

Grant title: A double burden? A multi-method investigation into the experience of paediatric chronic pain and mental health symptoms.

Award holders: Dr Abbie Jordan (University of Bath; PI), Dr Line Caes (University of Stirling), Professor Christopher Eccleston (University of Bath) & Dr Melanie Noel (University of Calgary)

Grant duration: 02/10/2018 – 01/10/2021

Report:

This report describes the progress of the above studentship grant over the past twelve-month period (31/03/2021 to 31/03/2022).

Project aims:

This PhD studentship aims to provide a detailed account of the challenges that youth who experience chronic pain and mental health symptoms face and how these challenges form barriers to their treatment. The first study will include a review of the current literature to better understand the evidence concerning the relationship between chronic pain in youth and psychopathology. The second study will involve collecting questionnaire and interview data over two-time points from 100 youth aged 11-19 years and their parents/caregivers regarding their pain-related disability, mental health symptoms and social relationships. The final study will use interviews and an online survey to explore how 50 clinicians think about treating youth with chronic pain and mental health symptoms and associated challenges faced in this treatment process.

Progress so far:

Specific progress is detailed below with respect to the grant and the student's continuing development as an independent researcher:

1. Data collection for all studies is complete.
2. Study one has been written up and submitted to the Journal of Adolescent Health (scoping review study)
3. Study two has been written up and is currently under review with the supervisory team. This manuscript will be submitted for publication within the next two months.
4. Mrs Bateman has attended numerous virtual international Pain in Child Health (PICH) trainee meetings this year. PICH events are important trainee and mentorship meetings that facilitate networking with paediatric pain clinicians and trainees in the area. Mrs Bateman continues to be a member of PICH and engage in monthly webinars with fellow paediatric pain trainees and faculty members.
5. Mrs Bateman attended the Qualitative Research Symposium at the University of Bath in February 2022. This provided important assistance with developing her

qualitative research skills ahead of analyses of qualitative data in study three. Mrs Bateman also completed some additional qualitative methods training.

Dissemination:

Accepted papers:

Jones, A., Caes, L., Rugg, T., Noel, M., Bateman, S. and Jordan, A., submitted. Challenging issues of integrity and identity of participants in online qualitative methods. *Methods in Psychology*.

Submitted papers:

Bateman, S., Caes, L., Eccleston, C., Noel, N. & Jordan, A. (submitted). Co-occurring chronic pain and primary psychological disorders in adolescents. A scoping review. *Journal of Adolescent Health*.

Submitted poster abstracts:

Bateman, S., Caes, L., Eccleston, C., Noel, N., Loades, M. & Jordan, A. (submitted). Co-occurring chronic pain and mental health symptoms in adolescence: A double burden? *International Symposium for Pediatric Pain*. Auckland, March 2022 (remote).