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Key finding

An international expert panel has developed a *short question-set* for *consistent measurement of chronic pain* in population-level research

Background

Published estimates of chronic pain prevalence vary widely, from 8.7% to 64.4% [1]. Much of this variation is due to methodological inconsistency in defining chronic pain.

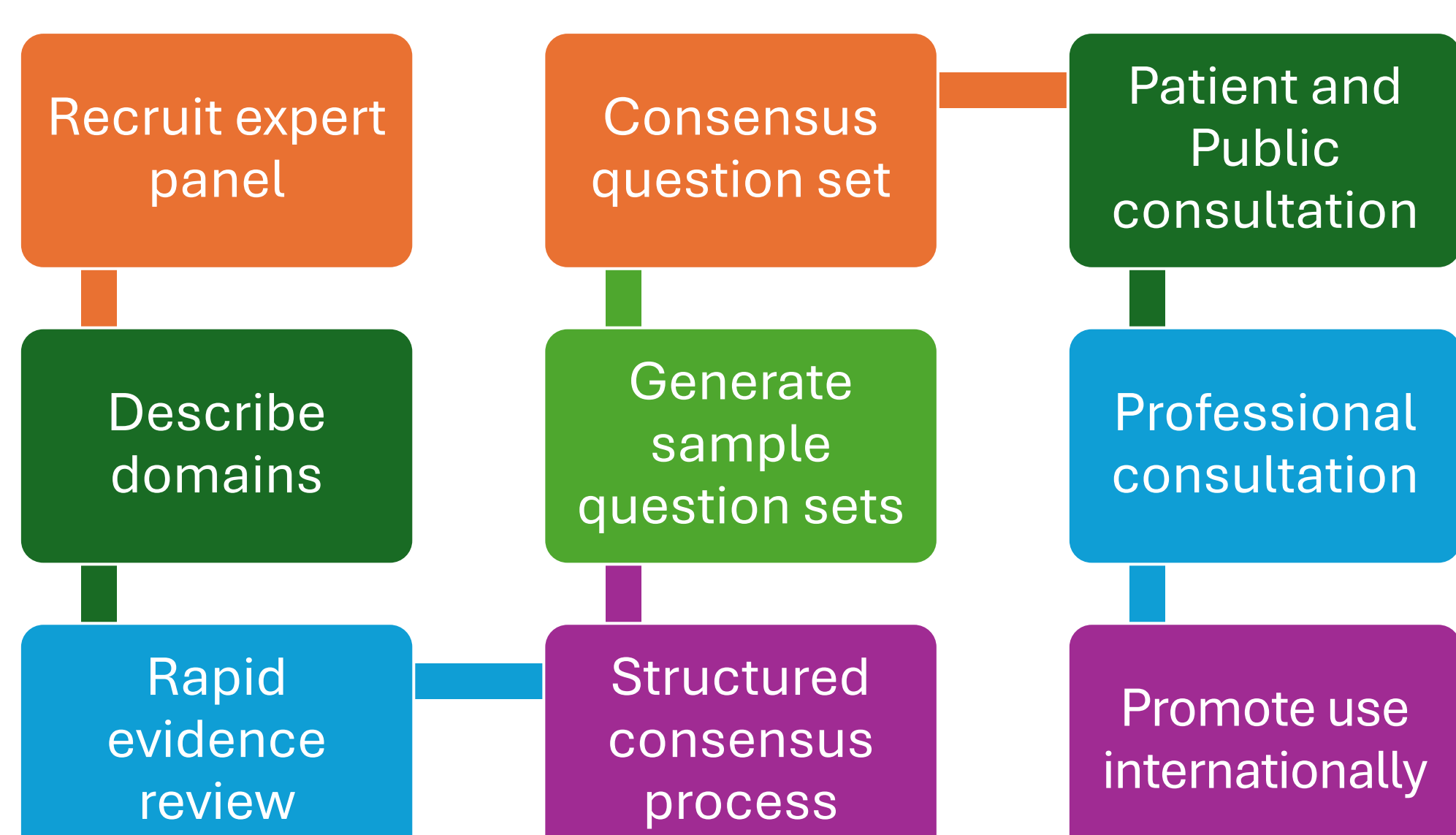
Aim

Endorsed by IASP, *Consensus on Measuring Pain Prevalence in Populations (COMP³)* aims to build consensus around a brief question set for use in population studies.



Methods

Multidisciplinary, international expert panel, spanning epidemiology, public health, pain medicine, clinical psychology, rehabilitation sciences and health services research.



Progress

Draft question-set is currently undergoing consultation with patients and public, including Global Alliance of Partners for Pain Advocacy (GAPPA), as well as informal consultation with professionals.



Suitable for use across age-ranges

Takes account of cross-cultural factors facilitating translation into other languages

Stand-alone questions in population research (e.g. population health surveys)

Conclusion

COMP³ will produce a short, standardised question set, allowing a consistent approach to estimating chronic pain prevalence.

References:

1. Steingrimsdóttir ÓA, Landmark T, Macfarlane GJ, Nielsen CS. Defining chronic pain in epidemiological studies: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Pain*. 2017;158(11):2092-2107.