The Importance of ICD-11 to People with Pain

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My Story
-Sudden onset of pain with neuropathic qualities
-Three years to diagnosis

ICD-11
MG30.2 Chronic postsurgical pain

Extension Codes Pain intensity (severe), Pain-related distress (mild), Pain-related interference (moderate: significant disability but still worked).

Other pathways to treatment: MG30.5 Chronic neuropathic pain
→ MG30.50 Chronic central neuropathic pain (spinal cord injury)
Quána Madison

Quána’s Story
-preventive surgeries for cancer: hysterectomy, oophorectomy, double mastectomy
-post-surgical complications: life-threatening vaginal cuff tear; necrosis
-pain persisted after surgeries but was dismissed; wrongly cast as “drug seeking”

ICD-11
MG30.2 Chronic postsurgical pain
Other pathways to treatment: MG30.51 Chronic peripheral neuropathic pain
Poor access to rehabilitative services
Ola Ojewumi

Ola’s Story
- heart and kidney transplants
- nerve damage during transplant surgery
- post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder (PTLD)

ICD-11
MG30.10 Chronic cancer pain
Other pathways to treatment: MG30.2 Chronic postsurgical pain;
MG30.51 Chronic peripheral neuropathic pain
Poor access to rehabilitative services
ICD-11: Why it’s better

- **Holds the potential to destigmatize chronic pain and mitigate bias:**
  - *chronic primary pain* - chronic pain is a disease in its own right; pain whose origin is not well understood is made visible. Patients are less likely to be dismissed or told it’s “in their heads.”
  - *chronic secondary pain* - increased accuracy of diagnosis; codes not available in ICD-10.
  - facilitates appropriate accounting for psycho-social factors in both.

- **Facilitates pathways to treatment and reimbursement;** improves access to care.

- **Makes pain visible even outside the healthcare system** (facilitates improved communication with family and friends, facilitates workplace accommodations or benefits, and potentially improves public understanding).

- **Provides better accuracy in describing chronic pain to assist with research.**

- **Facilitates accurate data collection** that assists in demonstrating the global burden of pain.