

Good practice at Institutional level

- Systematic measurement of pain requested by national law.
- National guideline for the mandatory register of pain evaluation as the 5th vital sign.
- Campaign related to professional training promoted by Ministry of Health.
- National Institute of Public Health monitors the data on drug prescriptions and medication for pain treatment at national and regional level, according to sex and the age of the patients.
- Referent point / office within the Ministry of Health which deals with the fight against pain.
- Law simplifies the procedures of access to drugs for pain treatment: GPs can prescribe opiates by simply using the NHS prescription pads.

Good practice at professional level

- Multidisciplinary teams who work alongside general practitioners.
- Clinical guidelines regarding the pain management in different groups of patients: children, elderly, oncologic, neurological, medical and surgical interventions, etc.
- Free and dedicated telephone number.
- Mobility & psychological support and personal assistants.
- Creation of dedicated day-beds in hospital.
- Guidelines for the treatment of post-surgery pain in order to better monitor the consumption of analgesic drugs in the various structures in collaboration with the Pharmaceutical Service.

Good practice at organization level

(examples of patients involvement)

- Thanks to the activity of the Council of Patients, created by the Galician Health Service (Spain), patients taken part in the creation of a Commission against Chronic Pain putting forward proposals and attending workshops for patients organized by the Galician School of Patients.
- “Comitato Ospedale Territorio Senza Dolore” at local level for the definition of operational tools for the assessment and recording of pain (Italy).