



OPEN ACCESS

EDITED AND REVIEWED BY
Allen Finley,
Dalhousie University, Canada

*CORRESPONDENCE
Kenneth Craig
✉ kcraig@psych.ubc.ca

RECEIVED 28 November 2023
ACCEPTED 08 December 2023
PUBLISHED 21 December 2023

CITATION

Craig K (2023) Editorial: Emerging trends in pediatric pain.
Front. Pain Res. 4:1346075.
doi: 10.3389/fpain.2023.1346075

COPYRIGHT

© 2023 Craig. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License \(CC BY\)](#). The use, distribution or reproduction in other forums is permitted, provided the original author(s) and the copyright owner(s) are credited and that the original publication in this journal is cited, in accordance with accepted academic practice. No use, distribution or reproduction is permitted which does not comply with these terms.

Editorial: Emerging trends in pediatric pain

Kenneth Craig*

Department of Psychology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

KEYWORDS

pain, children, selfreport, nonverbal, facial

Editorial on the Research Topic Emerging trends in pediatric pain

Only recently have clinicians, investigators, and the public come to recognize unique requirements for assessment and treatment of pain in infants, young children, and adolescents as well as related longstanding inadequacies in clinical practice. Transformations in the experience, expression, and response to care through progression from infancy to adolescence (and continuing stages of life) require attention when providing treatment. One cannot talk to infants to either discover the nature of their painful distress or to provide solace, necessitating attention to nonverbal expression, and, while verbal capacities in older children and adolescents permit at least limited access to experience, careful attention to nonverbal expression in these populations allows a broader understanding of sensations, feelings, and thoughts. This series of six papers illustrates the necessity of incorporating consideration of the developmental stage of the person in an effort to understand and ameliorate painful distress. [CuvIELLO et al.](#), in their paper, *Regional blocks for pain control at the end of life in pediatric oncology* demonstrate the importance of attending to personal distress at the end of life at all stages of childhood. The paper by [Bueno et al.](#), *The effectiveness of repeated sucrose for procedural pain in neonates in a longitudinal observational study* demonstrates that standardized detailed behavioural observation reveals the benefits of sucrose administration in newborns during skin-breaking procedures. Similarly, but in older children, [Bhatnagar et al.](#), show the value of behavioural observation in their paper, *Assessing changes in range of motion in adolescent patients undergoing myoActivation® for chronic pain related to myofascial dysfunction*. [Vigouroux et al.](#), demonstrate the potential adverse effects of preconceptions concerning the pain of others in “*He told me my pain was in my head*”: *Mitigating testimonial injustice through peer support*. The risks that injustice appraisals will exacerbate emotional upheaval are evident in the paper by [Daenen et al.](#), *Youth baseline and state pain-related injustice appraisals are associated with emotional responses of anger and sadness: An experimental study*. The paper, *Development and expansion of a pediatric transitional pain service to prevent complex chronic pain*, by [Isaac et al.](#), demonstrates the benefits of systematically structuring services to ensure acute pain does not transition into a prolonged problem.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

Publisher's note

All claims expressed in this article are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of their affiliated

organizations, or those of the publisher, the editors and the reviewers. Any product that may be evaluated in this article, or claim that may be made by its manufacturer, is not guaranteed or endorsed by the publisher.