

THE STATE OF PAIN IN AMERICA

Acute pain is a familiar experience that impacts millions of Americans every year. Defined as pain that lasts for less than three months, about **80 million adults in the U.S.** are prescribed medicine to treat their acute pain each year.

To better understand the impact of acute pain, Vertex conducted a double-blinded, quantitative survey that collected data from a **diversified sample of 1,001 adults** (ages 18+) in the United States who were treated for acute pain in the last year and **547 health care providers** who treated the condition in the last month. To further recognize the complexities of treating acute pain, Vertex commissioned the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) to conduct a separate survey among its membership of orthopaedic surgeons who are on the frontlines of pain management. The sample included 49 U.S. surgeon members of AAOS who treated patients with moderate-to-severe acute pain in the past month.

The data below are based on respondents of the surveys.

PATIENT IMPACT

DISRUPTIONS TO DAILY LIFE



NEARLY 9 IN 10 (89%)

of patients with acute pain surveyed said **pain** disrupts their daily life. They reported that pain:

70% Limited them from walking and exercising

69% Limited their sleep

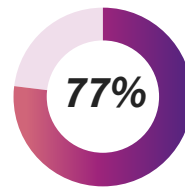
65% Affected hobbies or leisure activities

65% Made them feel irritable or emotionally drained

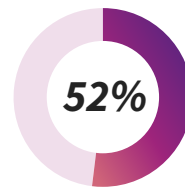
Patients surveyed reported missing an average of **~19 WORKING DAYS ANNUALLY**



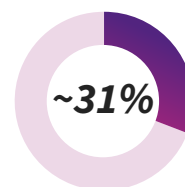
UNMET TREATMENT NEEDS



of patients surveyed said they are **interested in trying a different pain medication** if they experience acute pain again



of patients surveyed said they are **seeking a new pain medication with fewer side effects** than their last medication



of patients surveyed reported they stopped taking their medication **before their pain was resolved, among which more than half (~58%)** continued to experience pain

PATIENT CONCERNS

49%

of patients surveyed were concerned about the risk of developing an addiction to opioids, if prescribed

67%

of patients surveyed reported that they will request a nonopioid medication for acute pain if they experience it again



HEALTH CARE PROVIDER PERSPECTIVE



IMPACT ON PATIENTS' DAILY LIVES

72%

of health care providers surveyed

reported that their patients frequently experience major disruption in their daily lives due to acute pain

69%

of AAOS orthopaedic surgeons surveyed

ATTITUDES TOWARD ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

71% of health care providers

59% of AAOS orthopaedic surgeons

expressed a high need for additional medication options

83% of health care providers

74% of AAOS orthopaedic surgeons

agreed there is a high need for a new class of nonopioid acute pain medication

PRESCRIBER CONCERNS

88% of health care providers surveyed reported that their patients prefer to manage pain without a prescribed opioid

78% of health care providers reported concern about the risk of opioid addiction among their patients with moderate-to-severe acute pain

74% of AAOS orthopaedic surgeons also showed concern



CURRENT TREATMENT LANDSCAPE

77% of health care providers

51% of AAOS orthopaedic surgeons

stated they face challenges treating acute pain with current medication options

73% of health care providers

71% of AAOS orthopaedic surgeons

are concerned about the risk of side effects associated with acute pain medication options



These findings revealed that patients, health care providers and AAOS orthopaedic surgeon respondents have complex considerations when it comes to acute pain.

Vertex is committed to continuing our work in pain and learning from organizations like the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. [Learn more at www.vrtx.com](http://www.vrtx.com).

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Survey Methodology

The national survey, conducted by Vertex Pharmaceuticals, collected responses from 1,001 U.S. adults ages 18+ who were treated for moderate-to-severe acute pain in the last year and 547 health care providers who treated moderate-to-severe acute pain in the last month. The quantitative survey was conducted in a double-blinded manner to minimize bias and ensure objectivity. Participants were recruited from a panel who consented to participate in market research and were paid for their time. The survey ensured a diversified sample of participants across demographics and other characteristics.

American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Survey Methodology

The AAOS conducted a separate, single-blinded survey using a subset of 12 questions from the Vertex Pharmaceuticals health care provider survey. The sample included 49 U.S. surgeon members of AAOS who treated patients with moderate-to-severe acute pain in the past month. Vertex commissioned the survey Aug. 26, 2024–Sept. 10, 2024, among AAOS members.



References

Data on file. Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated. Boston, MA. REF-26477 (v1.0); 2024.

Data on file. Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated. Boston, MA. REF-27351 (v1.0); 2024.

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