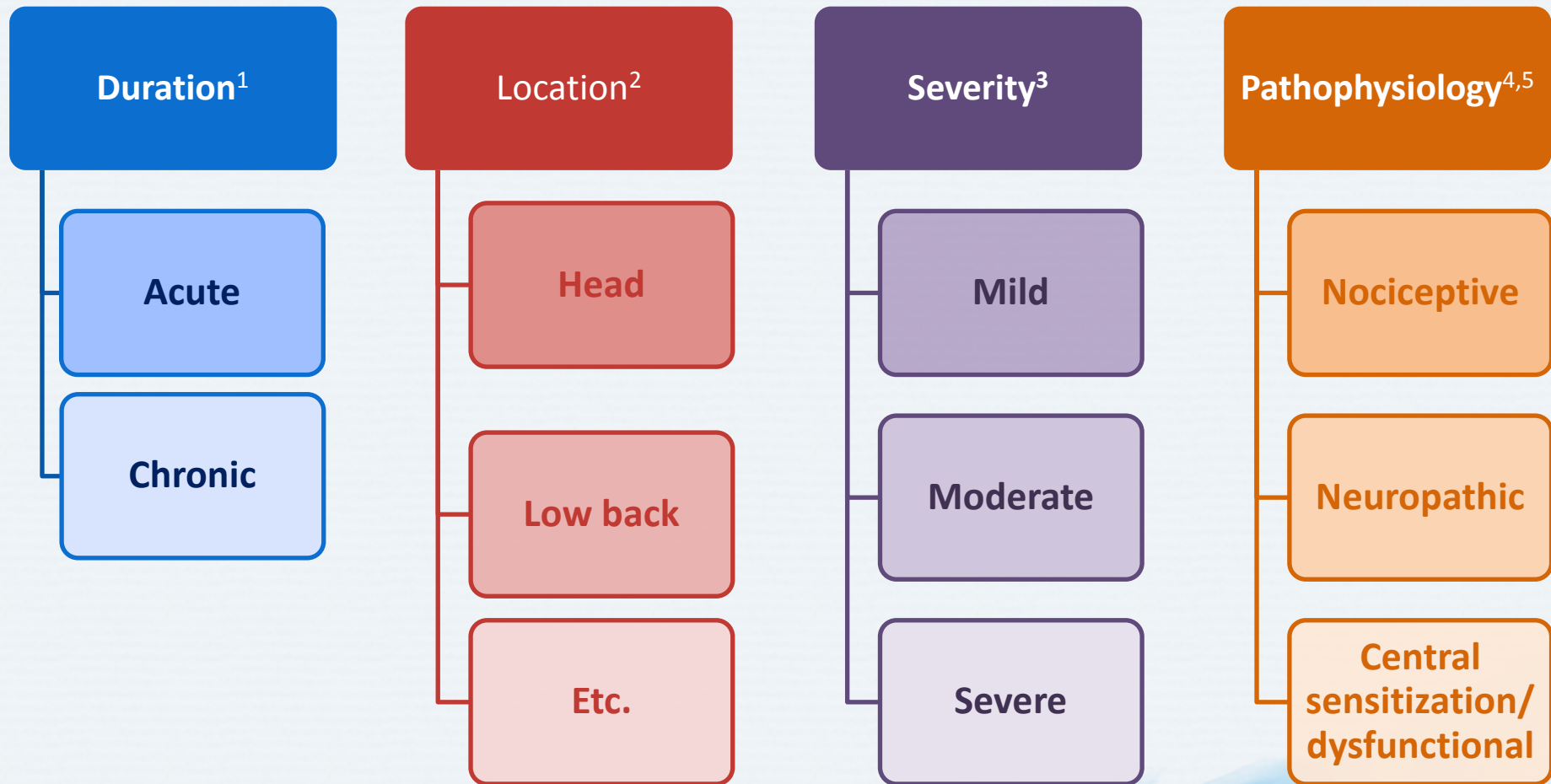


Discussion Question



**FROM A PRACTICAL POINT OF VIEW,
HOW DO YOU CLASSIFY PAIN?**

Pain Classification



1. McMahon SB, Koltzenburg M. In: McMahon SB, Koltzenburg M (eds). *Wall and Melzack's Textbook of Pain*. 5th ed. Elsevier; London, UK: 2006;

2. Loeser D et al (eds). *Bonica's Management of Pain*. 3rd ed. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; Hagerstown, MD: 2001;

3. Hanley MA et al. *J Pain* 2006; 7(2):129-33; 4. Jensen TS et al. *Pain* 2011; 152(10):2204-5; 5. Woolf CJ. *Pain* 2011; 152(3 Suppl):S2-15.

The Pain Continuum



Insult



Time to resolution

Acute pain

*Normal, time-limited response
to 'noxious' experience
(less than 3 months)*

- Usually obvious tissue damage
- Serves a protective function
- Pain resolves upon healing



Chronic pain

*Pain that has persisted beyond
normal tissue healing time
(usually more than 3 months)*

- Usually has no protective function
- Degrades health and function



Acute pain may become chronic

Discussion Question

**HOW MANY PATIENTS IN ACUTE
PAIN DO YOU SEE DURING A
TYPICAL WEEK?**

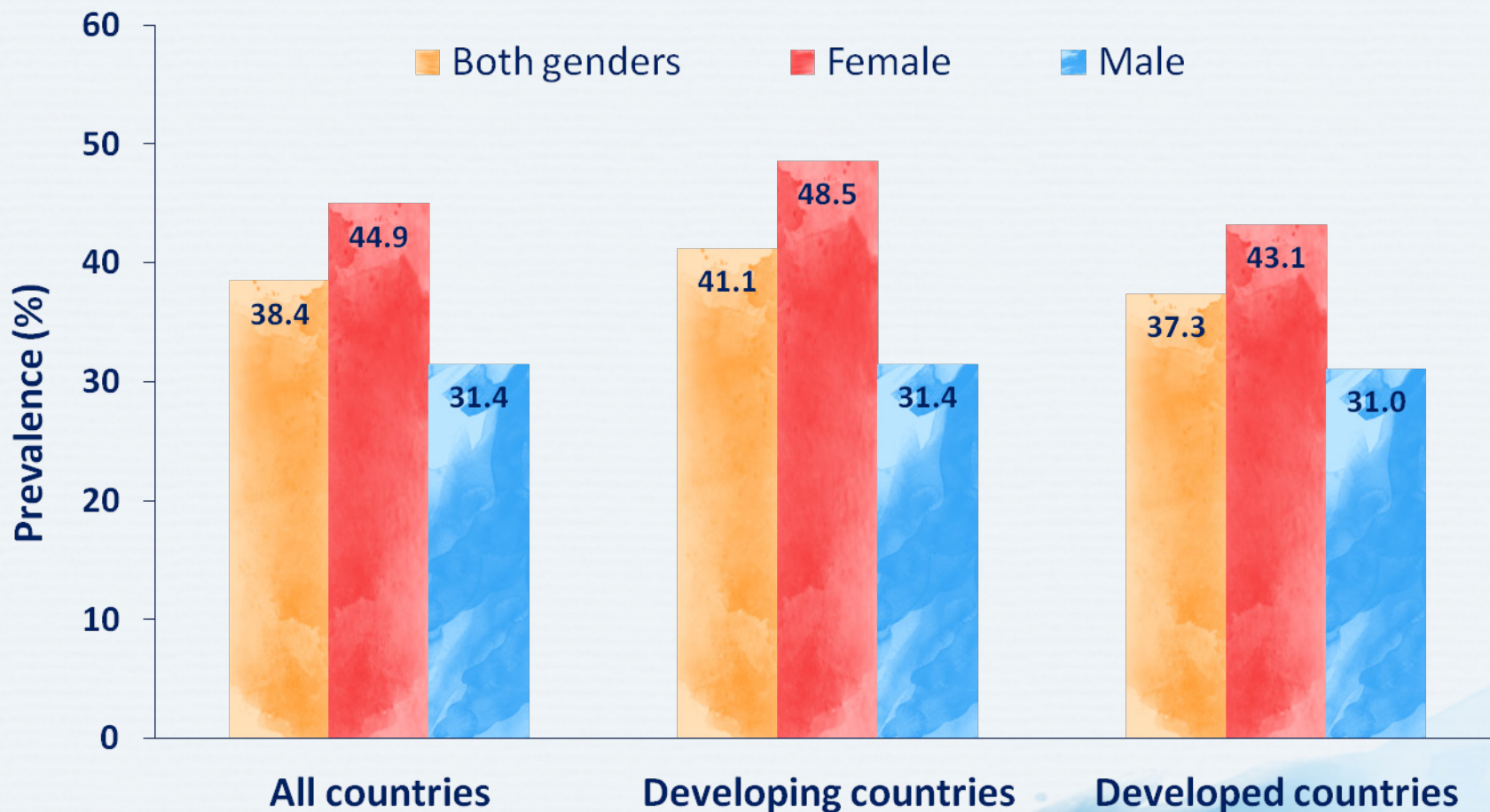
Prevalence of Acute Pain

- **Lifetime** prevalence in general population:
 - Approaches **100%** for acute pain leading to use of analgesics¹
- **Emergency room** patients:
 - Pain accounts for **>2/3** of emergency room visits²
- **Hospitalized** patients:
 - **>50%** report pain³

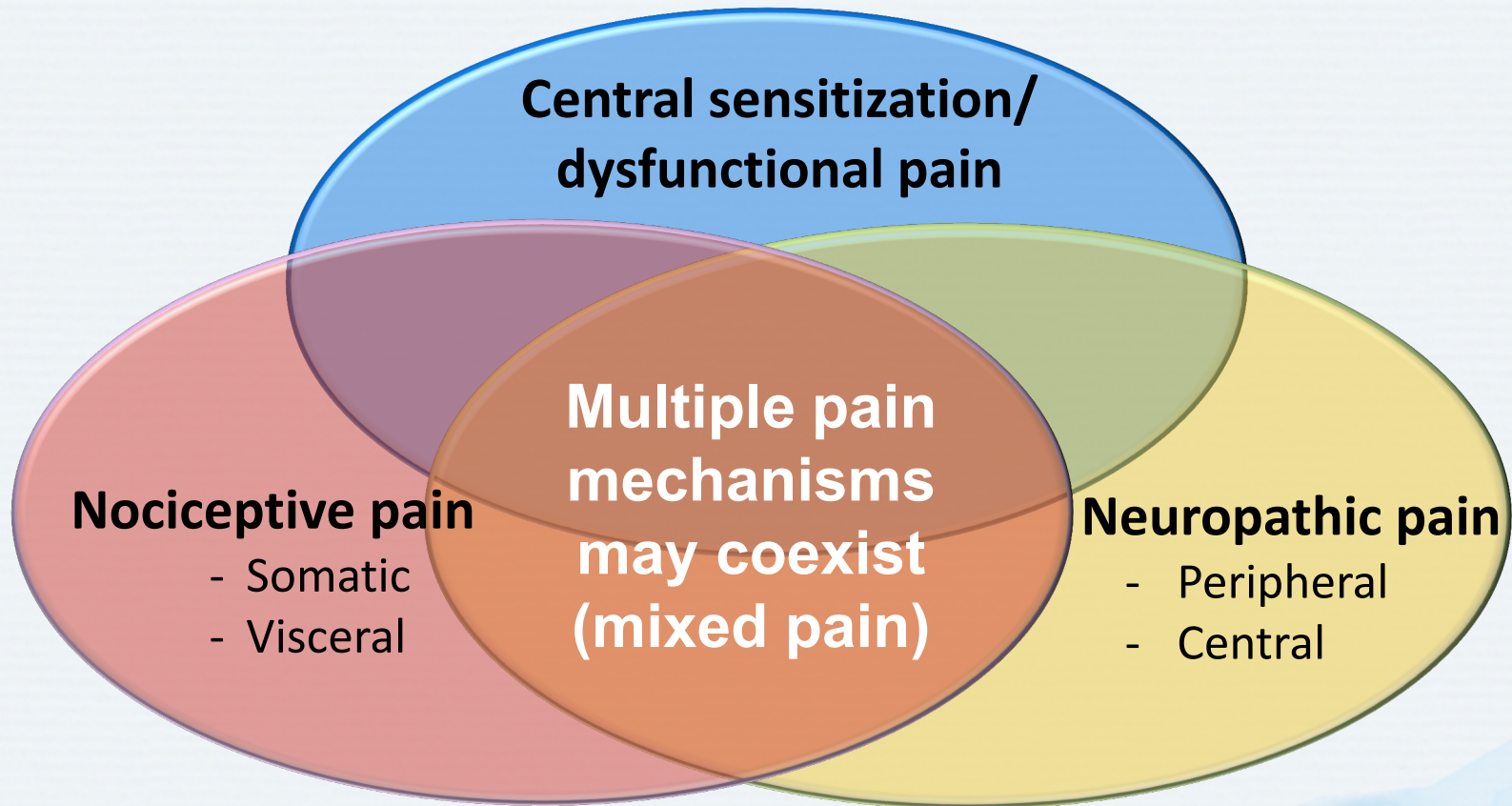
Discussion Question

**WHAT PROPORTION OF PATIENTS IN YOUR
PRACTICE SUFFERS FROM
CHRONIC PAIN?**

Prevalence of Chronic Pain



Pathophysiological Classification of Pain



What is nociceptive pain?

Definition

- Pain that arises from actual or threatened damage to non-neural tissue and is due to the activation of nociceptors
- Can be somatic or visceral

Pain Quality

- Usually aching or throbbing
- Usually time-limited (resolves when damaged tissue heals)
- Usually well localized if somatic
- May be referred if visceral
- Can become chronic

Nociceptive Pain

Somatic



Musculoskeletal injury



Trauma



Post-operative pain

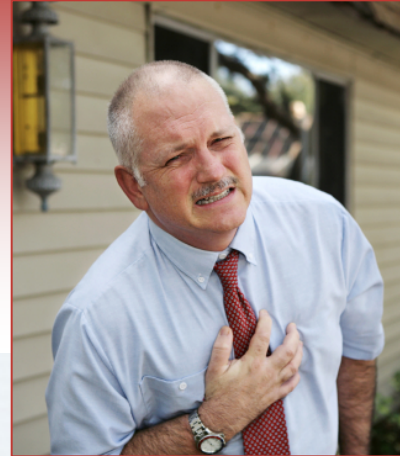


Burn pain

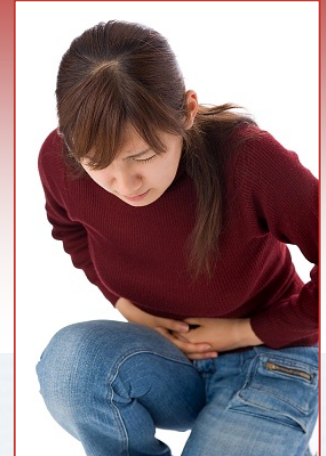
Infection, e.g.,
pharyngitis



Visceral



Ischemic, e.g., myocardial
infarction



Abdominal colic



Dysmenorrhea

Somatic vs. Visceral Pain

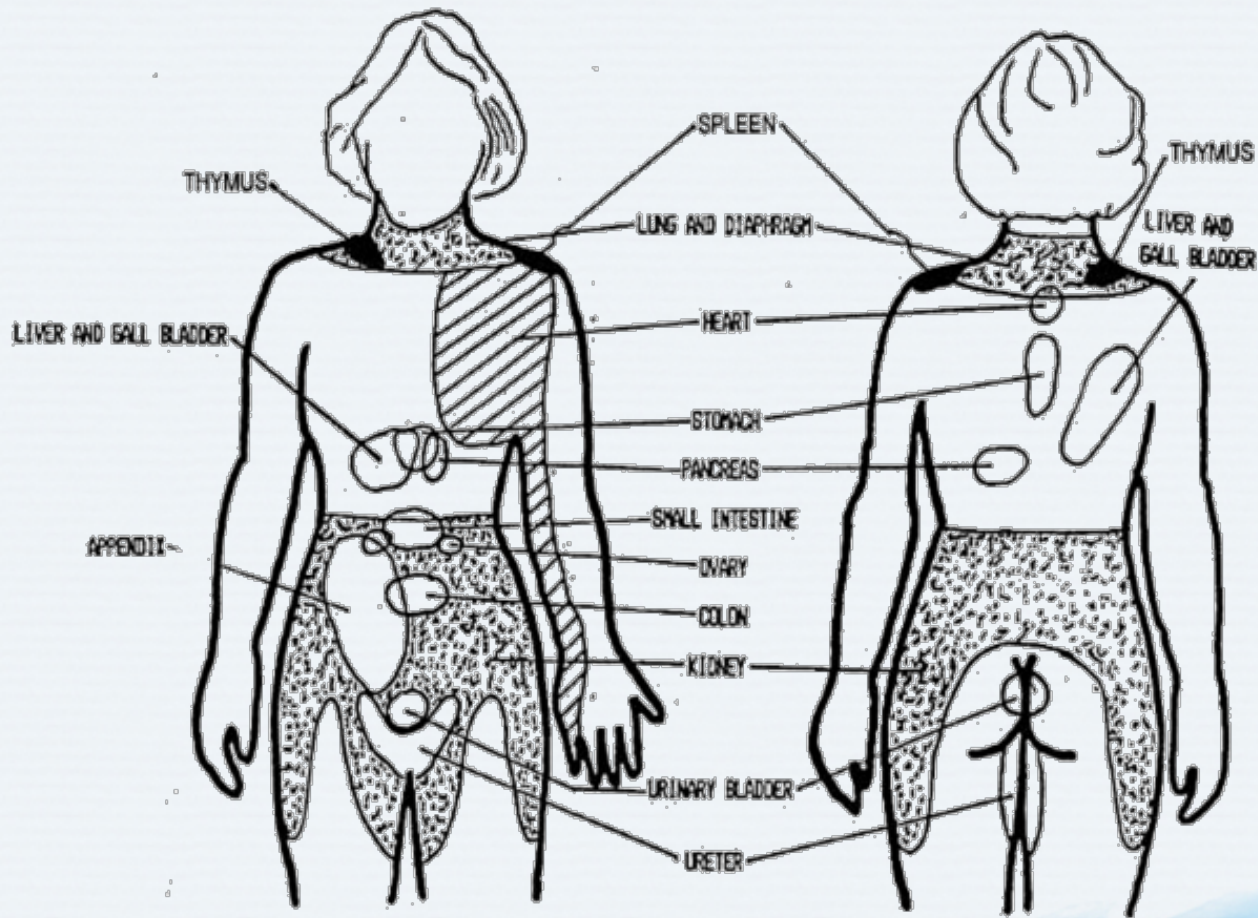
Somatic

- Nociceptors are involved
- Often well localized
- Usually described as throbbing or aching
- Can be superficial (skin, muscle) or deep (joints, tendons, bones)

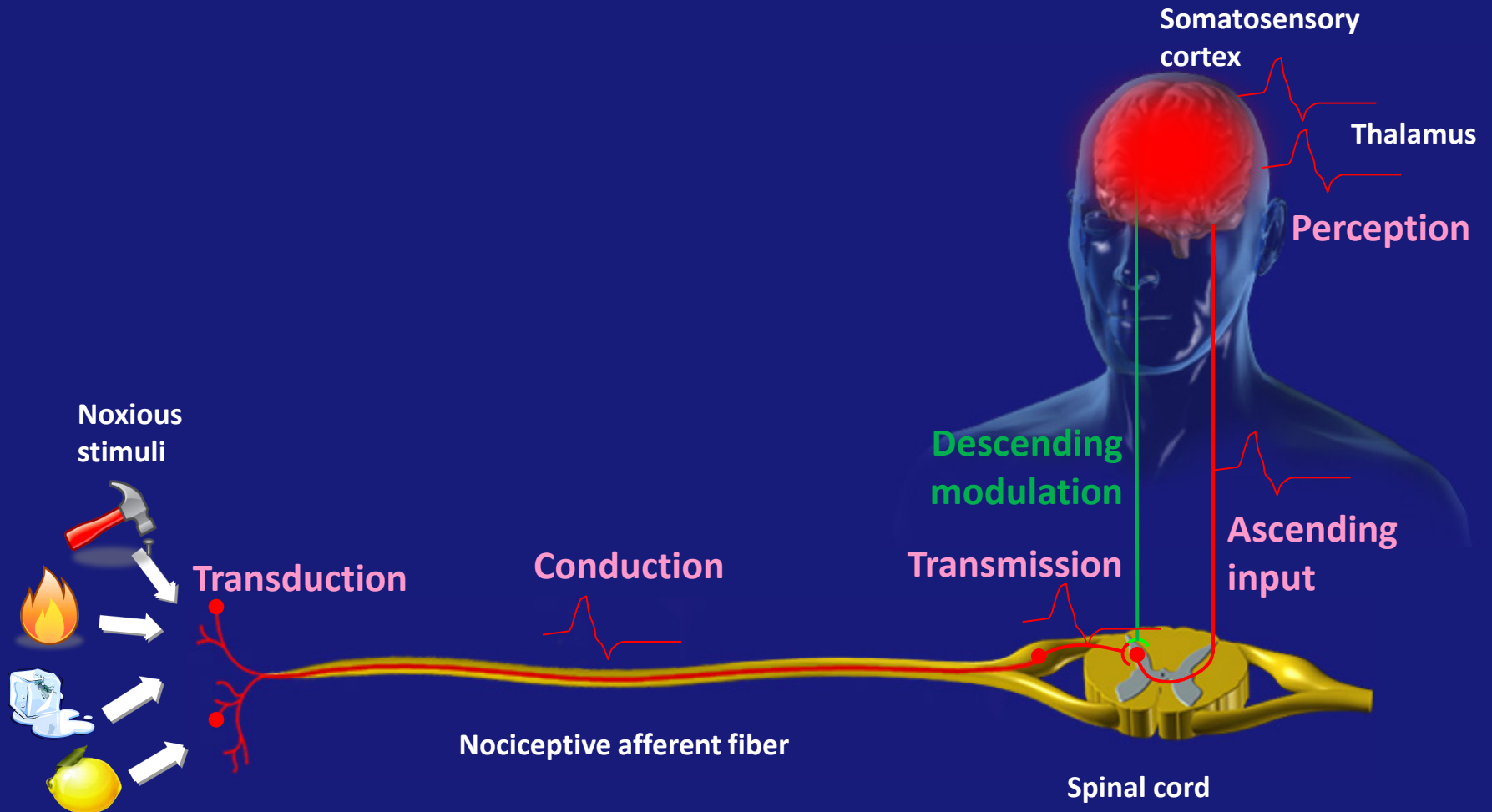
Visceral

- Involves hollow organ and smooth muscle nociceptors that are sensitive to stretching, hypoxia and inflammation
- Pain is usually referred, poorly localized, vague and diffuse
- May be associated with autonomic symptoms (e.g., pallor, sweating, nausea, blood pressure and heart rate changes)

Referred Pain



Nociception: Neural Process of Encoding Noxious Stimuli



Consequences of encoding may be autonomic (e.g., elevated blood pressure) or behavioral (motor withdrawal reflex or more complex nocifensive behavior). Pain perception is not necessarily implied.

Transduction via Endogenous Mediators

Noxious stimuli

- Mechanical
- Thermal
- Chemical



Mediators

- Prostaglandins
- Leukotrienes
- Substance P
- Histamine
- Bradykinin
- Serotonin
- Hydroxyacids
- Reactive oxygen species
- Inflammatory cytokines and chemokines

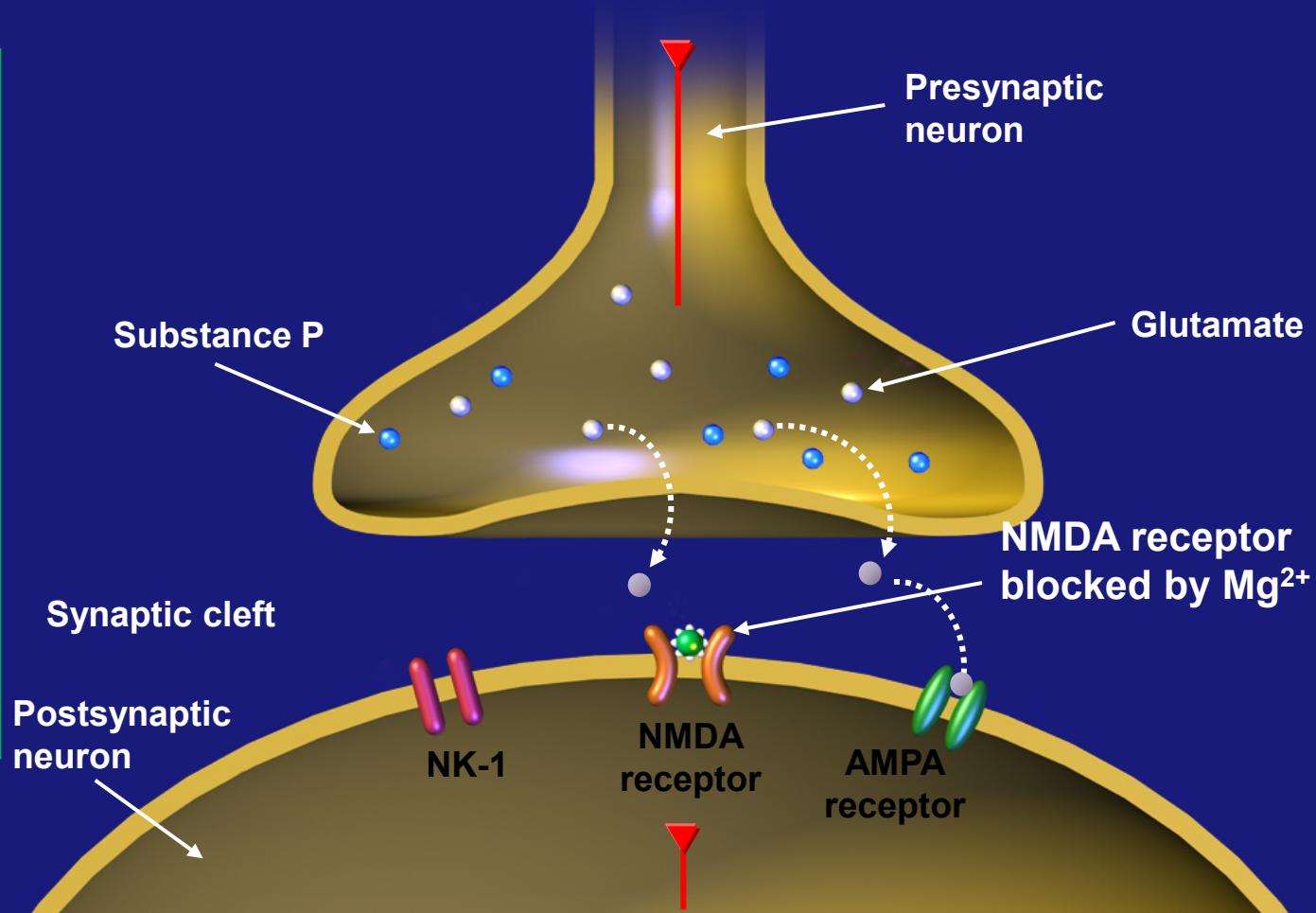


Receptors/channels on nociceptors



Transmission via Neurotransmitters

1. Impulses reach terminals of presynaptic neuron
2. Glutamate is released into synaptic cleft
3. Glutamate binds to AMPA receptor
4. Impulse is transmitted to postsynaptic neuron



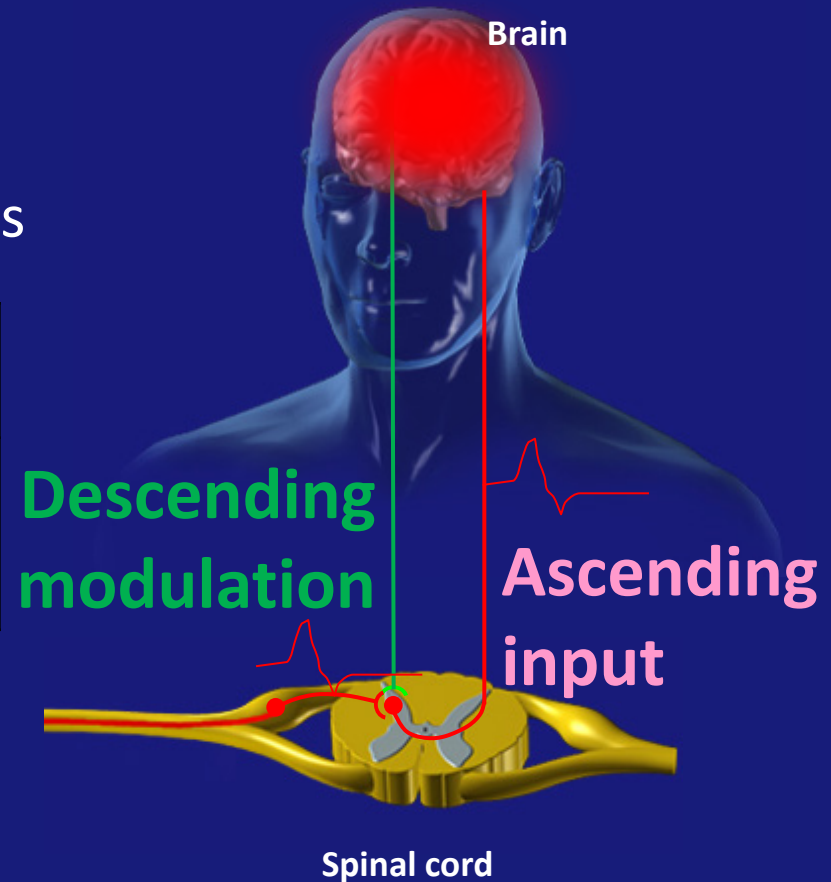
AMPA = 2-amino-3-(3-hydroxy-5-methyl-isoxazol-4-yl) propanoic acid; NK = neurokinin; NMDA = N-methyl-D-aspartate

Fields HL *et al.* In: McMahon SB, Koltzenburg M (eds). *Wall and Melzack's Textbook of Pain*. 5th ed. Elsevier; London, UK: 2006; Julius D, Basbaum AI. *Nature* 2001; 413(6852):203-10; Woolf CJ, Salter MW. *Science* 2000; 288(5472):1765-68.

Pain Modulation

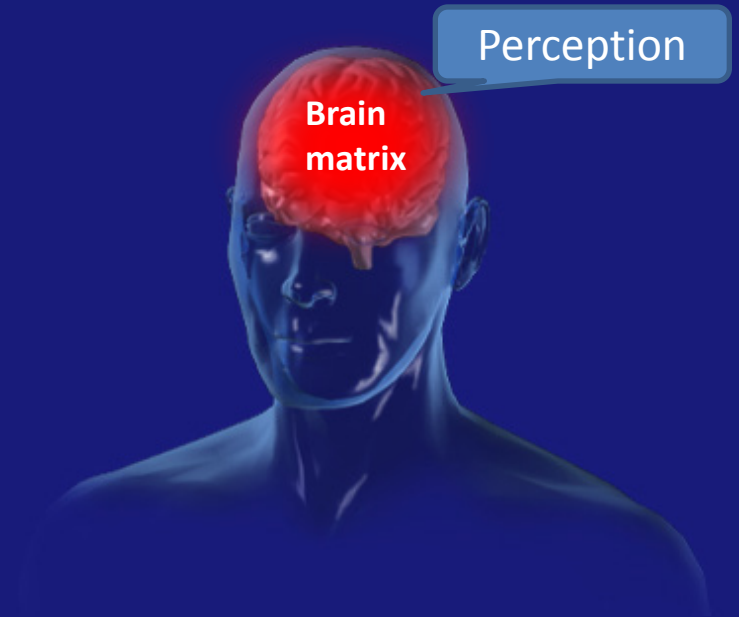
- Pain is modulated via **ascending nociceptive** and **descending inhibitory/facilitatory** spinal tracts

Ascending Nociceptive	Descending Inhibitory/facilitatory
C fibers Aδ fibers	Serotonin Norepinephrine Dopamine

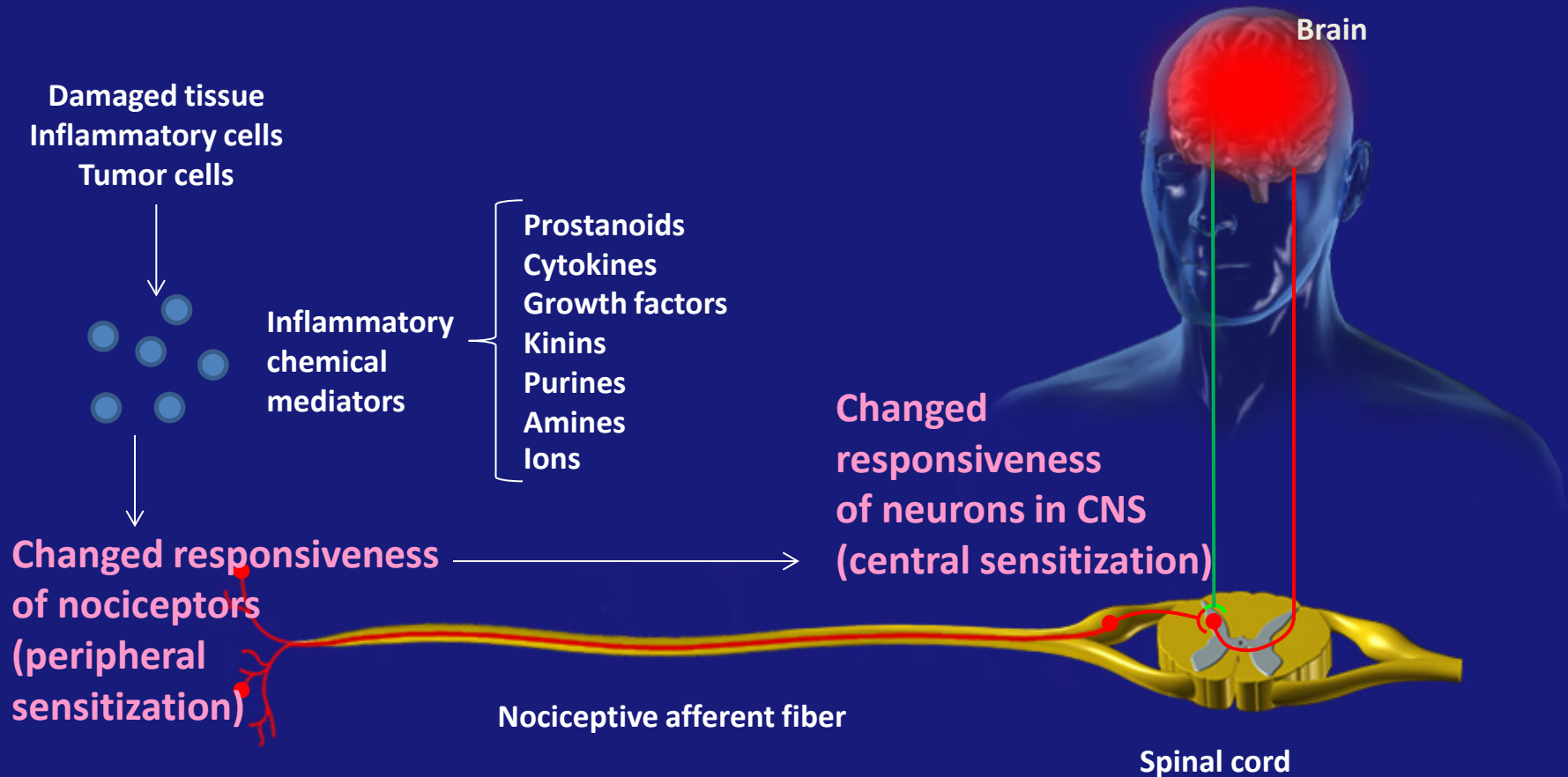


Pain Perception

- Spinal cord transmits pain signals to specific nuclei in the thalamus, and from there to wide variety of regions in the brain – collectively known as the “pain matrix”
- Pain perception can also be altered without any external stimuli (i.e., through emotion, distraction, placebo, etc.)



Inflammation



CNS = central nervous system

Scholz J, Woolf CJ. *Nat Neurosci* 2002; 5(Suppl):1062-7.

Recognizing Neuropathic Pain



Post-stroke pain



Diabetic peripheral neuropathy



Postherpetic neuralgia



Lumbar radicular pain

Common descriptors

Shooting

Electric shock-like

Burning

Tingling

Numbness



Chronic post-surgical pain

What is neuropathic pain?

Definition

- Pain caused by a lesion or disease of the somatosensory nervous system
- Can be peripheral or central

Pain Quality

- Burning
- Lancing
- Electric shock-like
- Often diffuse
- Frequently with allodynia and/or hyperalgesia

Common Descriptors of Neuropathic Pain



Burning



Tingling



Pins and needles

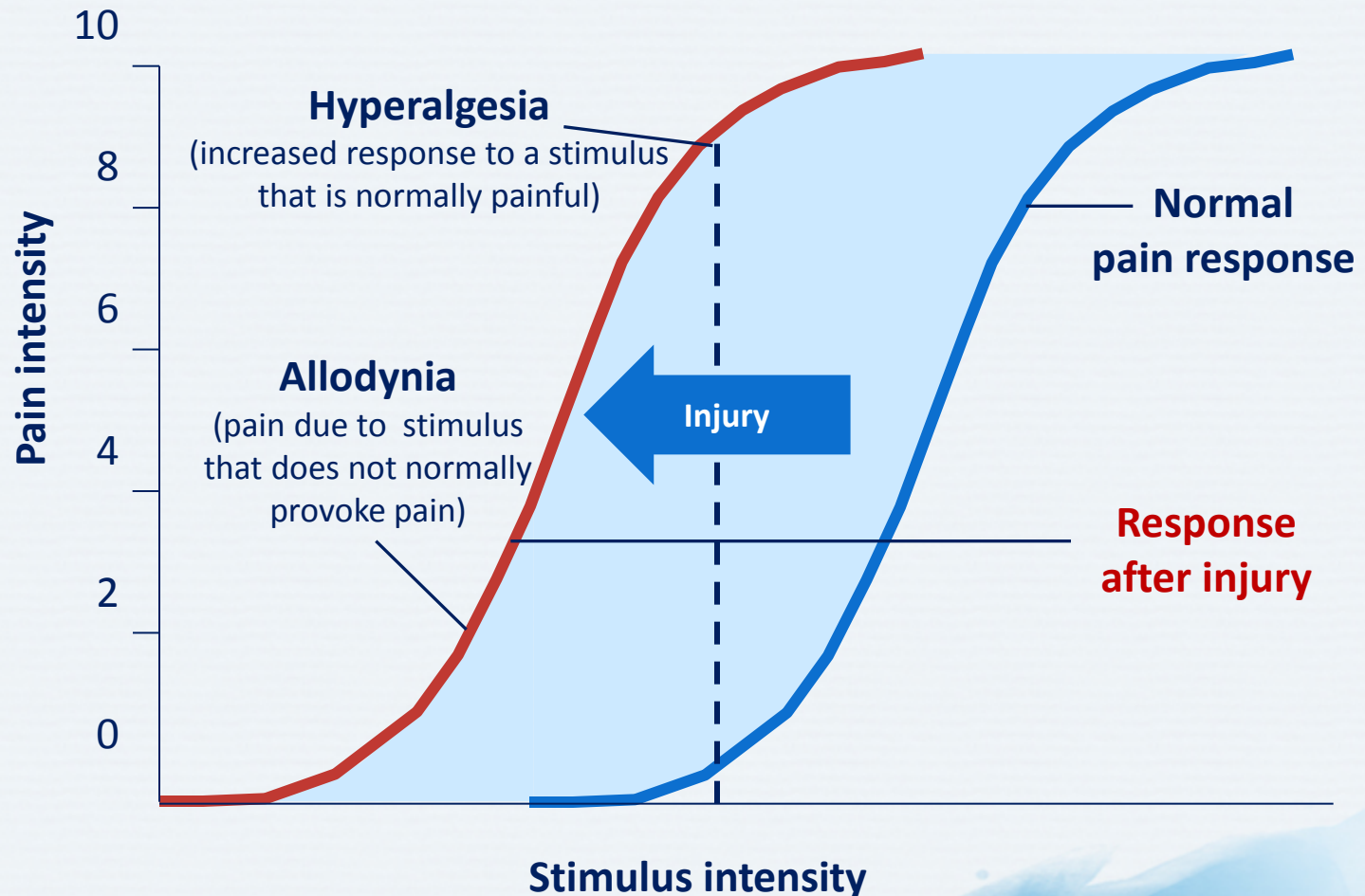


Electric shock-like

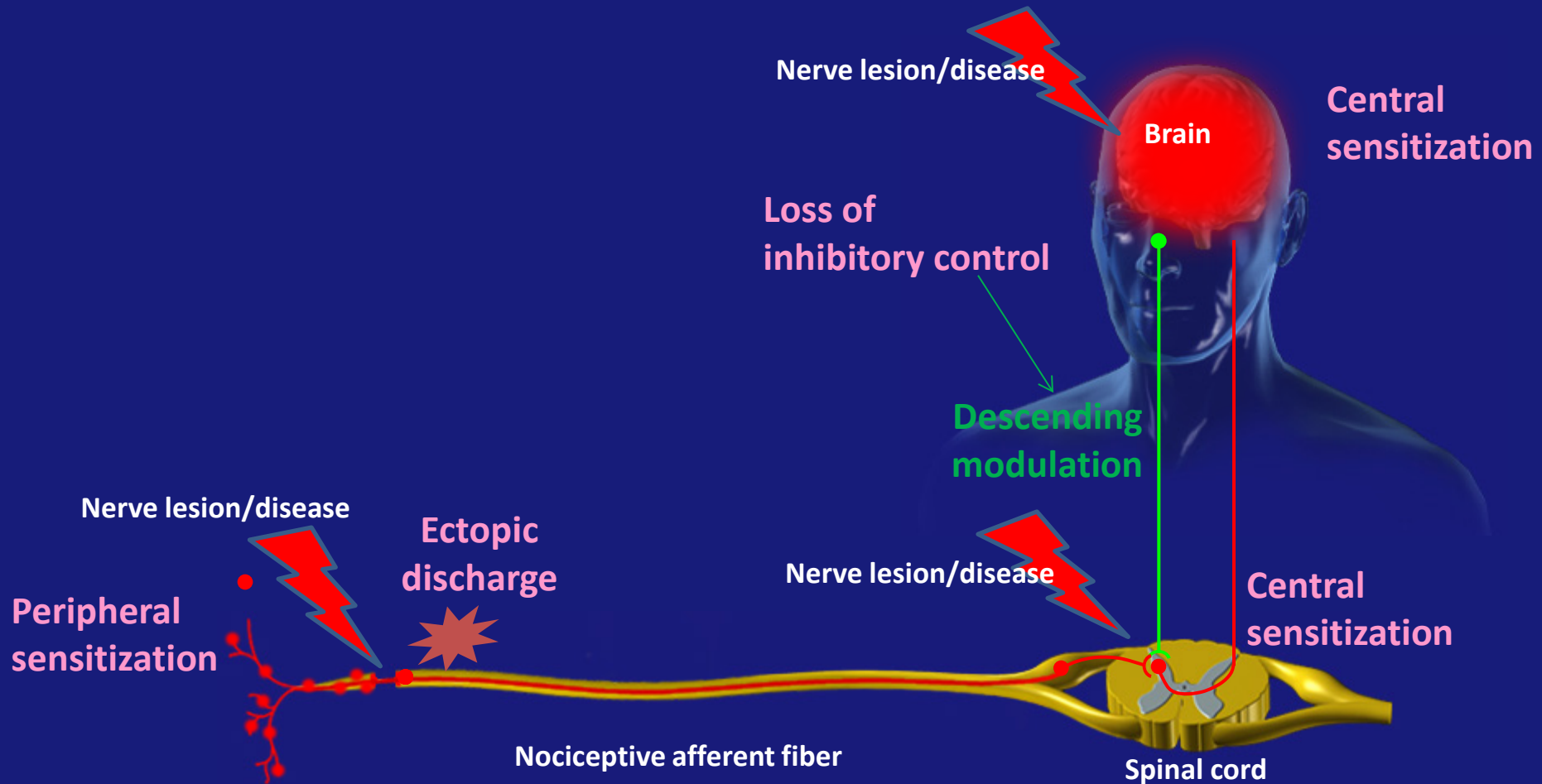


Numbness

Neuropathic Pain Is Characterized by Changes in Pain Response to Painful Stimuli



Mechanisms of Neuropathic Pain



What is central sensitization/ dysfunctional pain?

Definition

- Amplification of neural signaling within the CNS that elicits pain hypersensitivity

Examples

- Fibromyalgia
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Interstitial cystitis
- Temporomandibular joint pain
- May be present in many patients with chronic low back pain, osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis

Pain Quality

- Burning
- Lancing
- Electric shock-like
- Often diffuse
- Frequently with allodynia and/or hyperalgesia

Importance of Pain Assessment

Pain is a significant predictor of morbidity and mortality.

- Screen for red flags requiring immediate investigation and/or referral
- Identify underlying cause
 - Pain is better managed if the underlying causes are determined and addressed
- Recognize type of pain to help guide selection of appropriate therapies for treatment of pain
- Determine baseline pain intensity to future enable assessment of efficacy of treatment

Discussion Question

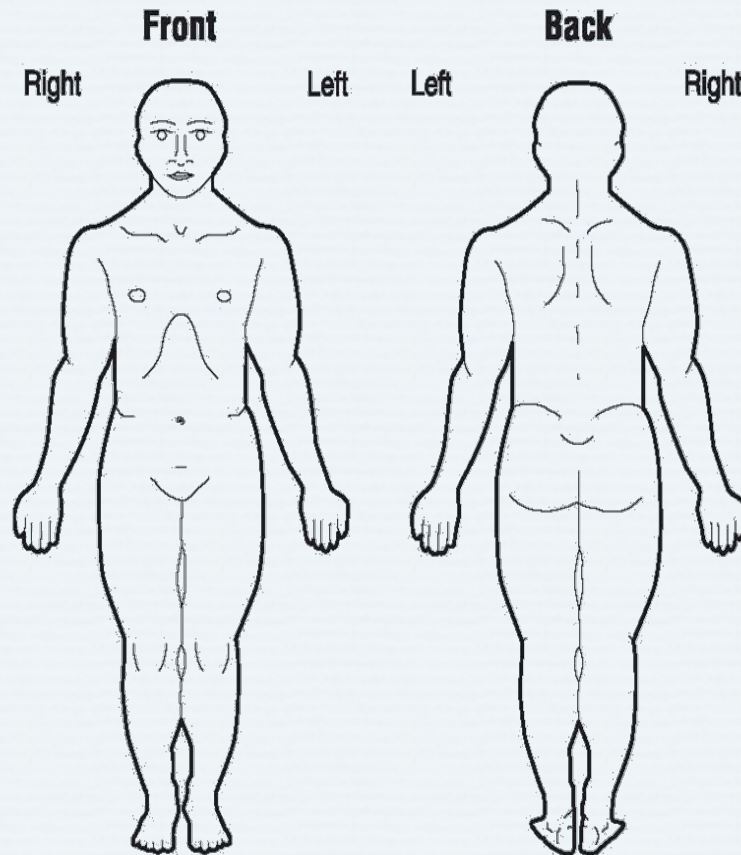


**HOW DO YOU ASSESS PAIN IN
YOUR PRACTICE?**

Pain History Worksheet

- Site of pain
- What causes or worsens the pain?
- Intensity and character of pain
- Associated symptoms?
- Pain-related impairment in functioning?
- Relevant medical history

Locate the Pain

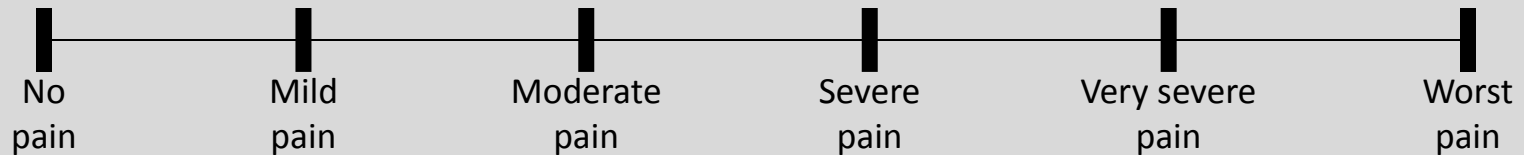


Body maps are useful for the precise location of pain symptoms and sensory signs.*

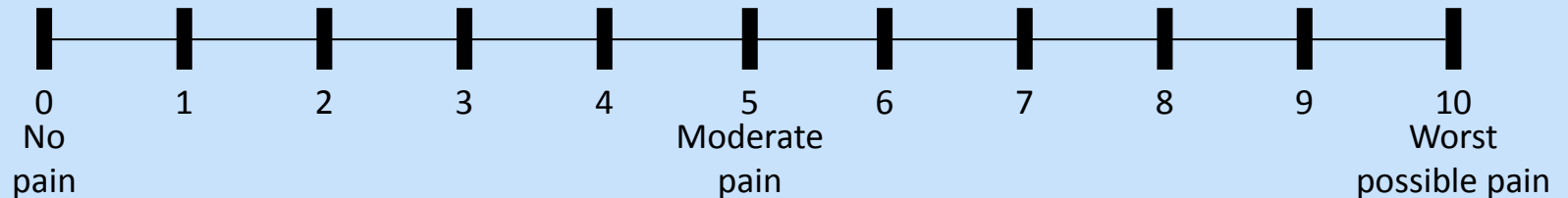
*In cases of referred pain, the location of the pain and of the injury or nerve lesion/dysfunction may not be correlated
Gilron I *et al.* CMAJ 2006; 175(3):265-75; Walk D *et al.* Clin J Pain 2009; 25(7):632-40.

Determine Pain Intensity

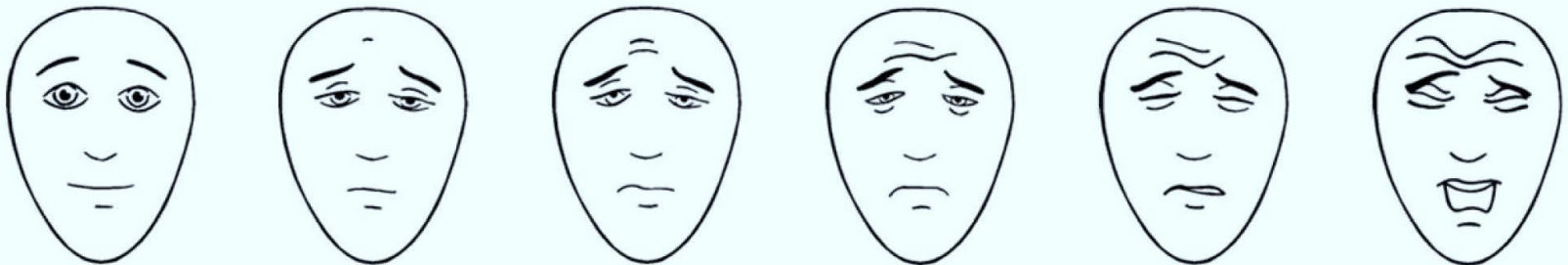
Simple Descriptive Pain Intensity Scale



0–10 Numeric Pain Intensity Scale



Faces Pain Scale – Revised



Discussion Question

**DO YOU USE A SCREENING TOOL FOR
NEUROPATHIC PAIN IN YOUR PRACTICE?
IF SO, WHICH TOOL AND WHY?**

Neuropathic Pain Screening Tools

	LANSS	DN4	NPQ	painDETECT	ID Pain
<i>Symptoms</i>					
Pricking, tingling, pins and needles	X	X	X	X	X
Electric shocks or shooting	X				
Hot or burning	X				
Numbness		X	X	X	X
Pain on touch or light touch	X				X
Painful touch					
<i>Clinical examination</i>					
Brush allodynia	X	V			
Raised soft touch threshold					
Altered pin prick threshold	X				

Neuropathic pain screening tools rely largely on common verbal descriptors of pain

Select tool(s) based on ***ease of use*** and ***validation in the local language***

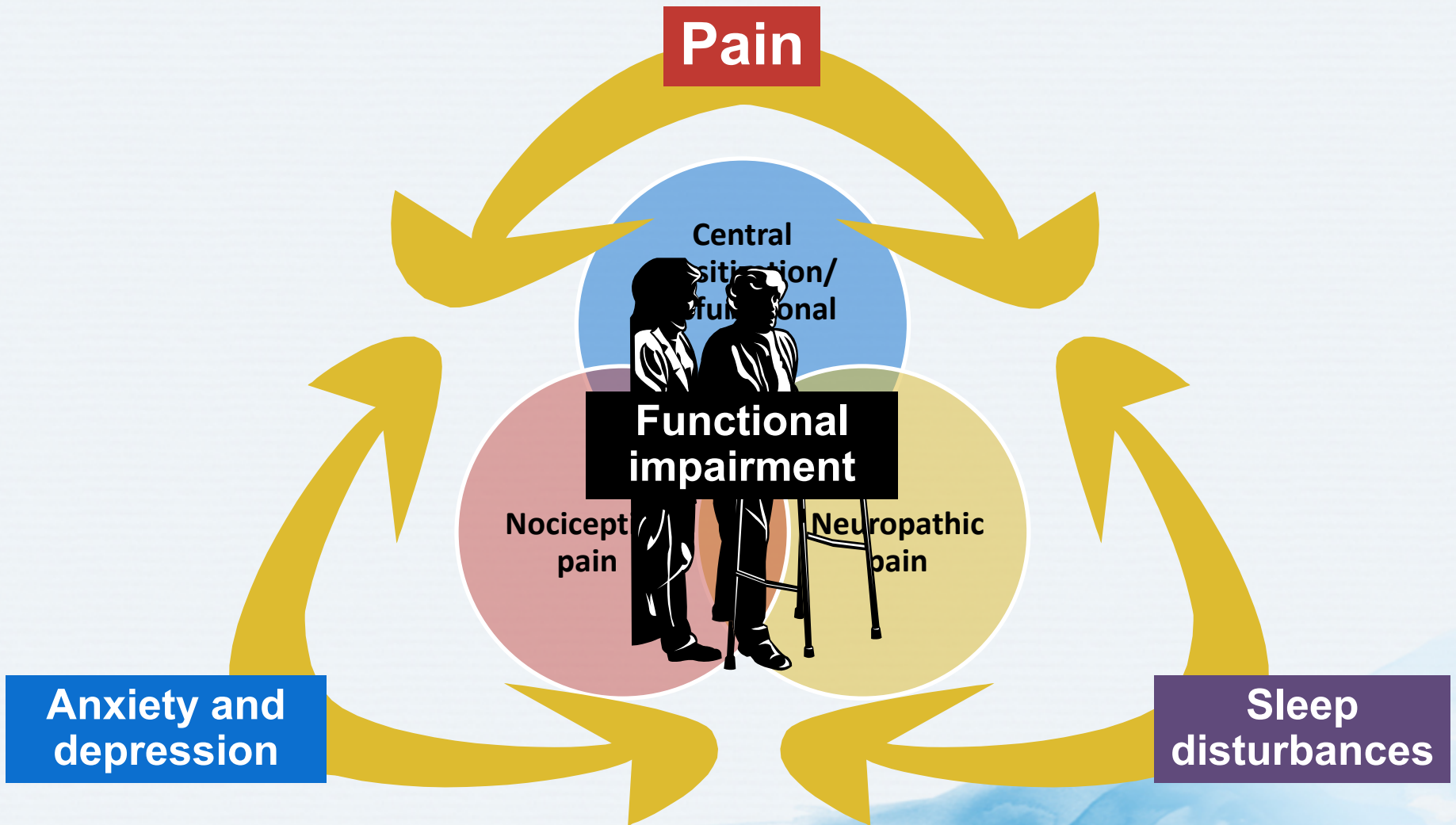
Some screening tools also include bedside neurological examination

DN4 = Douleur Neuropathique en 4 Questions (DN4) questionnaire;

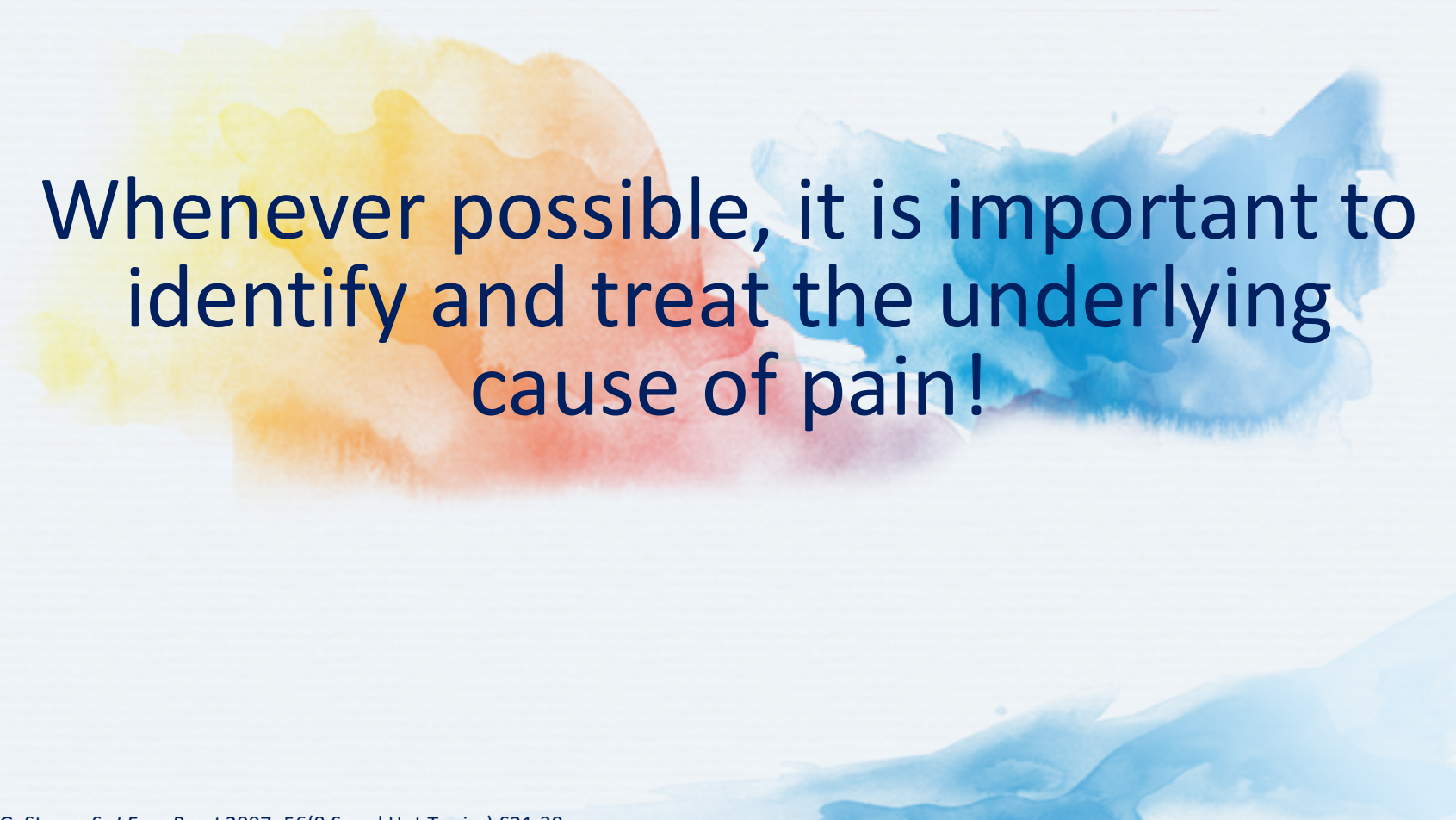
LANSS = Leeds Assessment of Neuropathic Symptoms and Signs; NPQ = Neuropathic Pain Questionnaire

Bennett MI *et al. Pain* 2007; 127(3):199-203; Haanpää M *et al. Pain* 2011; 152(1):14-27.

Evaluate Impact of Pain on Functioning



Identify and Treat Underlying Cause



Whenever possible, it is important to identify and treat the underlying cause of pain!

Be Alert for Red Flags

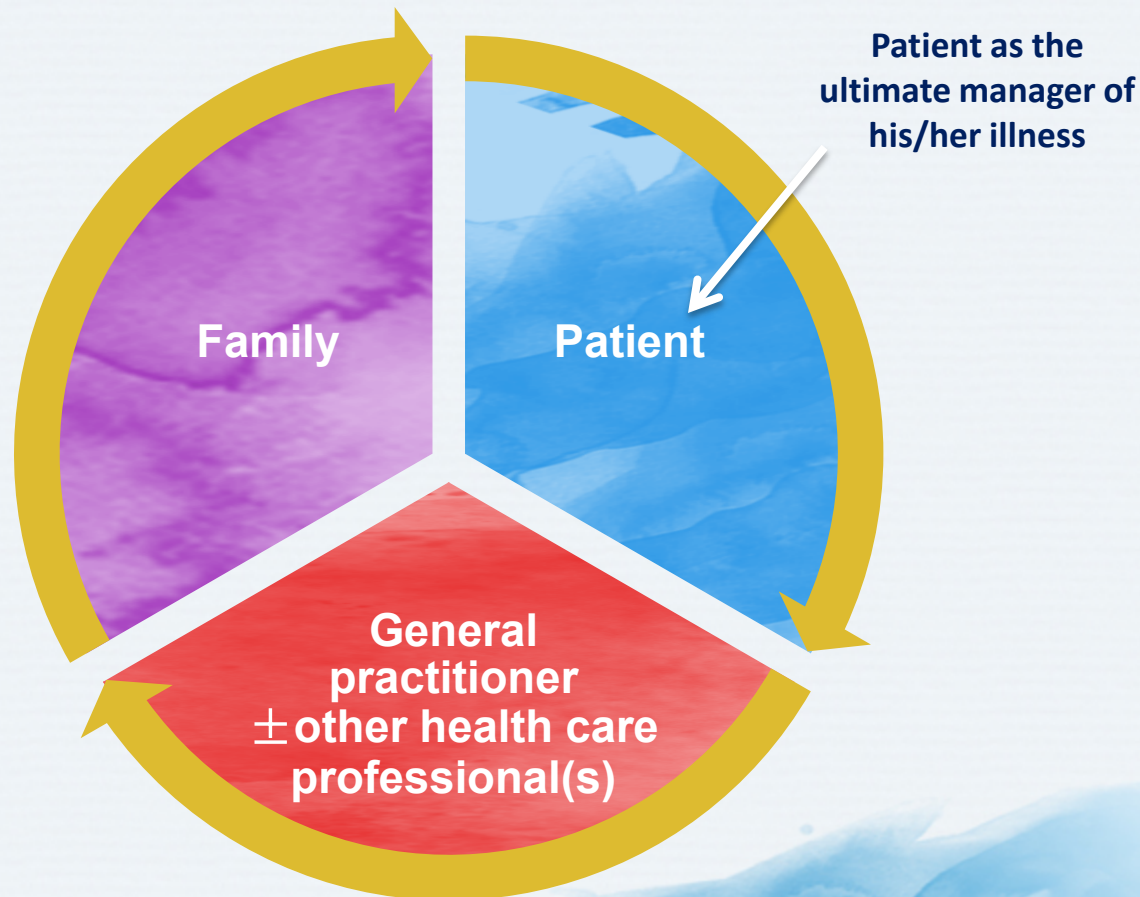
Evaluate for patients
presenting with pain the
presence of **red flags!**



Initiate appropriate investigations/
management or refer to specialist

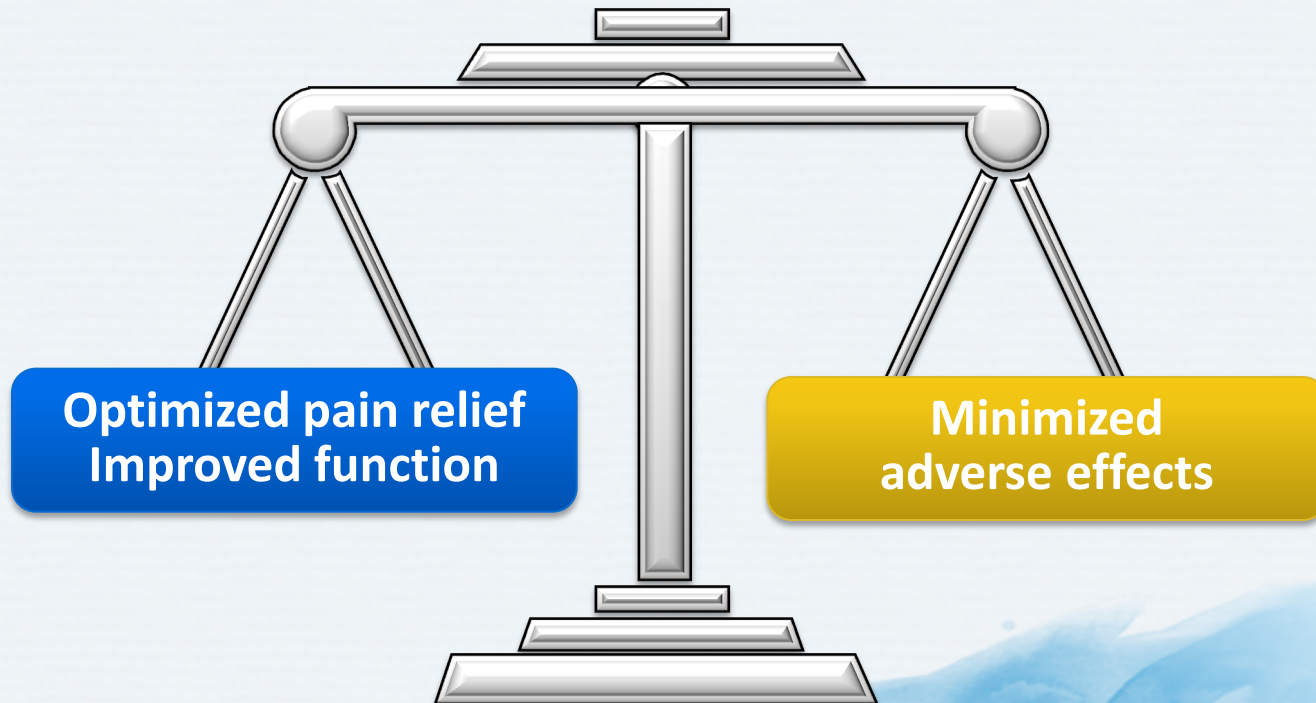
Deciding on the Best Course of Treatment for the Patient

Collaborative Care

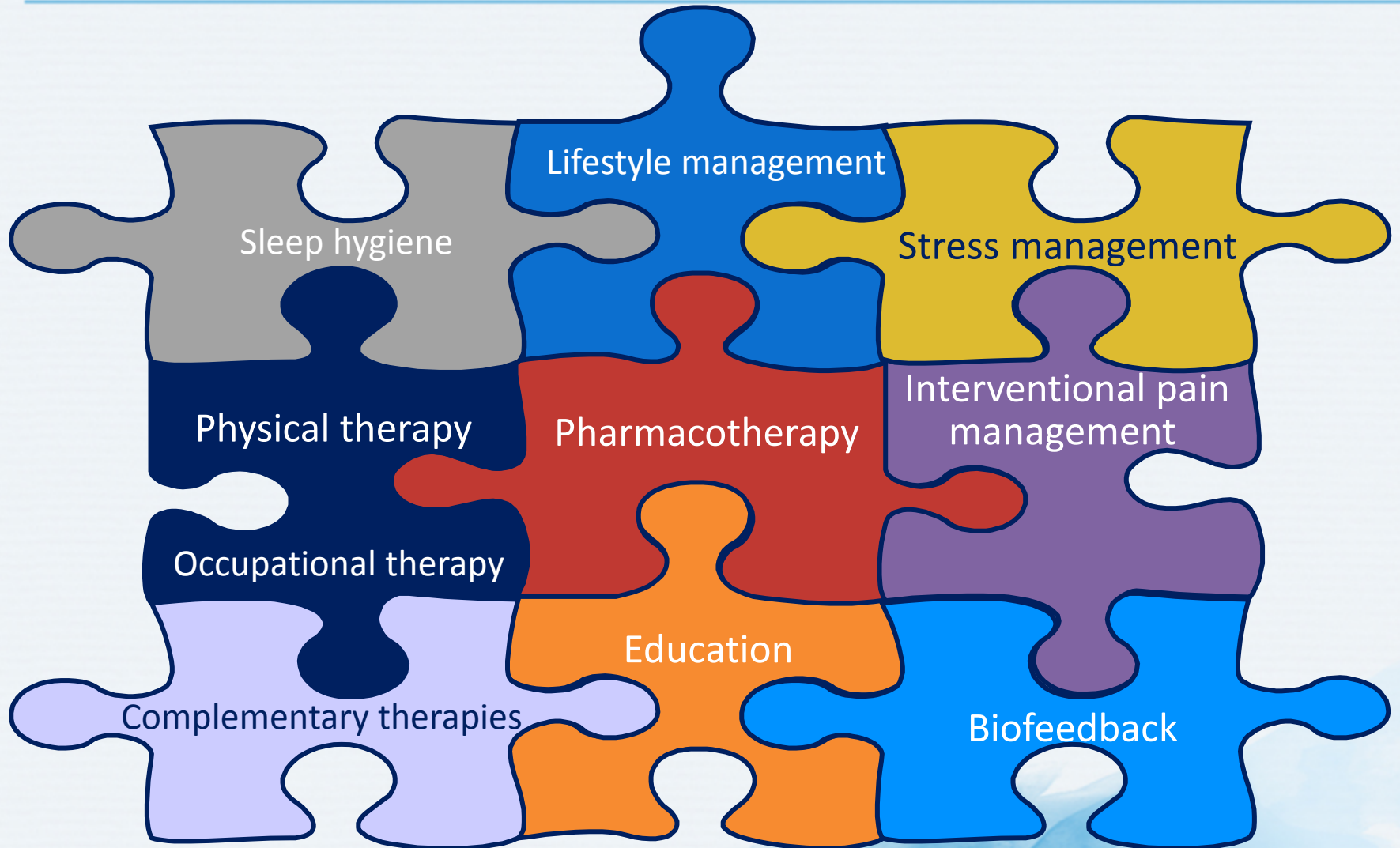


Goals in Pain Management

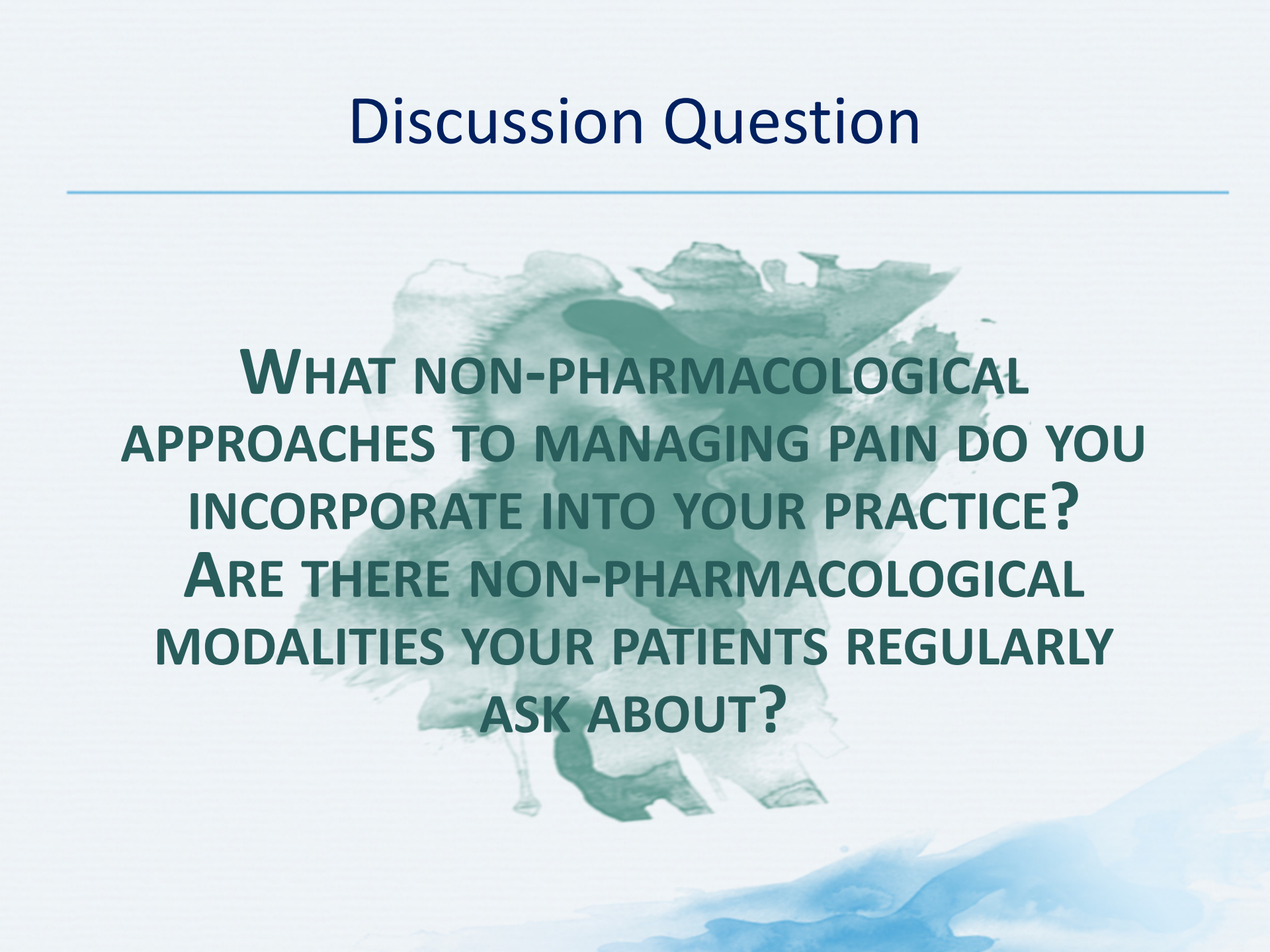
- Involve the patient in the decision-making process
- Agree on realistic treatment goals **before** starting a treatment plan



Multimodal Treatment of Pain Based on Biopsychosocial Approach



Discussion Question



**WHAT NON-PHARMACOLOGICAL
APPROACHES TO MANAGING PAIN DO YOU
INCORPORATE INTO YOUR PRACTICE?
ARE THERE NON-PHARMACOLOGICAL
MODALITIES YOUR PATIENTS REGULARLY
ASK ABOUT?**

Non-pharmacological Interventions

- Non-pharmacological interventions are commonly used in clinical practice
- Establishing reliable evidence of efficacy and effectiveness can be challenging in terms of design and interpretation of studies

Type of therapy	Examples
Psychological	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hypnosis• Relaxation• Cognitive behavioral therapy
Physical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acupuncture• Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation• Healing touch and massage• Occupational therapy
Clinical process	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pain assessment• Physician advice and communication• Education

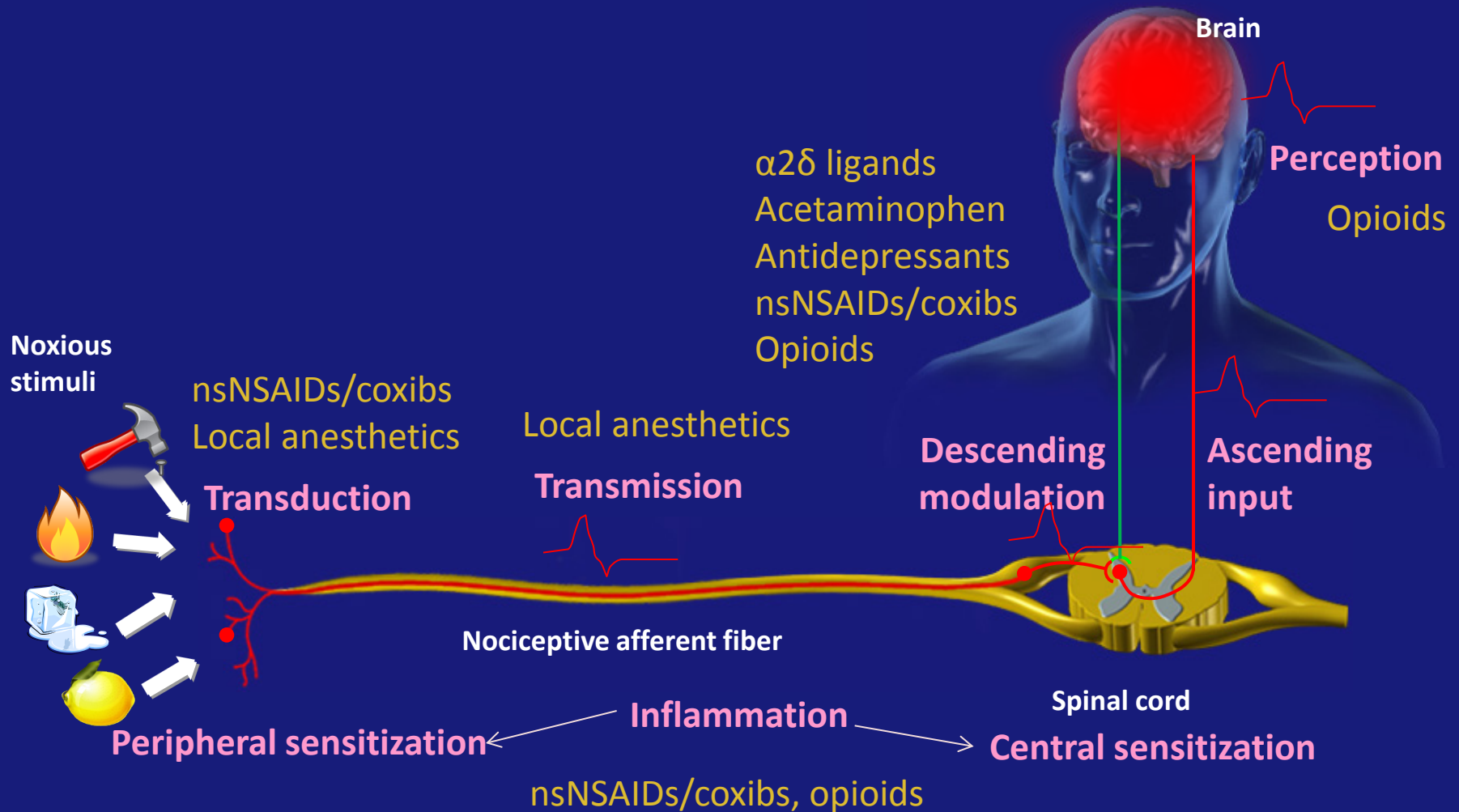
Evidence of Potential Benefits of Complementary and Alternative Medicine

	Arthritis	Headache	Low back pain	Neck pain
Acupuncture	✓	✓	✓	X
Balneotherapy (mineral baths)	X			
Feverfew		X		
Gamma linoleic acid	X			
Glucosamine/chondroitin	X			
Herbal remedies	X		X	
Massage			✓	
Spinal manipulation		✓	✓	X
Progressive relaxation			✓	
Prolotherapy			X	
Tai chi	X			
Yoga			✓	

✓ = promising evidence of potential benefit; X = limited, mixed or no evidence to support use

National institutes of Health. *Chronic Pain and CAM: At a Glance*. Available at: <http://nccam.nih.gov/health/pain/chronic.htm>. Accessed: July 29, 2013.

Mechanism-Based Pharmacological Treatment of Nociceptive/Inflammatory Pain



Coxib = COX-2 inhibitor; nsNSAID = non-specific non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug

Scholz J, Woolf CJ. *Nat Neurosci* 2002; 5(Suppl):1062-7.

Acetaminophen

- Action at molecular level is unclear
- Potential mechanisms include:
 - Inhibition of COX enzymes (COX-2 and/or COX-3)
 - Interaction with opioid pathway
 - Activation of serotonergic bulbospinal pathway
 - Involvement of nitric oxide pathway
 - Increase in cannabinoid-vanilloid tone

What are NSAIDs (nsNSAIDs/coxibs)?

NSAID = **N**on-**S**teroidal **A**nti-**I**nflammatory **D**rug

- Analgesic effect via inhibition of prostaglandin production
- Broad class incorporating many different medications:

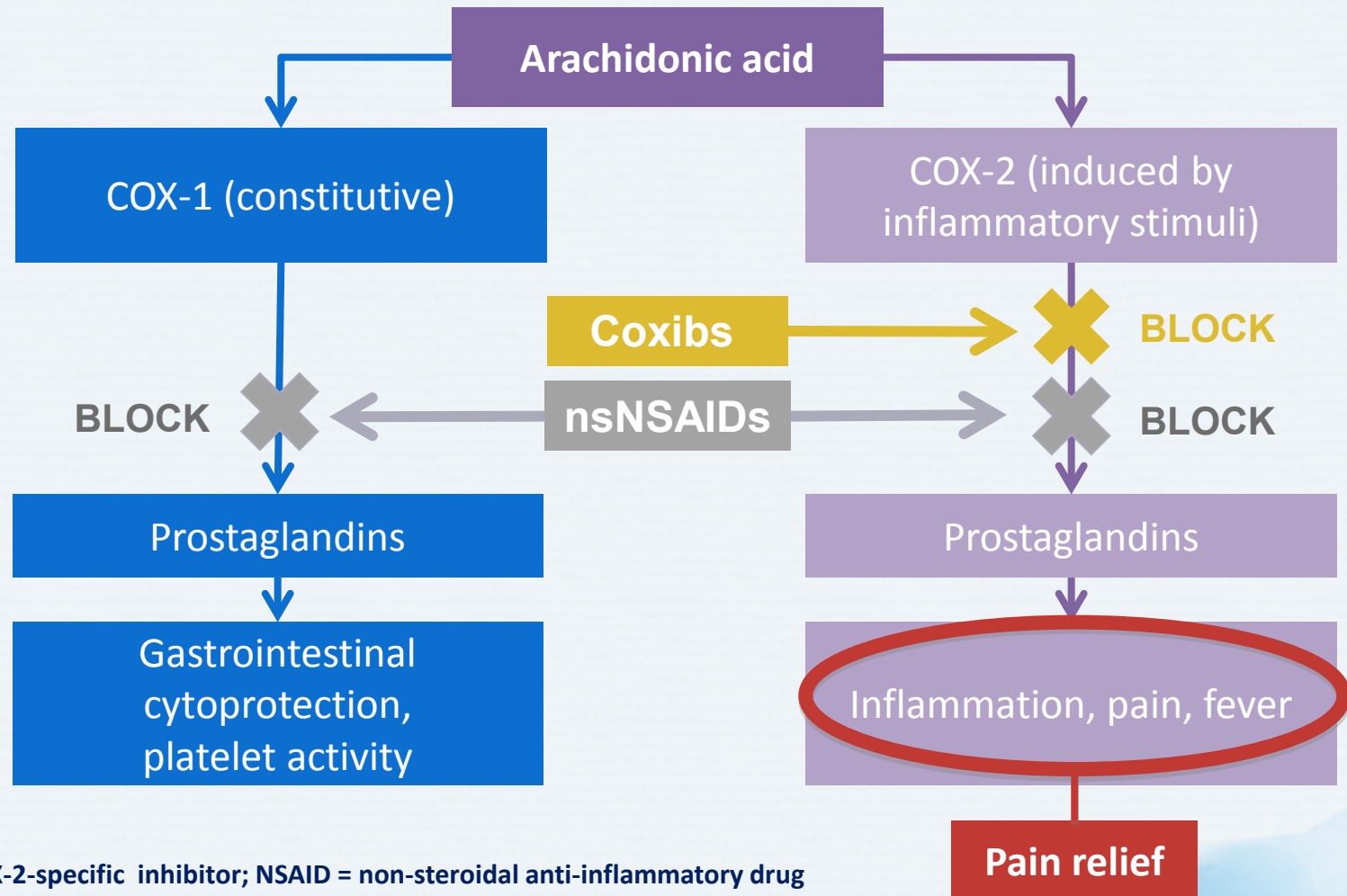
Examples of nsNSAIDs:

- Diclofenac
- Ibuprofen
- Naproxen

Examples of Coxibs:

- Celecoxib
- Etoricoxib
- Parecoxib

How do nsNSAIDs/coxibs work?



Coxib = COX-2-specific inhibitor; **NSAID** = non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug
nsNSAID = non-specific non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug

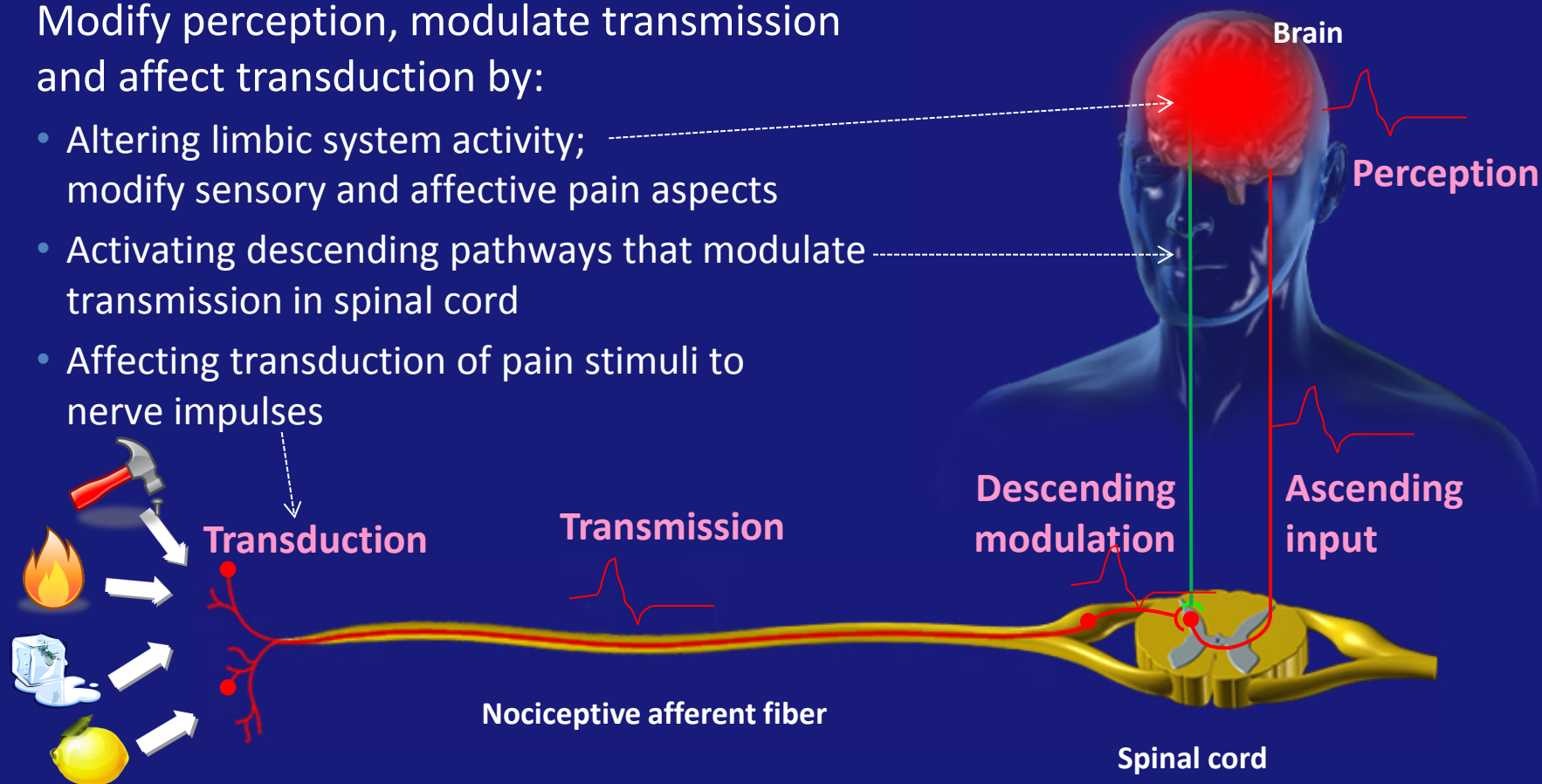
Gastrosource. *Non-steroidal Anti-inflammatory Drug (NSAID)-Associated Upper Gastrointestinal Side-Effects*. Available at: <http://www.gastrosource.com/11674565?itemId=11674565>.

Accessed: December 4, 2010; Vane JR, Botting RM. *Inflamm Res* 1995;44(1):1-10.

How Opioids Affect Pain

Modify perception, modulate transmission and affect transduction by:

- Altering limbic system activity; modify sensory and affective pain aspects
- Activating descending pathways that modulate transmission in spinal cord
- Affecting transduction of pain stimuli to nerve impulses

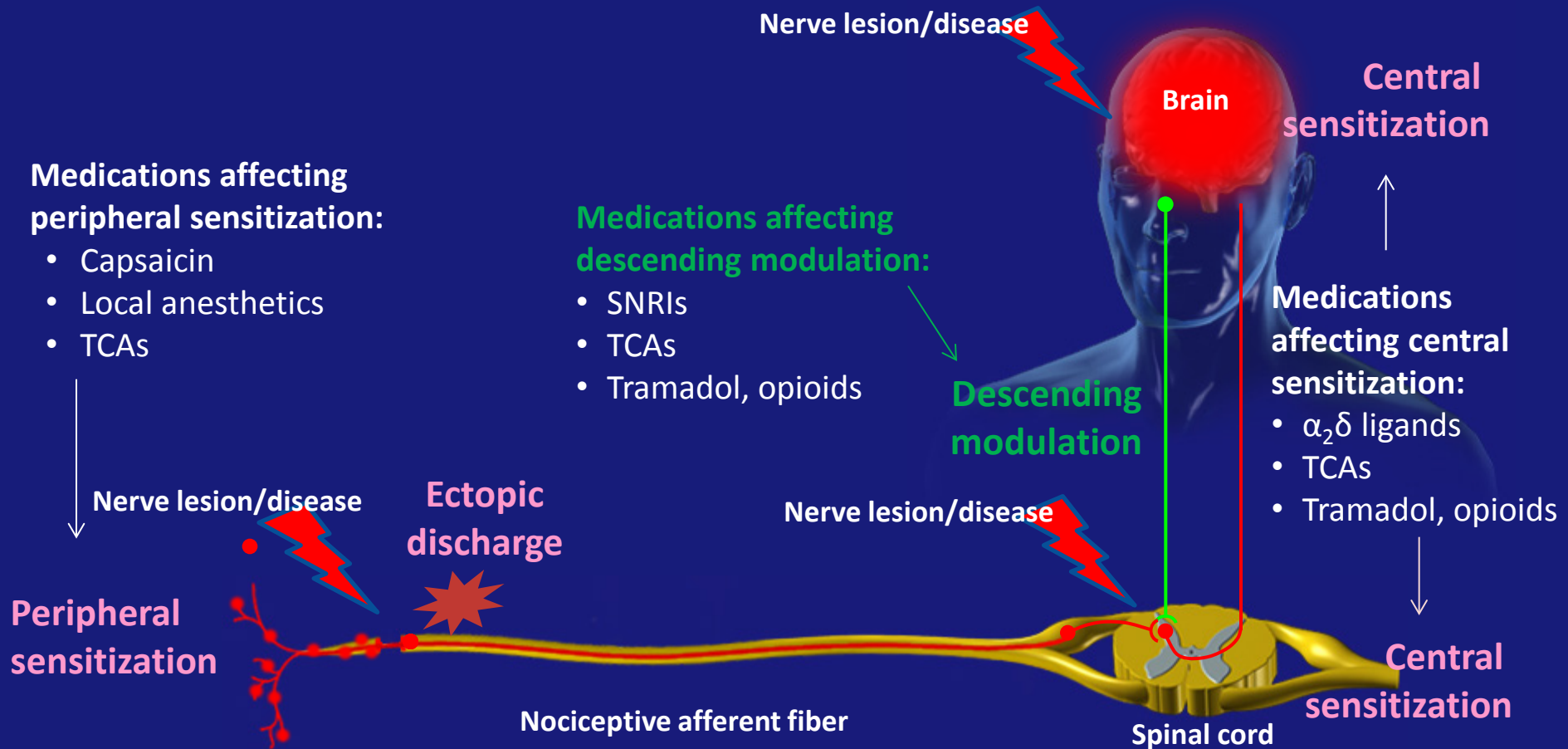


Discussion Question

**BESIDES NOCICEPTION, WHAT ARE SOME
OTHER PATHOPHYSIOLOGICAL
MECHANISMS OF PAIN?**

**WHAT PHARMACOLOGICAL AGENTS MIGHT
YOU USE TO TREAT PATIENTS SUFFERING
FROM THESE TYPES OF PAIN?**

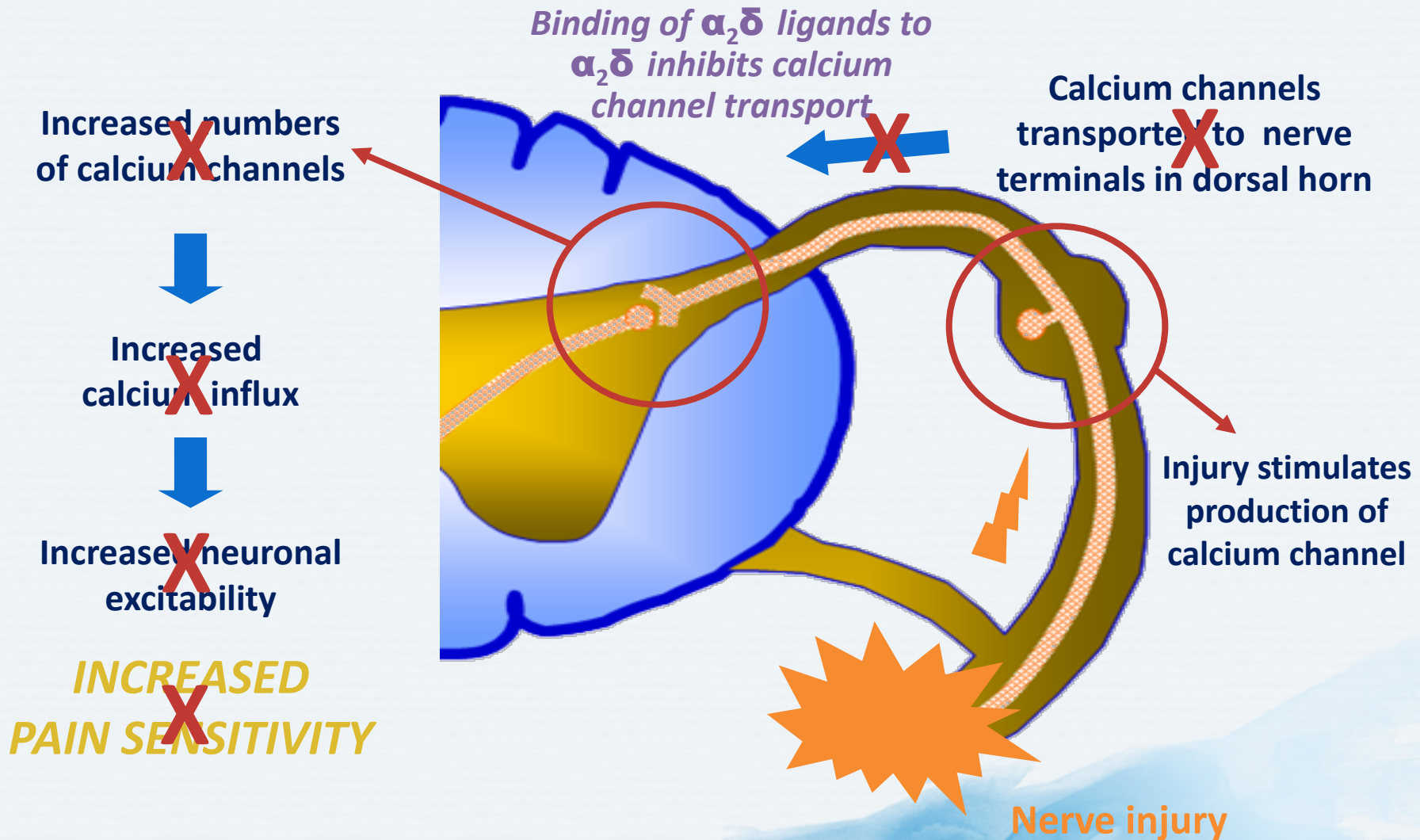
Mechanism-Based Pharmacological Treatment of Neuropathic Pain



SNRI = serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor; TCA = tricyclic antidepressant

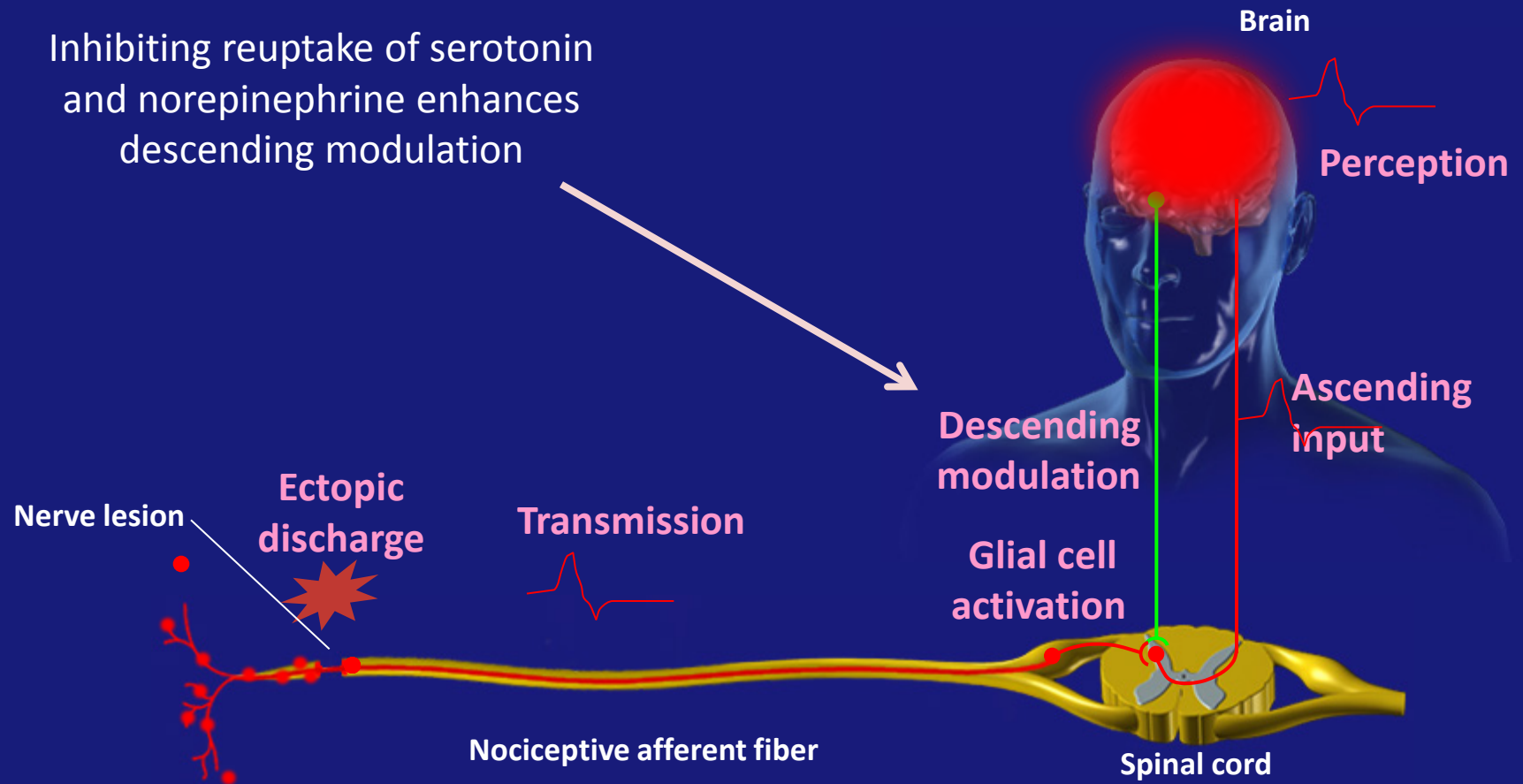
Adapted from: Attal N *et al.* *Eur J Neurol* 2010; 17(9):1113-e88; Beydoun A, Backonja MM. *J Pain Symptom Manage* 2003; 25(5 Suppl):S18-30; Jarvis MF, Boyce-Rustay JM. *Curr Pharm Des* 2009; 15(15):1711-6; Gilron I *et al.* *CMAJ* 2006; 175(3):265-75; Moisset X, Bouhassira D. *NeuroImage* 2007; 37(Suppl 1):S80-8; Morlion B. *Curr Med Res Opin* 2011; 27(1):11-33; Scholz J, Woolf CJ. *Nat Neurosci* 2002; 5(Suppl):1062-7.

Role of $\alpha_2\delta$ -Linked Calcium Channels in Neuropathic Pain

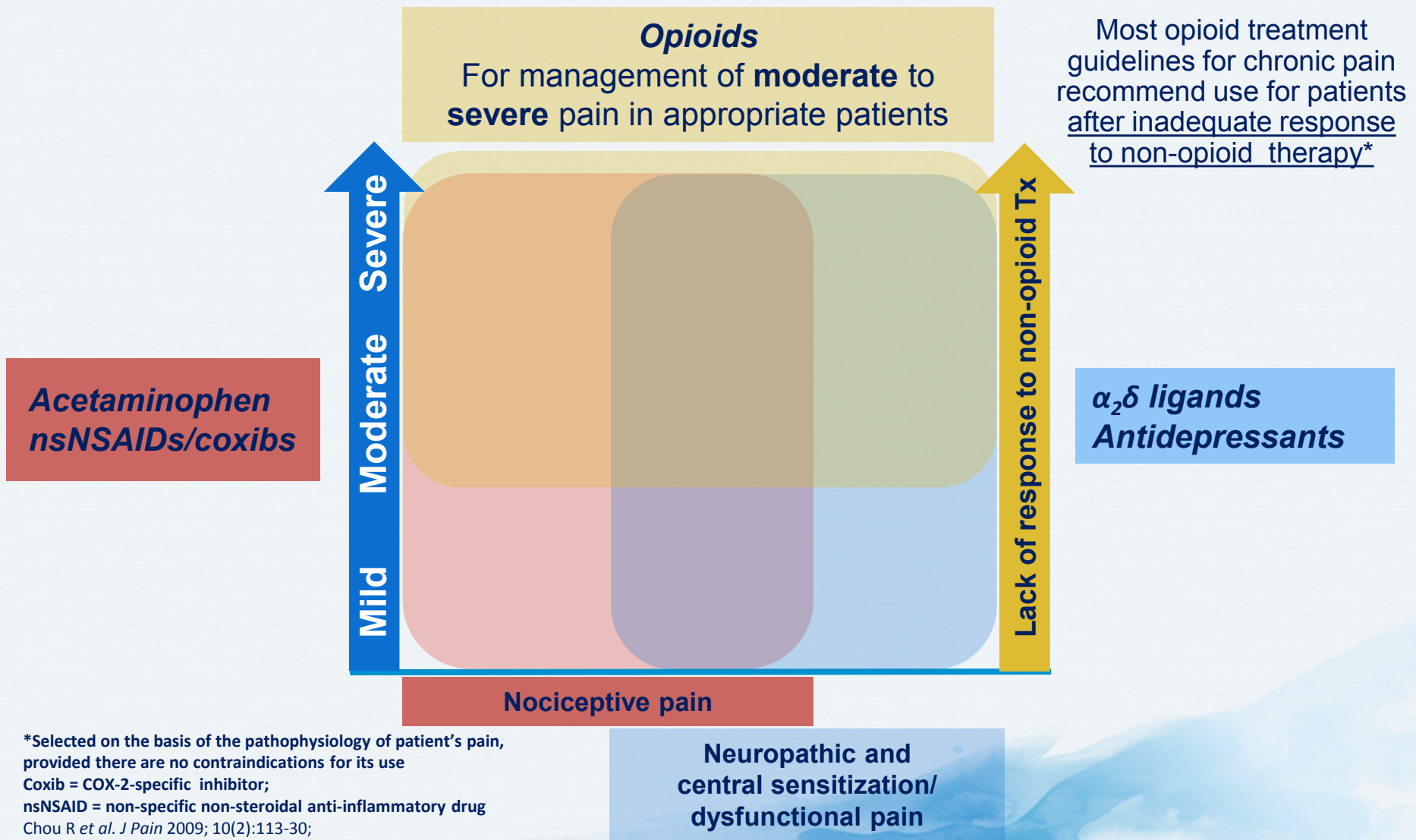


Note: gabapentin and pregabalin are $\alpha_2\delta$ ligands
Bauer CS et al. *J Neurosci* 2009; 29(13):4076-88.

How Antidepressants Modulate Pain



Assessment of Pain Pathophysiology Can Help Guide Appropriate Medication Therapy



*Selected on the basis of the pathophysiology of patient's pain, provided there are no contraindications for its use

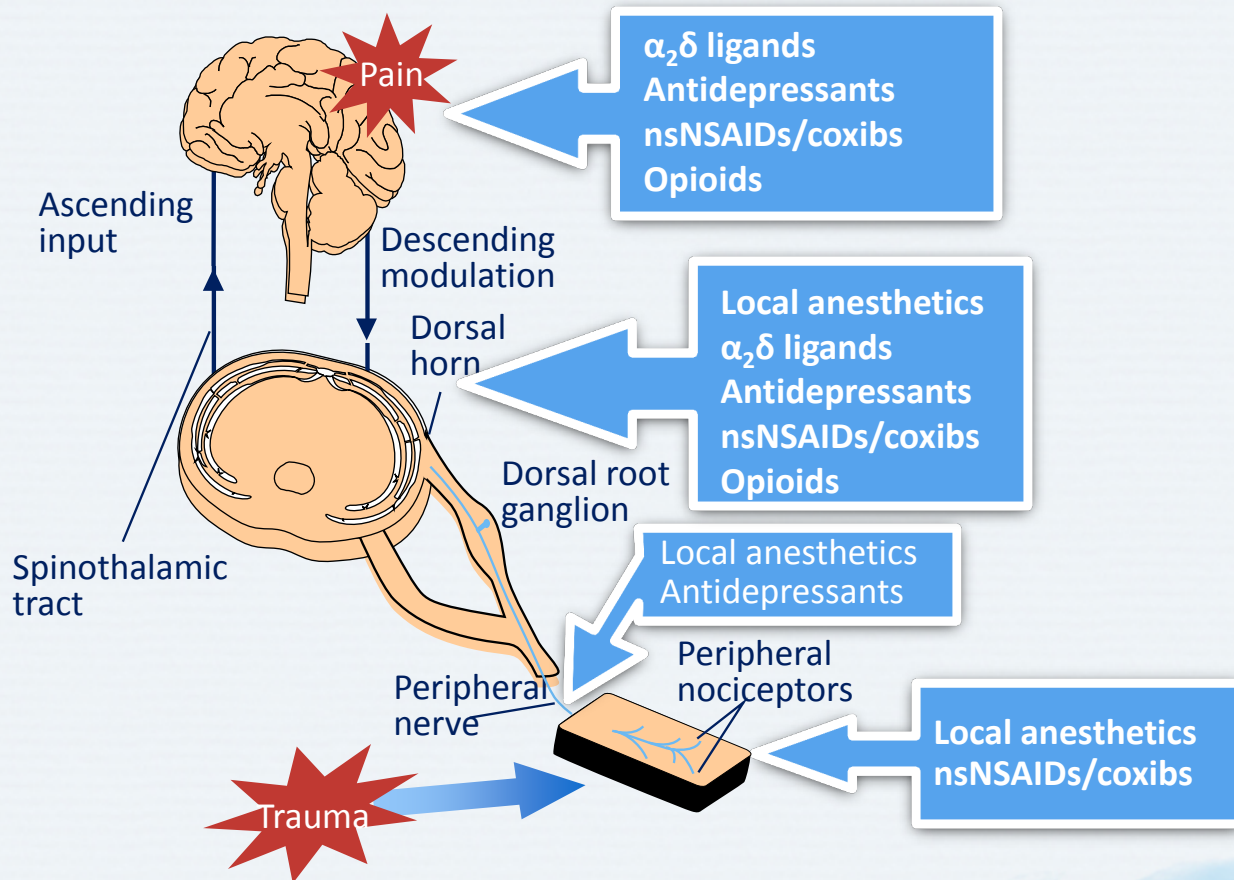
Coxib = COX-2-specific inhibitor;

nsNSAID = non-specific non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug

Chou R et al. *J Pain* 2009; 10(2):113-30;

Scholz J, Woolf CJ. *Nat Neurosci* 2002; 5(Suppl):1062-7.

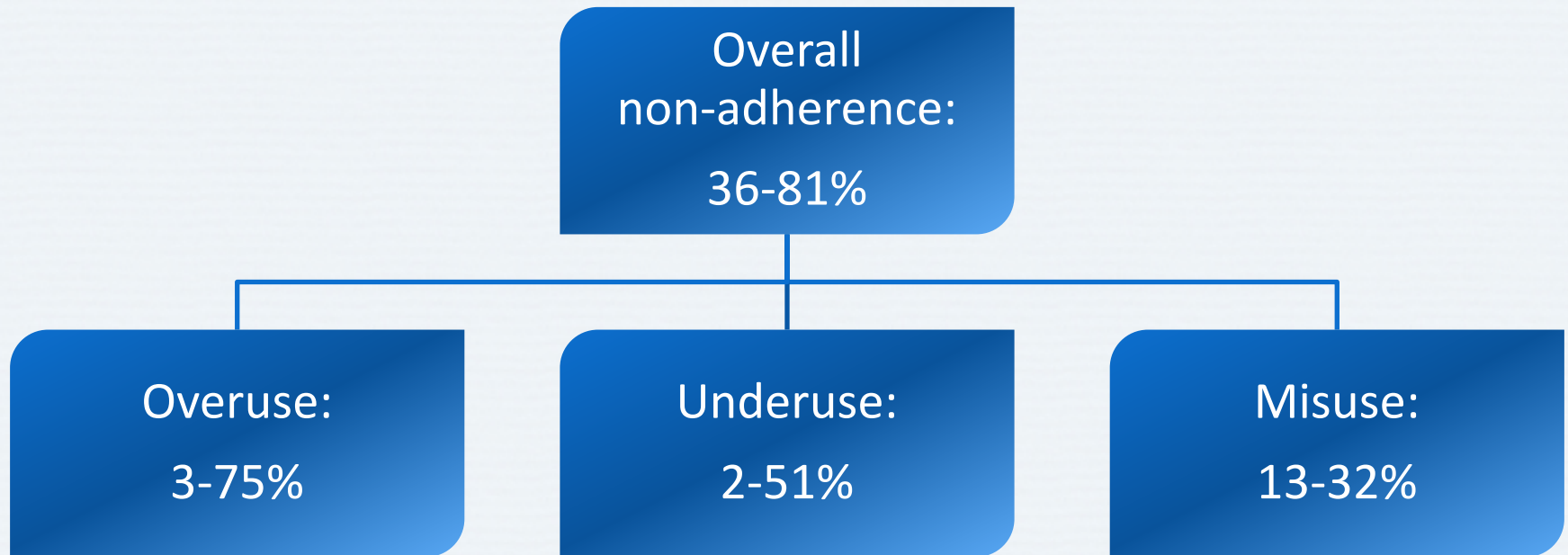
Analgesics Affect Different Parts of the Pain Pathway



Coxib = COX-2 inhibitor; nsNSAID = non-specific non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug

Adapted from: Gottschalk A et al. *Am Fam Physician* 2001; 63(10):1979-84; Verdu B et al. *Drugs* 2008; 68(18):2611-32.

Non-adherence to chronic pain medication is common...



But rates vary substantially from study to study

Strategies to Improve Adherence

- **S**implify regimen
- **I**mpart knowledge
- **M**odify patient beliefs and human behavior
- **P**rovide communication and trust
- **L**eave the bias
- **E**valuate adherence

Key Messages

- Pain is a common yet complex biopsychosocial phenomenon that affects every aspect of a patient's life
- Pain can be classified into 3 main types according to pathophysiology (found separately or together/mixed type):
 - Pain due to inflammation or tissue damage (nociceptive pain)
 - Pain due to lesion or disease of somatosensory system (neuropathic pain)
 - Pain due to “central sensitization/dysfunctional pain” (terminology in flux)
- The type of pain pathophysiology can guide us to select rational, mechanism-based treatment options
- Optimal management often requires: identifying the red flags, treating the cause and combining pharmacological, biological, psychological/social and interventional techniques