

# Introduction to the ICD-11 chronic pain classification

Beatrice Korwisi, Ph.D.



# The relevance of chronic pain

## Definition of chronic pain

- Pain that persists or recurs for > 3 months (Treede et al., 2015, 2019)

## Prevalence

- About 1 in 5 people have chronic pain (Breivik et al., 2006)

## Associated disease burden

- Functional impairment and disability, e.g.: not being able to work or care for family (Breivik et al., 2006, Froud et al., 2014)
- Emotional distress, e.g.,: depressed mood, hopelessness, anger (Häuser et al., 2014; Wang et al., 2018)
- Direct and indirect societal costs (Häuser et al., 2013; James et al., 2018)

# Why do we need a classification for chronic pain?

**Having a comprehensive chronic pain classification in ICD-11 is important for:**

- Documentation
- **Visibility of chronic pain** in national and international health statistics
- Treatment decisions
- Resource allocations
- Public health decisions

# Chronic pain in the ICD-10

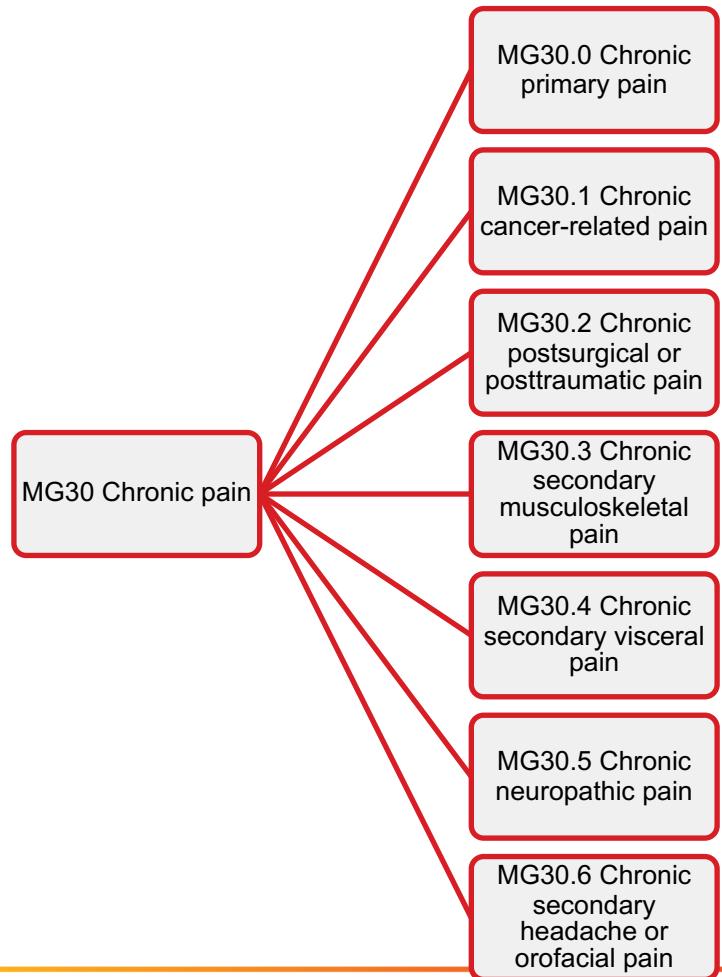
- Diagnoses did not reflect the biopsychosocial model of pain
- Diagnoses scattered throughout **different chapters**, e.g.: F, G, M, R
- Diagnoses did not differentiate between acute and chronic pain, e.g., M54.5 Low back pain
- **Ambiguous diagnoses** without clear definition, e.g.: R52.2 Other chronic pain
- **Missing diagnoses**, e.g.: chronic cancer-related pain, chronic neuropathic pain, chronic pain after surgery or trauma

(Rief et al., 2008, 2010, 2012)

# Chronic pain in ICD-10: Consequences

- Chronic pain remained invisible in statistics and registries
- Limited access to pain treatment, especially gold standard multimodal treatment
- Burden of disease was underestimated
- Resource allocation did not prioritize chronic pain

# Overview of the ICD-11 chronic pain classification



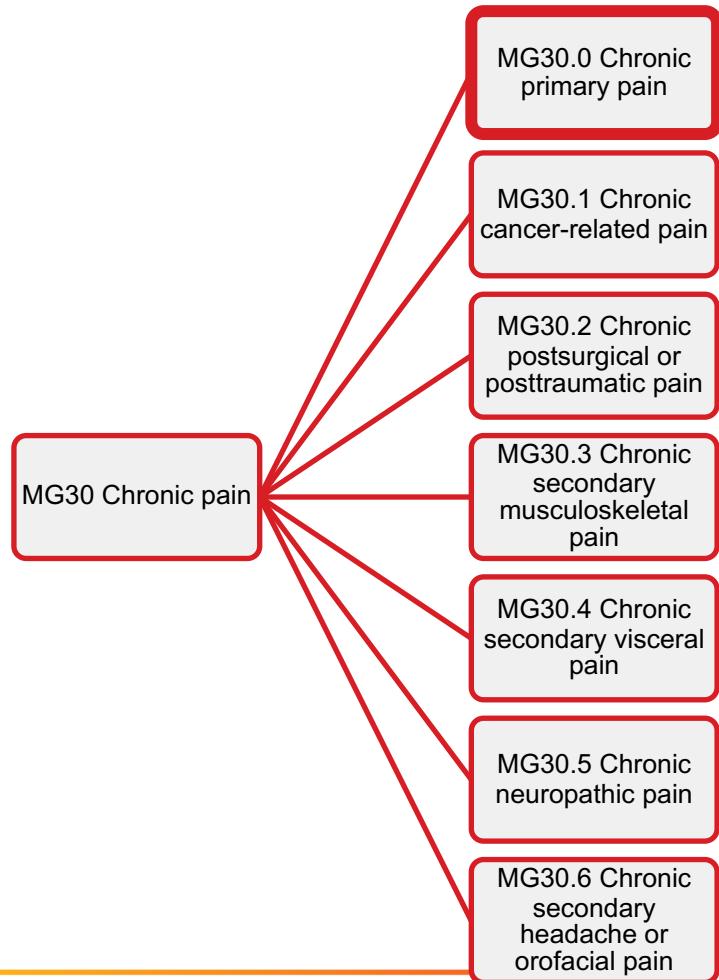
7 main categories of chronic pain (Treede et al., 2015, 2019)

Developed by an international expert task force of IASP

Several diagnostic levels

- From primary care to specialized pain treatment

# Chronic primary pain

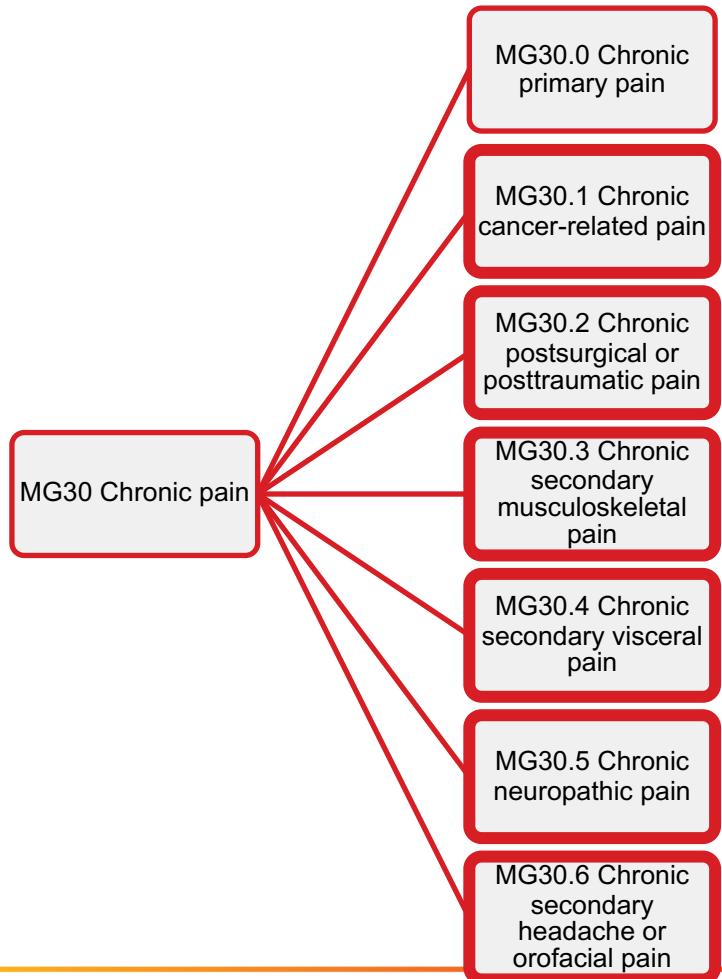


Chronic primary pain:  
(Treede et al., 2019)

- Characterized by **emotional distress or functional disability**
- Not better accounted for by another chronic (secondary) pain condition

→ Chronic pain as a health condition in its own right.

# Chronic secondary pain



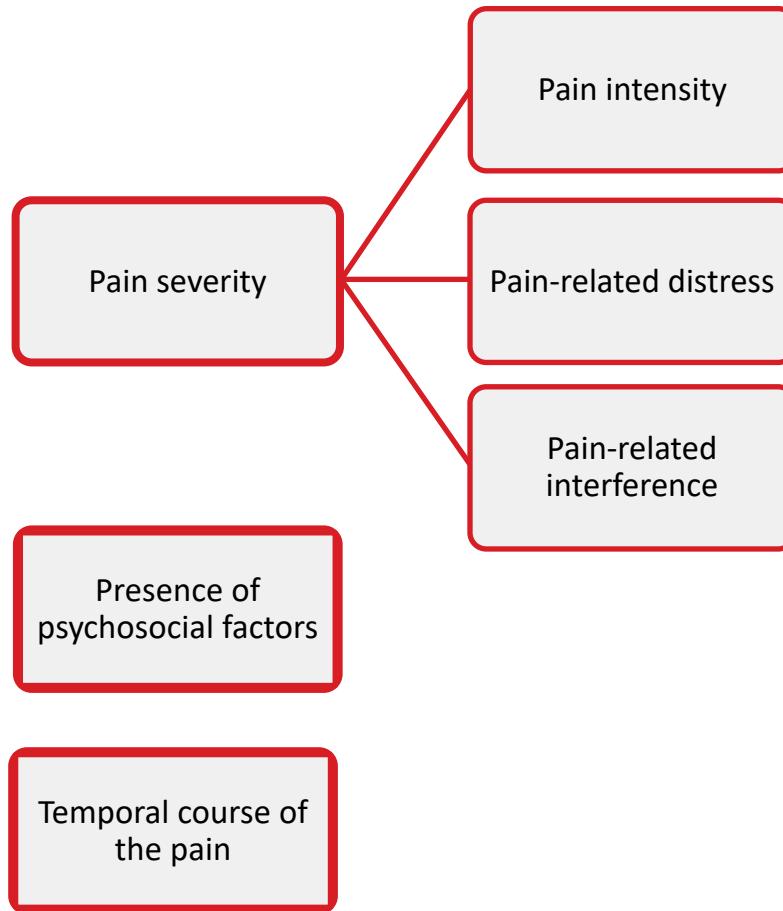
Chronic secondary pain:

(Treede et al., 2019)

- Chronic pain as a symptom of an underlying disease
- No correlation between pain severity and disease severity

→ Chronic pain as a symptom that often requires interdisciplinary pain treatment

# Extension codes relevant for chronic pain



Optional extension codes:

(Treede et al., 2019)

- Can be combined with all chronic pain diagnoses

- MG20 Hypothermie, non associée à une température ambiante basse
- ▷ MG29 Edème
- MG2A Diminution des capacités intrinsèques liée au vieillissement
- ▽ Douleur
  - ▽ MG30 Douleur chronique
    - ▷ MG30.0 Douleur chronique primaire
    - ▽ MG30.1 Douleur chronique due à un cancer
      - MG30.10 Douleur cancéreuse chronique
      - MG30.11 Douleur chronique posttraitemet du cancer
      - MG30.1Y Autres douleur chronique due à un cancer**
      - MG30.1Z Douleur chronique due à un cancer, sans précision**
    - ▷ MG30.2 Douleur

## MG30.10 Douleur cancéreuse chronique

Fondement (IRU): <http://id.who.int/icd/entity/322466810>

Code: MG30.10

Sélectionner

### Terme sélectionné

Douleur cancéreuse neuropathique chronique

Fondement (IRU): <http://id.who.int/icd/entity/1480100314>

### Description

La douleur chronique liée au cancer est une douleur chronique causée par le cancer primaire ou les métastases. Il doit être hautement probable que la douleur est due au cancer; si sa genèse est vague, envisagez d'utiliser les codes de la section des douleurs primaires chroniques.

### Information complémentaire

Chronic cancer pain is chronic pain caused by the primary cancer or metastases. It should be highly probable that the pain is due to cancer; if its genesis is vague, consider using codes in the section of chronic primary pain. Chronic cancer pain is a presenting feature of cancer in over 30% of patients. About 64% of patients experience pain with advanced or persistent cancer. On average, each cancer patient will identify two distinct pains. In many patients, careful assessment is therefore required to distinguish pain caused by cancer from pain caused by cancer treatment or co-morbid conditions. In

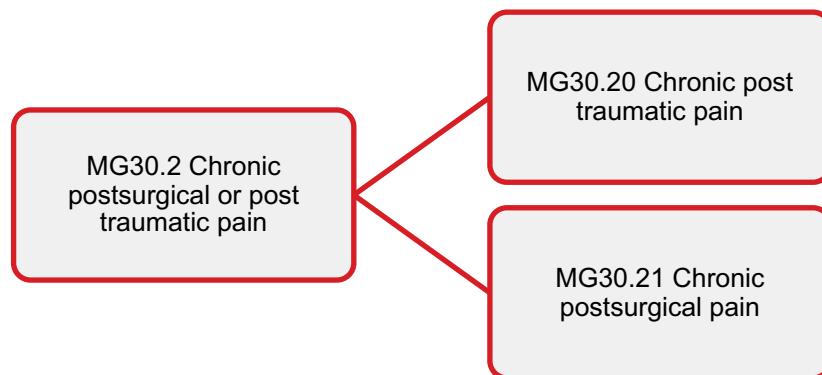
can be exacerbated by cancer recurrence in the same area. In these situations, the clinician must decide the predominant cause of pain and base treatment on this. Diagnostic Criteria. Conditions A to C are fulfilled: A. Chronic pain (persistent or recurrent for longer than 3 months) is present. B. The

# Chronic postsurgical or post traumatic pain

- Chronic postsurgical or post traumatic pain also is a new chronic pain diagnosis in the ICD-11
- No diagnosis available in ICD-10
- Chronic pain that develops or increases in intensity after a surgical procedure or tissue injury

# Chronic postsurgical or post traumatic pain

Chronic post traumatic pain: develops or increases in intensity after a tissue injury



Chronic postsurgical pain: develops or increases in intensity after a surgical procedure

# Thank you!

If you want to receive further information from IASP regarding the ICD-11 chronic pain classification and related activities, **sign up here to keep in touch with IASP!**



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