

CUMULATIVE LIFETIME VIOLENCE SEVERITY & CHRONIC PAIN IN A COMMUNITY SAMPLE OF CANADIAN MEN.

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BACKGROUND

Possible links between cumulative lifetime violence severity (CLVS) and chronic pain among men have not been studied despite both being major public health problems. The CLVS-44 measure includes items for physical, psychological or sexual violence during childhood or adulthood, as a target or perpetrator in diverse contexts such as family, community, school, workplace or partner relationships in 11 sub-scales. Chronic pain (CP) was measured with the Chronic Pain Grade scale.

PURPOSE

Develop a profile of CP severity for men reporting CLVS and explore how CP is associated with CLVS and known health and social determinants of CP.

SAMPLE

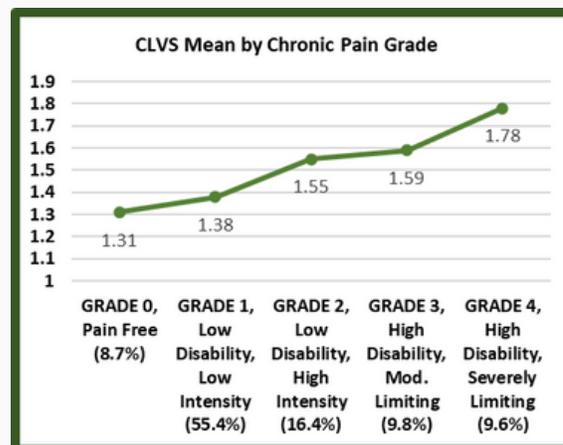
653 Eastern Canadian community volunteers, ages 19-65, who self-identified as men with CLVS.

METHOD

Analysis of variance and logistic regression with data from an online survey of CLVS, CP, and other variables of interest.

RESULTS

- 35.8% had high intensity/high disability CP, 2-3 times higher than in national surveys.
- Significant predictors of CP severity were CLVS-44 total score, age, an injury with temporary long-term impairment, depression severity, and number of chronic health problems in a multivariate model.
- Although each CLVS subscale individually predicted CP severity, only 2 subscales 1) being a target and witness of lifetime physical violence & 2) being a target of psychological violence as an adult including in the workplace were significant when all were included in the model.



KEY MESSAGES

- Total CLVS is directly associated with high intensity/high disability chronic pain.
- Only 24% of men with high chronic pain had ever been diagnosed and only 8.4% reported medication use for pain.
- The nature of CLVS, particularly lifetime physical family violence and psychological workplace violence may be most relevant as predictors of CP.
- Assessment of workplace psychosocial factors is important for men presenting with CP.
- Chronic pain severity may increase incrementally by number of chronic health problems in men with CLVS due to increased allostatic load from violence.
- Trauma- and violence-informed care that focuses on safety, trustworthiness, choice, collaboration, and empowerment is essential for effective chronic pain management