



Call for Applications

Come and join a challenging project to improve pain management of your patients!

PAIN OUT¹ invites healthcare providers (anesthesiologists or surgeons or nurses) treating patients undergoing surgery to apply for participation in a project which aims to improve management of post-operative pain in South African hospitals.

The program will take place as a pilot over a period of two years during which staff members in up to 10 hospitals in South Africa will form a national network and carry out a Quality Improvement project in their hospital, using methodology provided by PAIN OUT. Participating sites will receive some funding to contribute towards costs associated with running the project.

Once the pilot is complete, PAIN OUT aims to release a Quality Improvement program which will be accessible to providers across South Africa.

¹PAIN OUT is a not for profit research and quality improvement network offering clinicians tools to evaluate perioperative pain management practices in their center and the opportunity to compare these findings with similar patients in other hospitals, either nationally or internationally (www.pain-out.eu).

If you wish to apply, complete the form below and e-mail to pain-out@med.uni-jena.de

Name of applicant:

Position:

Name of hospital:

Town and country:

Email address:

Explain briefly why you are interested to join the project:

Describe briefly how you gained support from the hospital director/head of department to join this project:

The project is supported by a Global Independent Grant for Learning & Change from Pfizer Inc.

| The following describes requirements for participating in the project. Please review the items and mark when you and your colleagues are able to comply. | The PI complies with: (if yes, tick box) |
|--|---|
| The Principal Investigator (PI) wishes to actively participate in a project working towards improving quality of post-operative pain management in his/her hospital/ward. The project will last two years ¹ and require that he / she actively follows a pre-determined schedule. The PI affirms he / she has time to devote to a project which involves: | |
| a. Nominating a multi-disciplinary team to work on a program for assessing and changing management of pain in two wards within the hospital; | |
| b. Recruiting 2-4 surveyors to collect 130 complete patient datasets in two surgical wards during 2 time periods, each lasting about 5-6 months; | |
| c. Supervising the surveyors and periodically assessing quality of their work; | |
| d. Supervising analyses of the data; the PI will receive some guidance how to carry out the analyses. | |
| e. Participating (him/her-self or a colleague from the multi-disciplinary team) in three 1-day workshops; | |
| f. Submitting a mid-project progress report and a detailed report at the end; | |
| g. Optional: presenting the work and findings at conferences and submit research papers. | |
| The hospital will allocate 2-4 members of staff to carry out data collection: | |
| a. They can be students (nursing or medical) and/or a nurse and/or resident; | |
| b. They will be fluent in reading English (only some materials will be translated) | |
| c. They will be given time to undergo training about methodology of the project. Training will take place for all participants from one country as a workshop. Training will require up to one day. | |
| d. They will be allotted time to collect the data, requiring approximately 20 - 30 minutes per patient. | |
| There is sufficient patient flow in the two wards to allow for patient recruitment; i.e. at least 200 patients undergo surgery in each of the participating wards during a 5-6 month period. | |
| Hospitals will receive some reimbursement for datasets collected. | |
| a. Reimbursement will be based on submitting the required data sets and two reports according to the project timetable. | Agree |
| b. Failure to submit these on time will result in non-payment of funds. | Agree |
| Hospitals will join PAIN OUT. The subscription fees for the first two years will be covered by the project, the third year onwards by the hospital itself. Hospitals may leave the project once the two year project is complete. | Agree |
| The information outlined here describes the basic premises of the project. However, details may change with time as a result of experience gained and/or due to project needs. | Agree |
| The PI presented the principles of the project to the hospital director or department chair and received approval that two wards in the hospital will become involved in the project. | |

The two year period of the project does not include the administrative phase of joining PAIN OUT, i.e. signing a contract with PAIN OUT, training surveyors and applying to the local ethics committee. This process may take several months. The duration depends, to a large extent, on the practices and requirements of each local ethics committee.

The philosophy of the project is that all hospitals in the national network move together from one phase to another. We accommodate for delays that are beyond collaborators' control (e.g. fewer patients underwent surgery than anticipated) but expect collaborators to carry out those tasks they are able to within the designated schedule. If this work format does not fit in with the demands of your work, please consider whether to apply.