

# CHRONIC PAIN IN EUROPE:

## IMPACT, TREATMENT CHALLENGES AND POLICY GAPS

### IMPACT

OF **46,364** PEOPLE ACROSS **16** EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

19%

**SUFFER CHRONIC PAIN**

- ▶ PAIN FOR AT LEAST **6 MONTHS**
- ▶ **SEVERAL** TIMES A WEEK
- ▶ **INTENSITY** OF  $\geq 5/10$



**1/3** Reported pain was so **severe** they could not tolerate any more



**1/5** Reported losing a job or being diagnosed with **depression** as a result

### TREATMENT CHALLENGES

36%

**OF PATIENTS HAVE INADEQUATE PAIN CONTROL FROM MEDICATION**



**NEARLY ONE IN FOUR** health care providers do not believe their patients

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APPROX. **25 MILLION** pain patients get care from a provider who does not believe them

### POLICY GAPS



#### LAWMAKERS

lack a common, agreed-upon definition of disability to guide policy



#### PATIENTS

lack a statement of employment rights for those with chronic pain



**European citizens with chronic pain need:**

- Greater public awareness
- Improved access to treatment
- Policy protections

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