

# Prevalence of drug-induced constipation and severity of associated biopsychosocial effects in patients with nonmalignant pain. A cross-sectional review of depersonalized data from the German Pain e-Registry (DRIP)

**First published:** 28/07/2021

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Study

Finalised

## Administrative details

### EU PAS number

EUPAS42286

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### Study ID

42287

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### DARWIN EU® study

No

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## Study countries

☐ Germany

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## Study description

Constipation is a frequent medical problem and affects, depending on methodological and geographic differences, up to 28% of the general population. Epidemiological studies showed that the prevalence of constipation increases with age, is higher in women compared to men and severity as well as time course are very variable. Likewise are the correlating effects on quality of life and well-being variable. Drug induced constipation (DIC) is one of the most frequent adverse reactions and a frequent reason for (co-)morbidity in otherwise healthy persons as well as in pain patients in all parts of the world. Reports on DIC in pain patients largely address opioid-induced constipation (OIC) as one aspect of opioid-induced bowel dysfunction. However, DIC also occurs in response to non-opioid analgesics and pain related co-medication such as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), antidepressants (ADDs), anticonvulsants (AEDs) and others. Furthermore, recent studies in elderly non-pain patients reported a correlation between occurrence and severity of constipation and the overall number of drugs used. This raises questions on a potential impact of analgesic polypharmacy on the prevalence and the biopsychosocial consequences of constipation in patients with chronic nonmalignant pain (NMP), who frequently receive a polymedication with or without opioid analgesics. To gain further insight into the prevalence and biopsychosocial consequences of DIC in patients with NMP we evaluated anonymized real-world data derived from routine medical care in pain centers within the German Pain e-Registry (GPeR), a national web-based registry developed in cooperation with the German Pain Association (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Schmerzmedizin) and the German Pain League (Deutsche Schmerzliga).

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## Study status

Finalised

## Research institutions and networks

### Institutions

#### Institute for Neurological Sciences (IFNAP)

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Institution

### Contact details

#### Study institution contact

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Study contact

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#### Primary lead investigator

Michael Ueberall

Primary lead investigator

### Study timelines

**Date when funding contract was signed**

Planned: 02/03/2021

Actual: 02/03/2021

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**Study start date**

Planned: 02/03/2021

Actual: 02/03/2021

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**Data analysis start date**

Planned: 03/05/2021

Actual: 03/05/2021

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**Date of final study report**

Planned: 23/07/2021

Actual: 23/07/2021

## Sources of funding

- Other

## More details on funding

IFNAP - private Institute of Neurological Sciences

## Regulatory

**Was the study required by a regulatory body?**

No

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**Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?**

Not applicable

## Methodological aspects

### Study type

**Study topic:**

Disease /health condition

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**Study type:**

Non-interventional study

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**Scope of the study:**

Disease epidemiology

Safety study (incl. comparative)

Other

**If 'other', further details on the scope of the study**

Tolerability

**Data collection methods:**

Secondary use of data

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**Main study objective:**

To assess the influence of drug-induced constipation on pain, pain-related disabilities in daily life, and further biopsychosocial factors such as quality-of-life, depression, anxiety, mood, and overall wellbeing

## Study Design

**Non-interventional study design**

Cohort

Cross-sectional

Other

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## **Non-interventional study design, other**

Retrospective registry analysis

# Study drug and medical condition

## **Medical condition to be studied**

Pain

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## **Additional medical condition(s)**

Chronic nonmalignant pain

# Population studied

## **Short description of the study population**

Patients with chronic nonmalignant pain (NMP), who frequently receive a polymedication with or without opioid analgesics.

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## **Age groups**

Children (2 to < 12 years)

Adolescents (12 to < 18 years)

Adults (18 to < 46 years)

Adults (46 to < 65 years)

Adults (65 to < 75 years)

Adults (75 to < 85 years)

Adults (85 years and over)

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## **Estimated number of subjects**

150000

# Study design details

## Outcomes

The primary end point was the proportion of patients with five or more serious findings within the nine properties evaluated (based on the following cut-off ranges: a) pain intensity, b) daily functioning, c/d) physical/mental quality-of-life, e) depression, f) anxiety, g) stress, h) wellbeing, and i) quality-of-life impairment by pain.

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## Data analysis plan

Biometric analyses will be performed using the descriptive procedures suitable for the respective data format. Mean data will be presented with standard deviation or 95% confidence intervals (CI), proportions expressed in percent (%) and if necessary, adjusted for the number of patients with available data (a%). For statistical between cohort comparisons Pearson's chi-square test and Wilcoxon's signed rank test will be performed using a two-sided significance level of 0.05. All comparisons will be exploratory, therefore neither significance levels will be adjusted for multiplicity nor confirmatory analyses performed. All analyses will be conducted with PASW Statistics version 18.

# Data management

## Data sources

### Data sources (types)

[Other](#)

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### Data sources (types), other

German Pain e-Registry

## Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

**CDM mapping**

No

Data quality specifications

**Check conformance**

Unknown

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**Check completeness**

Unknown

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**Check stability**

Unknown

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**Check logical consistency**

Unknown

Data characterisation

**Data characterisation conducted**

No