

## **British Pain Society. Mildred Clulow Award Final Report**

**Principal Applicant:** Professor Gary Macfarlane

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**Amount Awarded: £49,318**

**Title:** The Epidemiology of Chronic Pelvic Pain in Women

**Date of Award:** October 2011

### **Summary of achievements: (max 300 words)**

A cross-sectional postal questionnaire population survey was conducted among 5300 women aged  $\geq 25$  years who were selected from a population sampling frame of the Grampian region, UK (NHS Grampian Community Health Index). The Study achieved a participation rate of 44.9%. The prevalence of Chronic Pelvic Pain (CPP) was 14.8% (95%CI 13.3–16.3%). Prevalence decreased with each year increase in age (OR: 0.97, 95% CI 0.96-0.98) and although highest among women in their reproductive year (25-54 years prevalence: 19.2%) but was still common in post-reproductive years (9.6%). Among women with CPP, 17.3% (95% CI 12.2-22.3) reported features of neuropathic pain. In a multivariable logistic regression, factors independently associated with CPP were younger age, reporting of multiple non-pain somatic symptoms, high levels of fatigue and poor physical health. Amongst women with CPP poor physical health was predicted by: older age, chronic widespread pain (CWP), depression, other chronic illness and passive coping while poor mental health was predicted by depression and unemployment. This study provides the foundation for a more comprehensive and prospective evaluation of CPP which can inform the development of CPP management strategies.

{Please note that there was an extension to the award of this grant since the research assistant Ms Ayorinde took maternity leave}

### **Publications Arising Directly from the Award (max 5)**

An abstract, based on this study, submitted to the International Pelvic Pain Society Annual Meeting (Chicago, October 2014) has been accepted for oral presentation. The results will also be submitted to the British Pain Society Annual Scientific Meeting in April 2015.

Manuscripts arising from this work are currently being prepared.

**Further Research Funding following the Award**

None at present.

**Signature .....Gary J Macfarlane    Date...22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014**