A NEW DIAGNOSTIC TOOL FOR GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

Neuropathic pain is a severe burden for 26 million patients worldwide1.
- Neuropathic pain is often under – or misdiagnosed
- In approximately 60% of cases, neuropathic pain is localized and affects a specific circumscribed area of the body2.

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New diagnostic tool to improve the diagnosis of LNP3
- Early and correct diagnosis is crucial to start a targeted treatment and to avoid that patients need to undergo ‘trial and error’ treatments or endure a step-wise treatment approach over months or years.
- There was no standard diagnostic procedure available to identify patients with LNP until today.
- The international pain experts Prof. Ralf Baron, Germany, Dr. Gerard Mick, France, Dr. Gerardo Correa-Illanes, Chile, Dr. Victor Mayoral, Spain and Prof. Guy Hans, Belgium developed a LNP Screening Tool especially for general practitioners to facilitate their daily practice.
- It presents as a pocket card with four fast and reliable decision making questions about pain algorithm, patient’s history and location and size of the painful area.
- It contains a short pictorial guidance how to conduct a neurological sensory examination with objects of daily routine followed by an overview on further etiological tests.

CONCLUSION:
The new LNP Screening Tool offers GPs an easy and reliable device to support their LNP diagnosis.

Dr Victor Mayoral: “The LNP Screening Tool is considered as very helpful, and we are convinced that this tool will improve early diagnosis of LNP and thus facilitate targeted treatments.”

3 Mick et al., Abstract 3145; XXI WCN2013; Sept 2013