## Pain and adults with learning disabilities



## Easy read research summary





Adults with learning disabilities often have many long-term health conditions.



Some health conditions cause pain.



Pain can also come from an injury or lack of movement or lack of access to healthcare.



Telling people about pain can be difficult if you have communication problems.



Pain may not be noticed due to problems with health care staff not understanding what is wrong.



Long term health conditions often lead to people taking lots of medication.



We looked at studies from around the world about medicine for pain in people with learning disabilities.



The studies told us lots of information about pain treatment for adults with learning disabilities:



Adults with learning disabilities may not always get the same medicines for pain as other people.



Adults with learning disabilities may not always get pain medicine when they need it.



Adults with learning disabilities may not always get the best medicine they need for certain health conditions.



Carers and doctors can find it hard to tell if a person with learning disabilities is in pain.



Adults with learning disabilities may not receive the same pain care as everyone else.



The study shows that healthcare treatment for pain is unfair.



Everyone should have medicine for pain when they need it.

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