



Judy Leader,
Nurse Practitioner
Pain Management, 2018

Pain is...

An unpleasant sensory and
emotional experience
associated with actual or
potential tissue damage or
described in terms of such
damage

Australia and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists and Faculty of Pain Medicine. (2005). *Acute Pain Management: Scientific evidence (2nd ed.)*. Australia.

By taking responsibility
for how we understand pain,
we can recover the power to alleviate it.

Morris 1991





R

Shocked
Shattered
Shredded

Unnatural
Unprepared
Unspeakable

Devastated
Distressed
Disturbed

Our responses
are real;
As are our
patients



PAIN & DISTRESS



Barriers to effective pain management





A

A 3D rendered chair is centered in the frame. The backrest is dark gray and has the letter 'A' printed on it. The seat is white and has the letter 'B' printed on it. The chair is set against a bright blue sky and a green, textured ground. A shadow is cast by the chair onto the ground.

B

We see what we look for;
we look for
what we know.

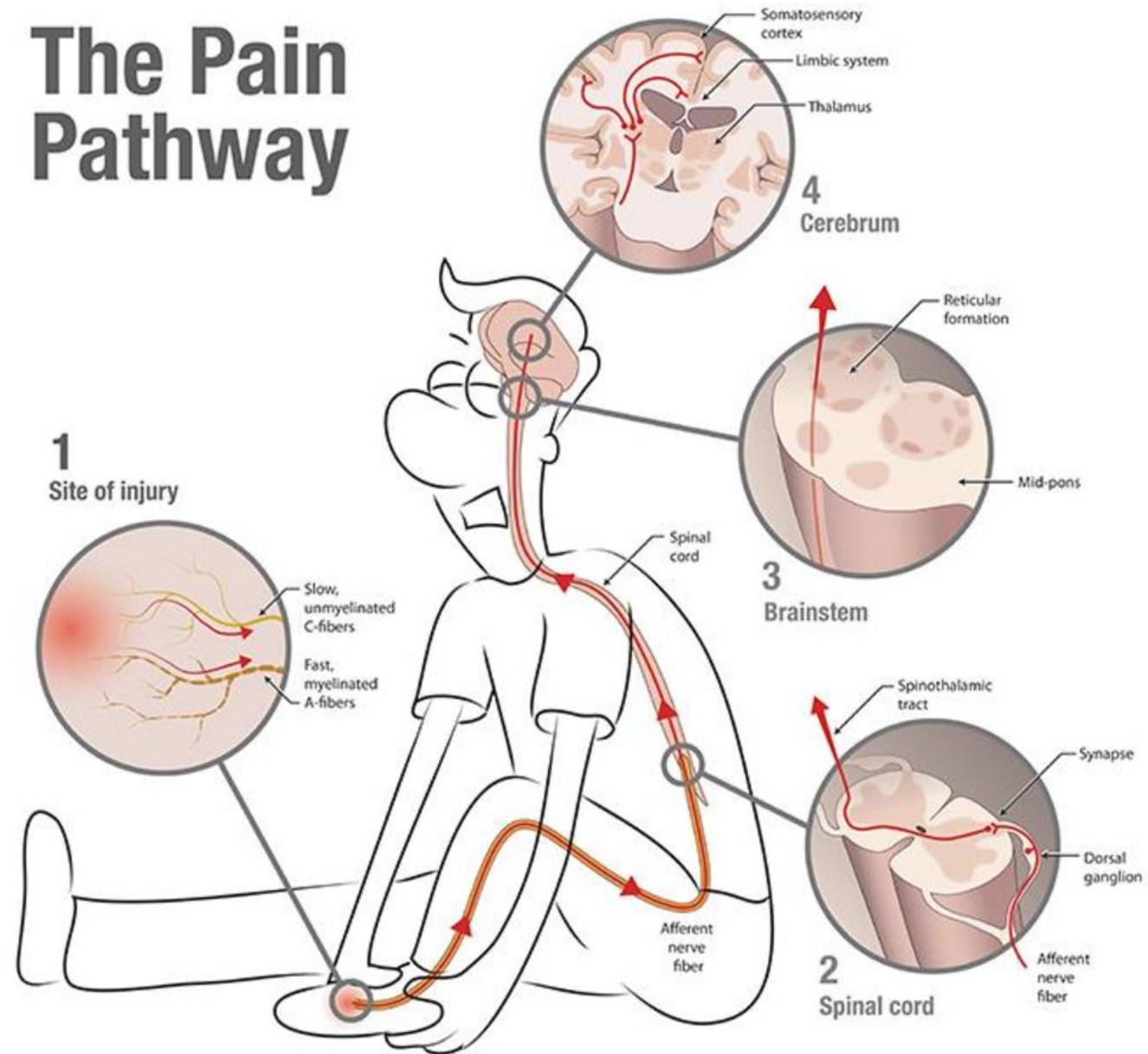
Goethe



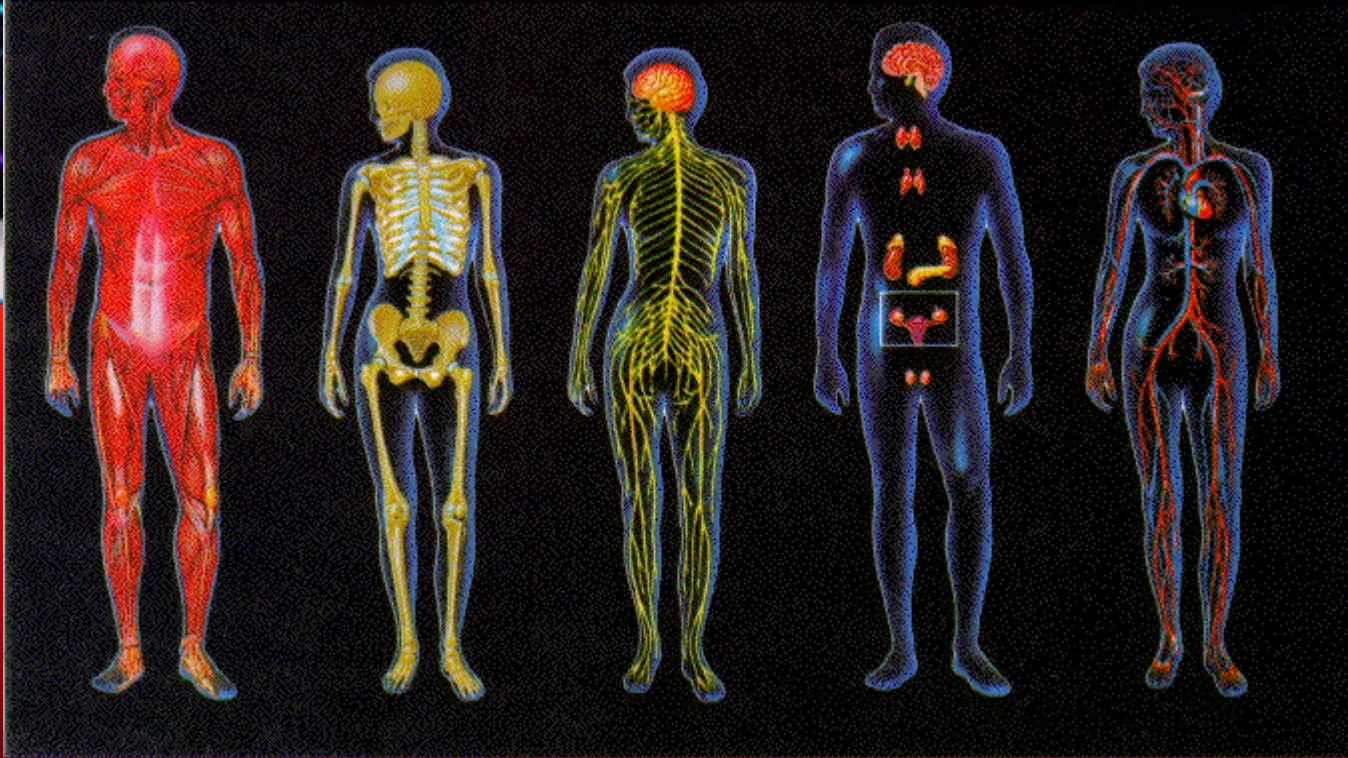
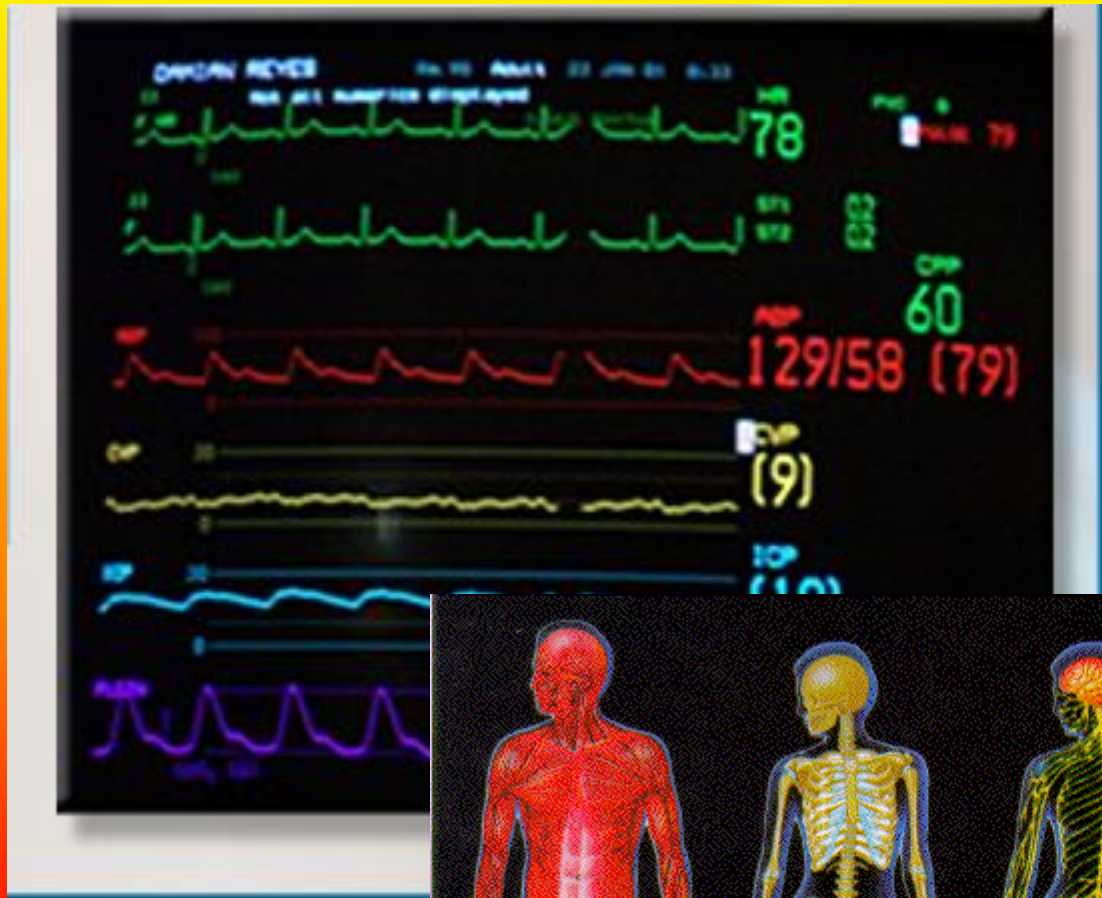




The Pain Pathway



There are sensors
that detect changes in
your body and the
environment and
send danger
messages to the brain



Nonsense	Accurate	Lay term
Pain stimulus	Noxious stimulus OR painful stimulus	Danger stimulus Or painful stimulus
Pain receptor/pain endings	Nociceptor	Danger detector/danger receptor
Pain pathway	Nociceptive pathway/second order nociceptor/spinal nociceptor	Danger transmitter/danger messenger
Descending pain inhibition (control)	Descending antinociception/inhibition	Turning down the danger message
Descending pain facilitation	Descending pronociception/facilitation	Turning up the danger message

THREE MAIN TYPES OF PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

can be considered to result in chronic pain¹

Pain related to
*damage of somatic or
visceral tissue*, due to
trauma or inflammation

NOCICEPTIVE PAIN

Examples:
Rheumatoid arthritis,
osteoarthritis,
gout

Pain related to
*damage of peripheral
or central nerves*

NEUROPATHIC PAIN

Examples:
Painful diabetic peripheral
neuropathy, postherpetic
neuralgia

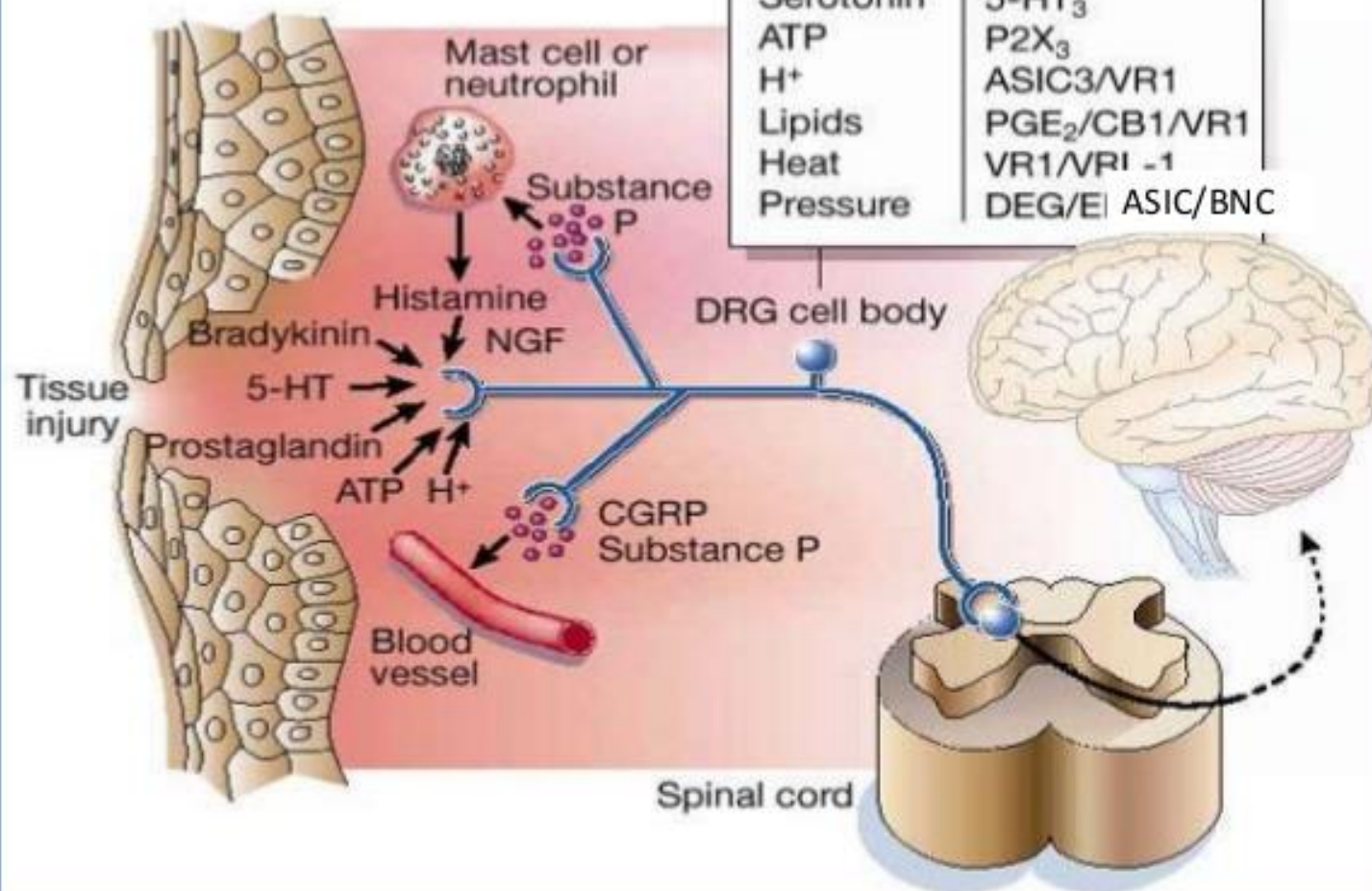
Pain *without
identifiable nerve or
tissue damage*, hypothesized
to result from persistent neuronal
dysregulation—may be called

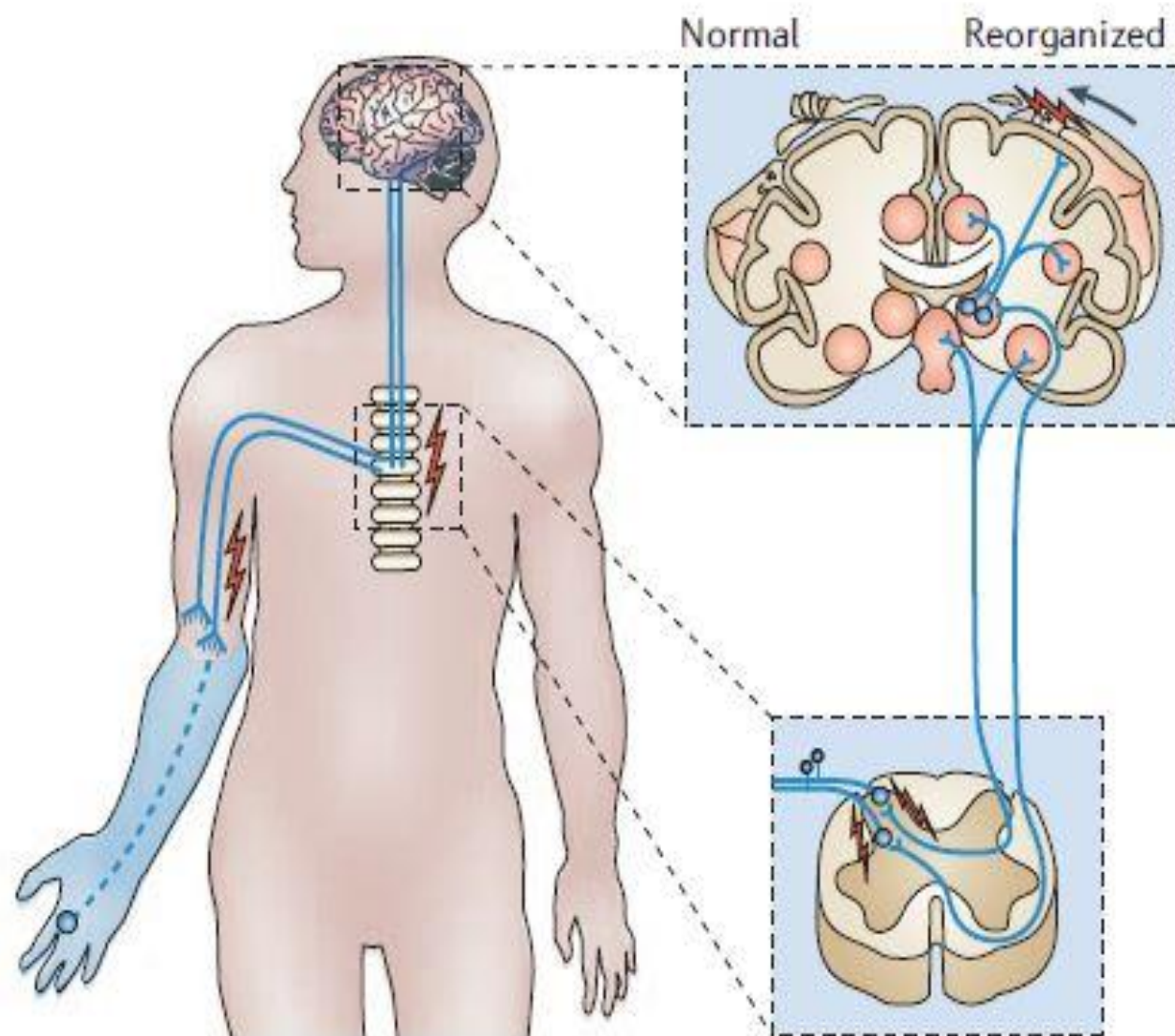
SENSORY HYPERSENSITIVITY

Example:
Fibromyalgia

More than 1 type of pain may be present in a given patient

1. Peripheral sensitization





Central changes

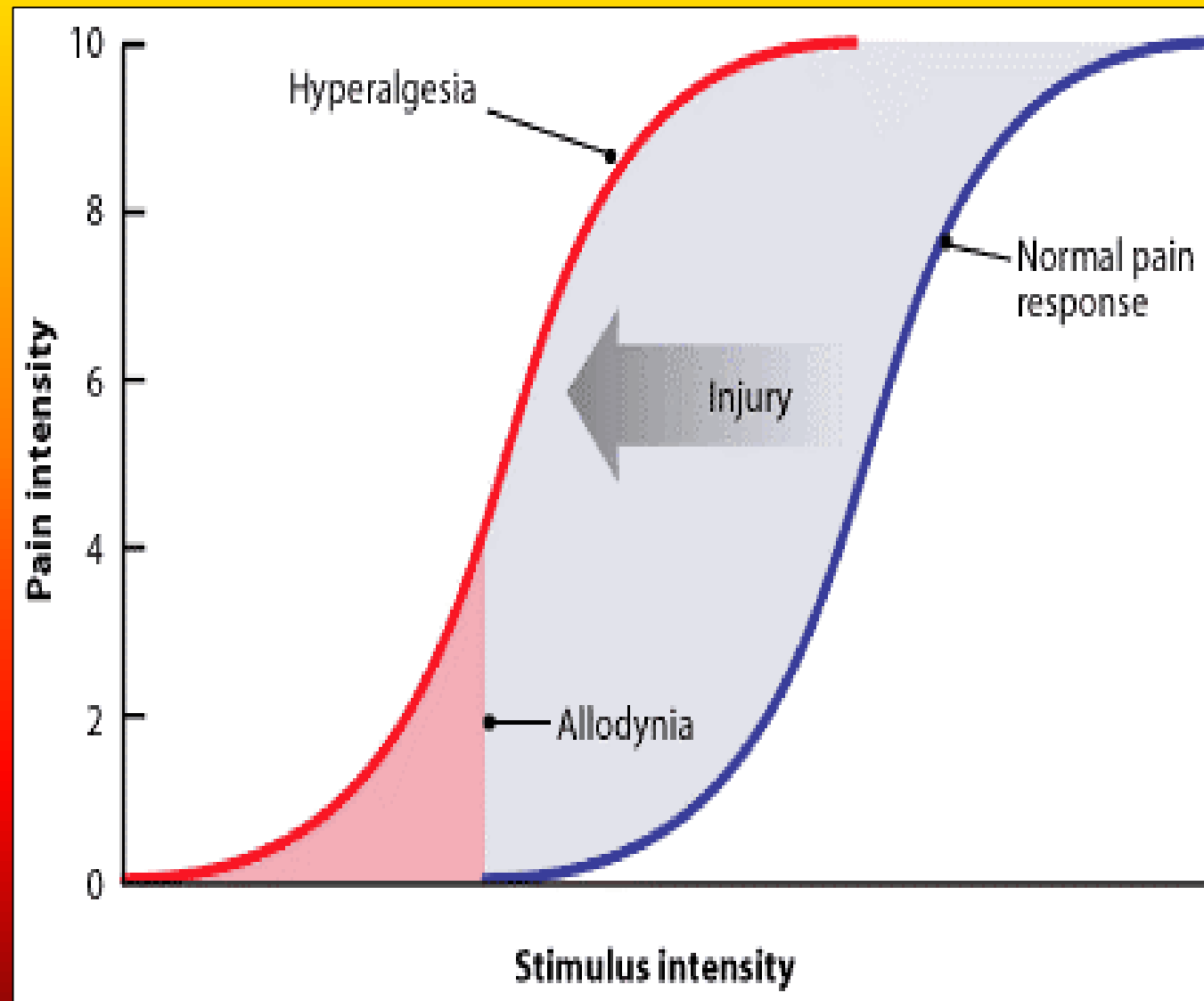
- Unmasking
- Sprouting
- General disinhibition
- Map remodelling
- Loss of neurons and neuronal function
- Denervation
- Alterations in neuronal and glial activity
- Sensory-motor and sensory-sensory incongruence

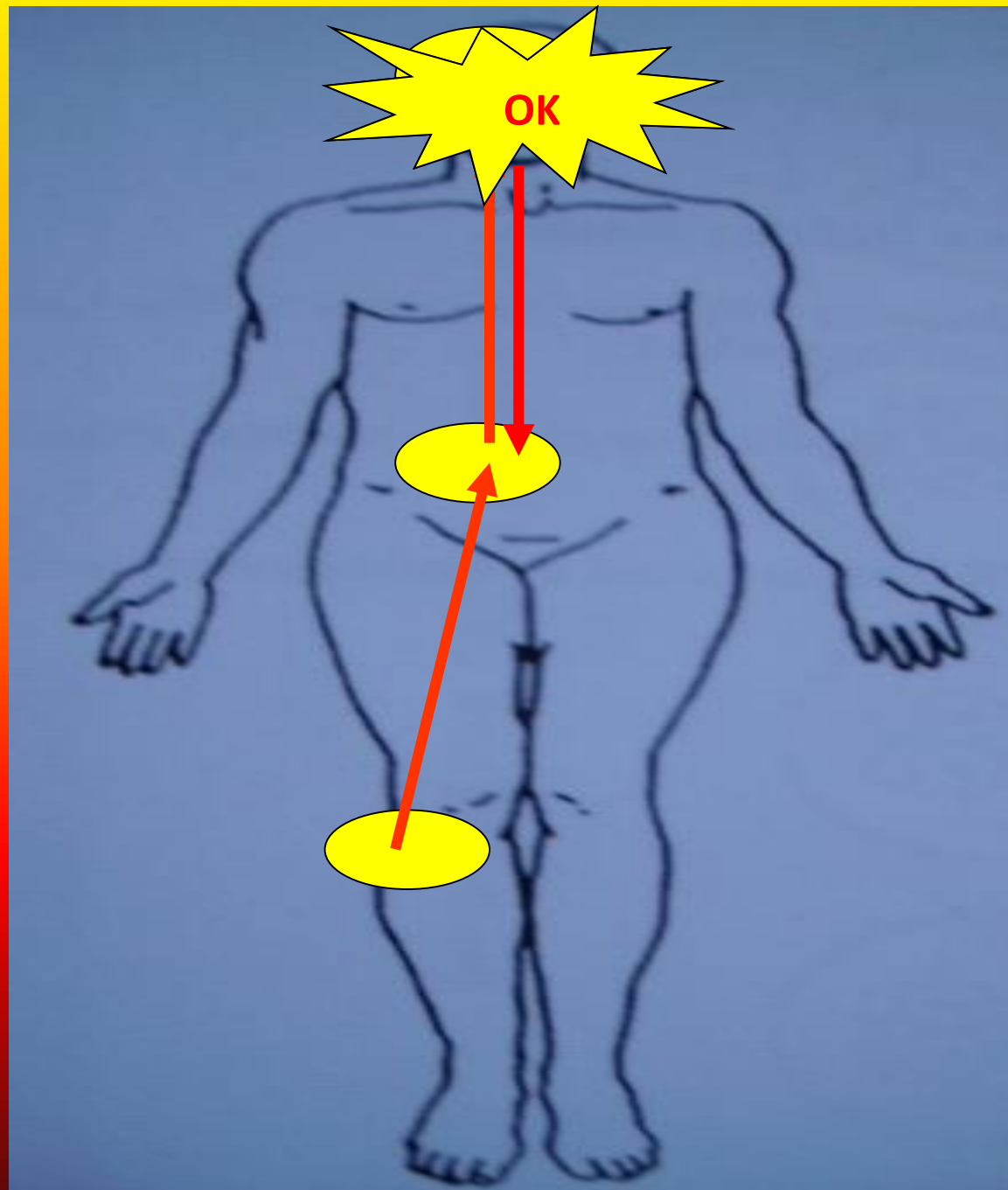
Peripheral changes

- Structural changes in neurons and axons
- Ectopic impulses
- Ephaptic transmission
- Sympathetic-afferent coupling
- Down- and upregulation of transmitters
- Alterations in channels and transduction molecules
- Selective loss of unmyelinated fibres

Cells that fire
together wire
together







Danger
in
me

Things you hear,
see ,smell,
taste, touch

Things you do

Things you say

Things you believe

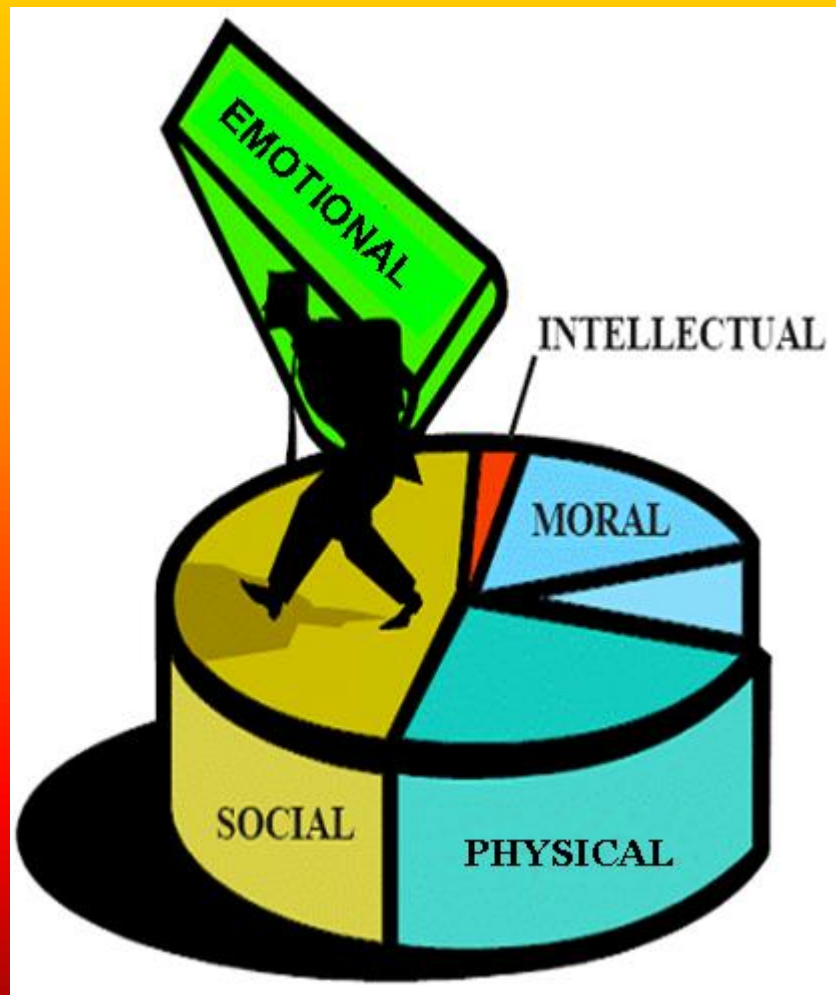
Places you go

People in your life

Things happening
in your body

Safety
in
me

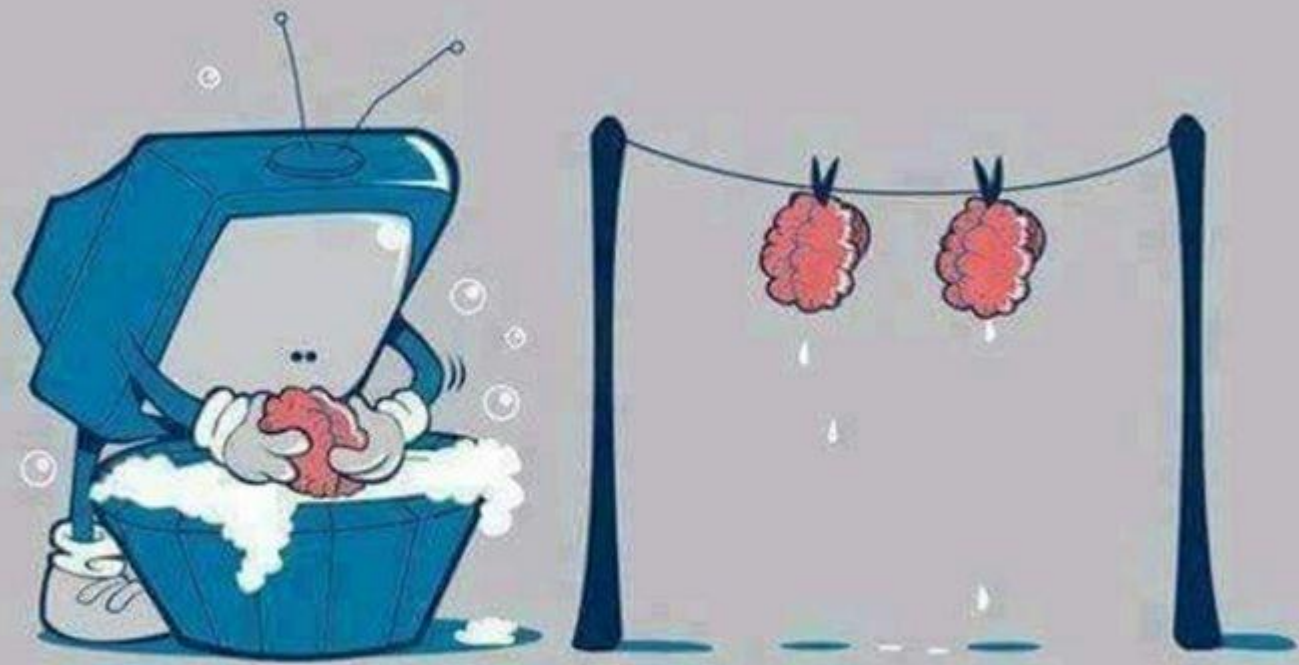


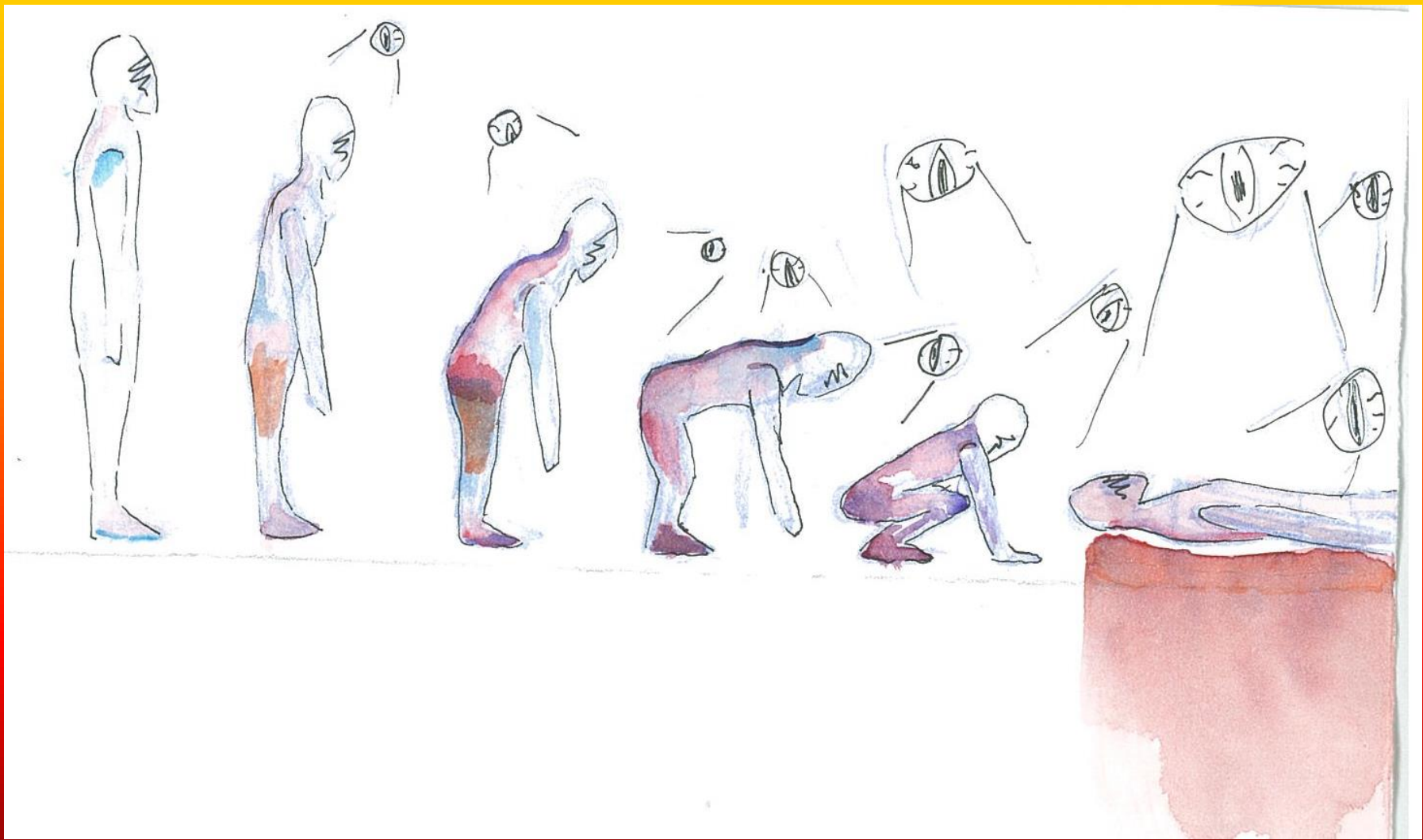














Let's
compare
pain to a **fire**
alarm

Even though
the alarm is
loud and
unpleasant,
we are
thankful that
it saves our
lives during
a fire!



But what would
happen if a
fire-alarm
malfunctioned,
and became
too sensitive?



Now the fire alarm
might turn on from
just one candle





**A hypersensitive
fire-alarm would
turn on too often**

It would
interrupt
birthday
parties



And romantic dinners



A hyper-sensitive
alarm could even
be triggered
randomly
*(without any smoke
at all)*



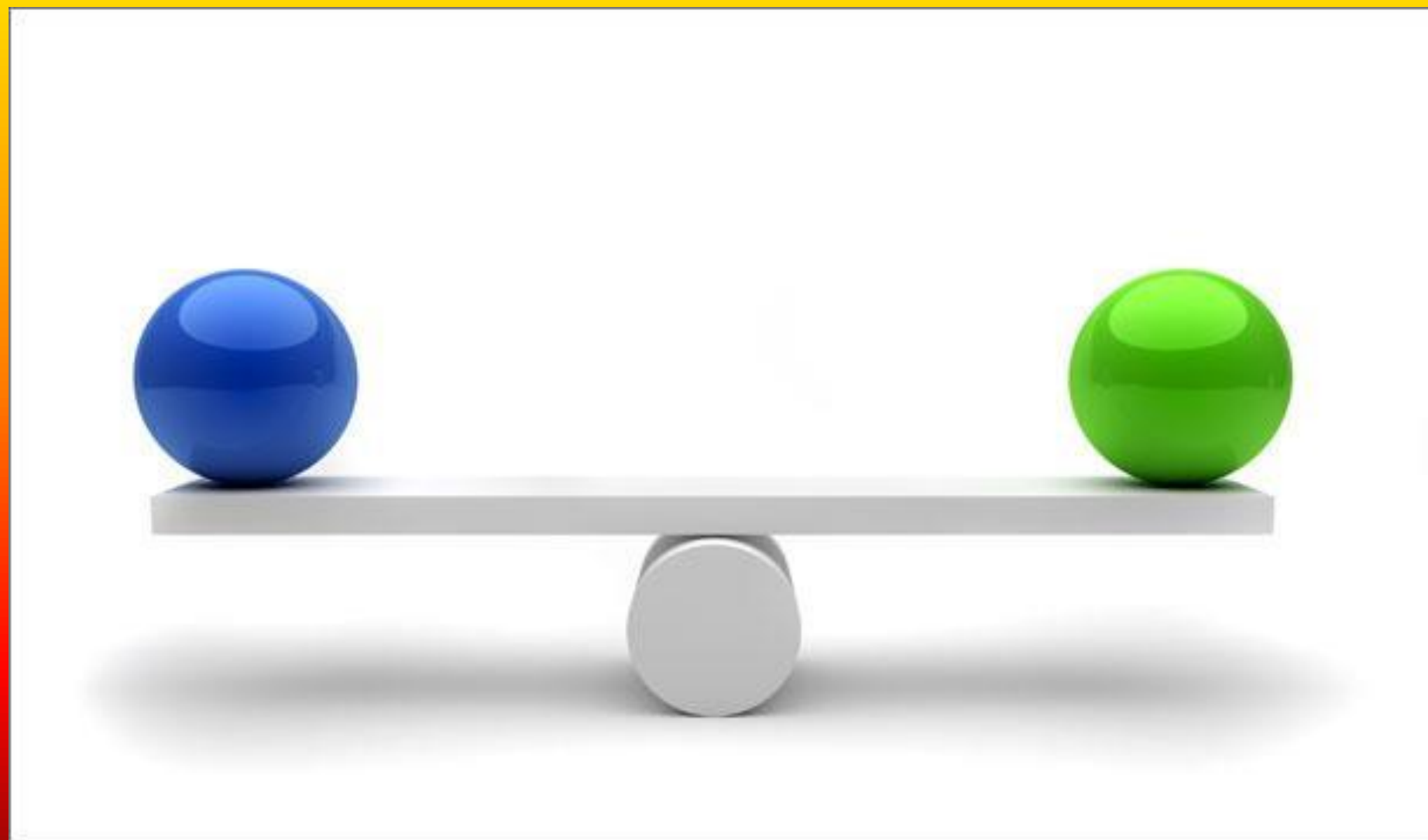


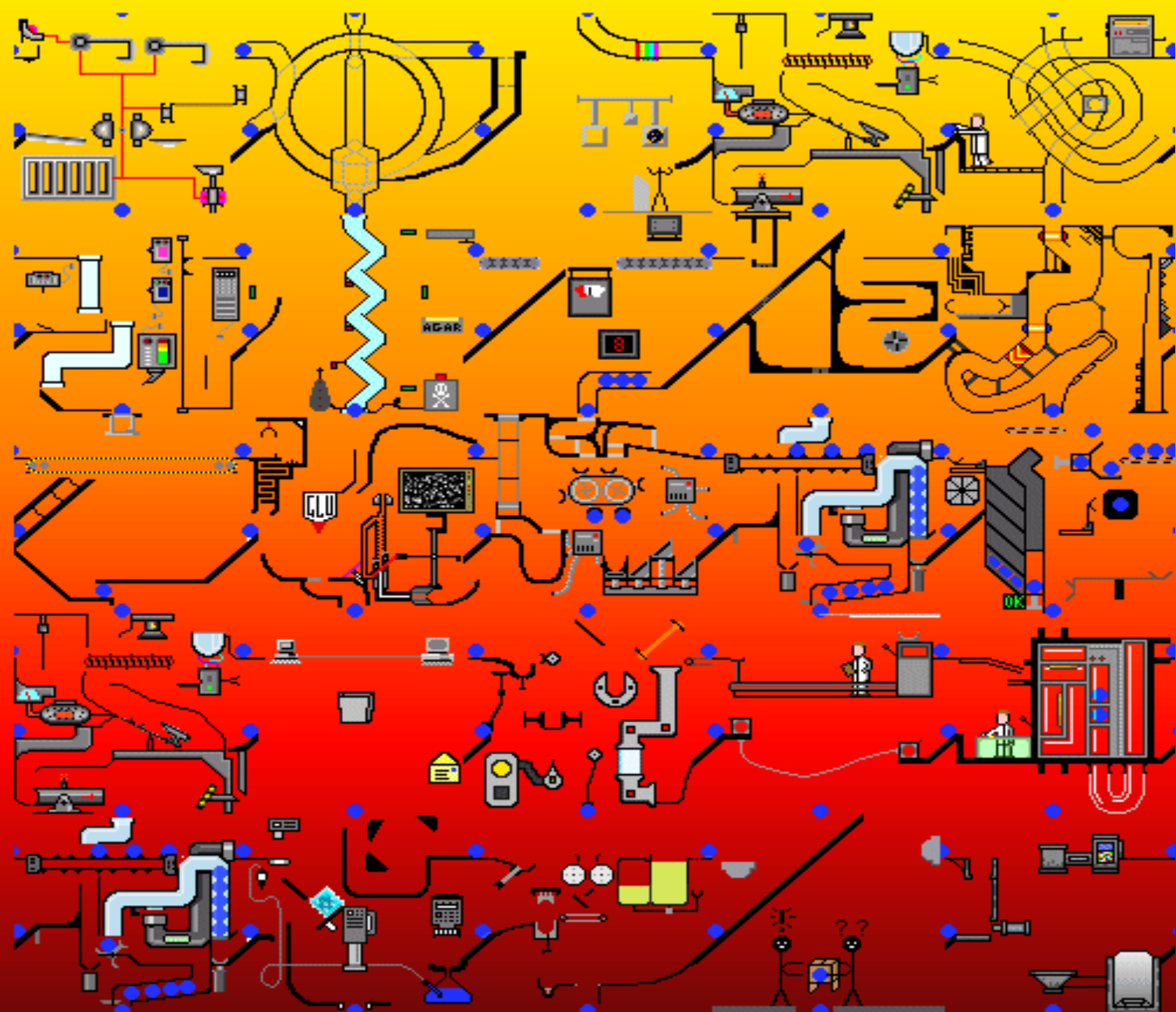
Firemen are experts at putting out fires, but you need a **different** set of skills for fixing an overly sensitive smoke alarm

There are no pain
nerves, pain sensors,
or pain fibres in the
body.





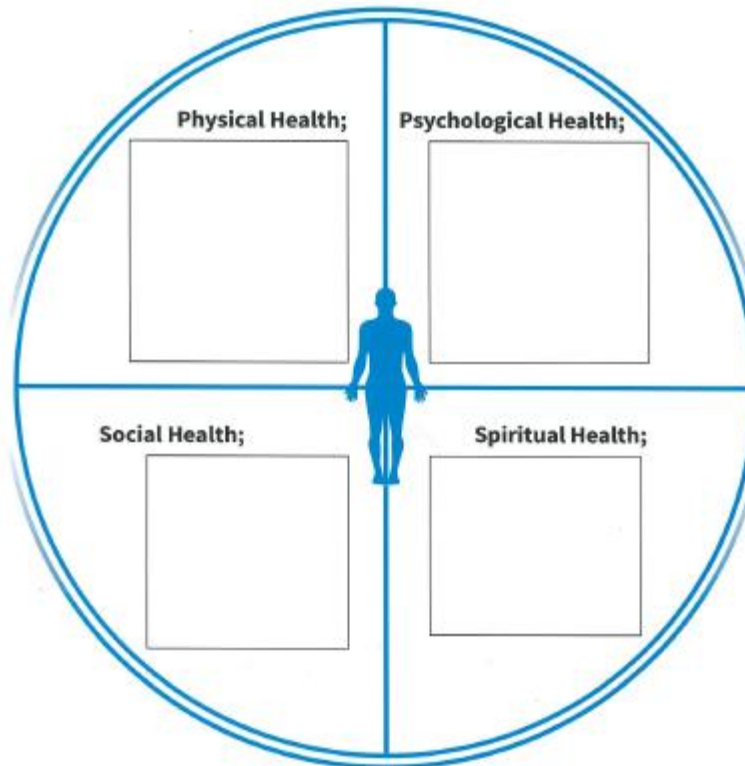




Attach document here

Pain management patient planning

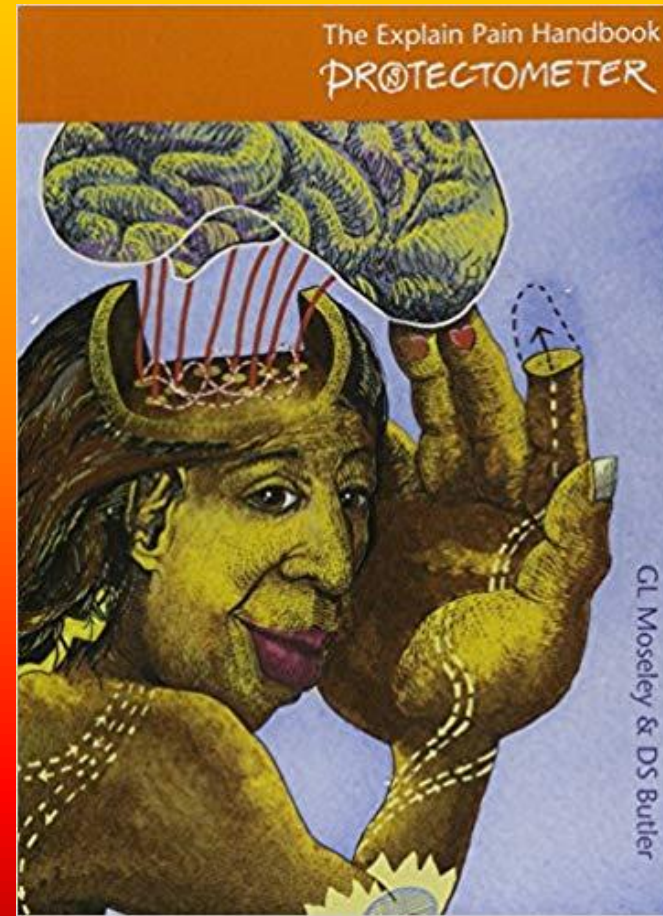
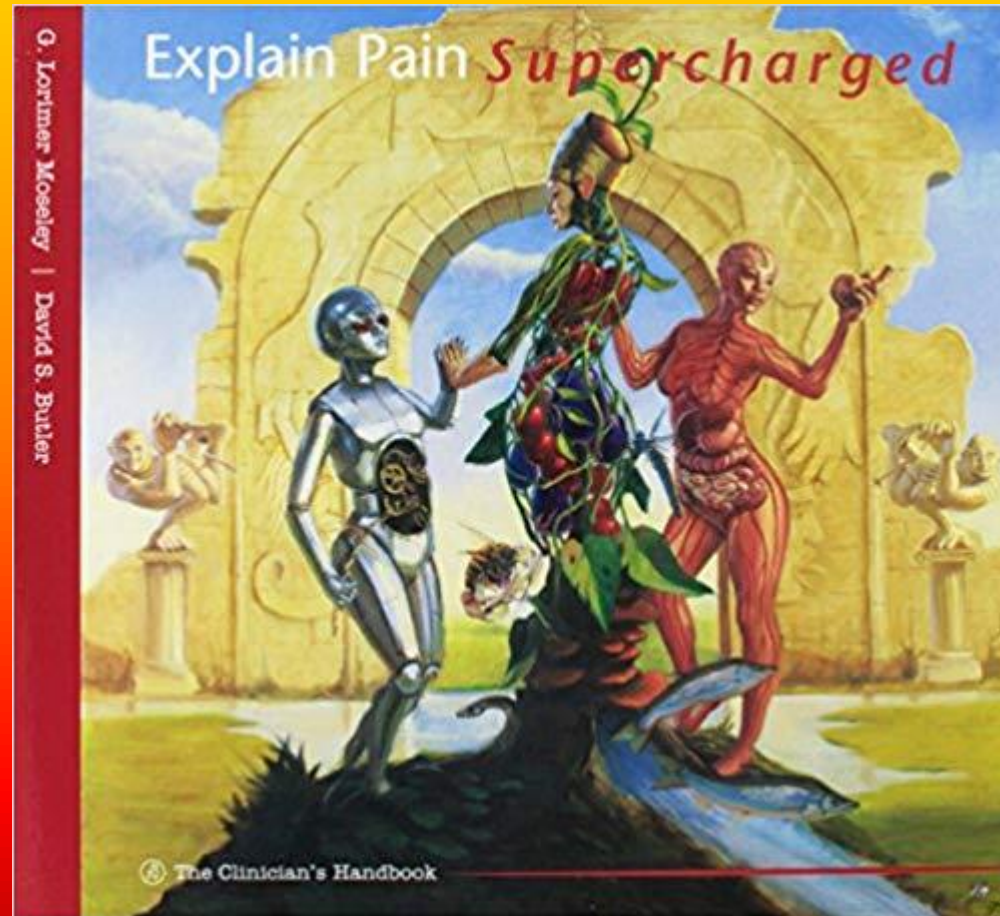
Patient goal/s for next month= _____



Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____



*Te huarahi mo te matauranga
i tuaritia nga pukenga*
**The pathway to excellence is
achieved through sharing knowledge**



Useful websites to visit which provide multiple tools for assisting clinicians include

www.iasp-pain.org

www.cochrane.org

www.emergingsolutionsinpain.com

Similarly a use website for persons experiencing persistent pain is

www.retrainpain.org





A

A 3D rendered chair is centered in the frame. The backrest is dark gray and has the letter 'A' in the center. The seat is white and has the letter 'B' in the center. The chair is set against a blue sky and a green field. A shadow is cast by the chair onto the ground.

B



A

NOW?

B