

Gap Analysis 2025

Summary of findings

- 1** The GAP analysis working group was commissioned by the FPM Board to **evaluate the state of pain services** across the **UK**.

- 2** The analysis covered **21 domains** from the *Core Standards for Pain Medicine Services in the UK version 2*.



- 3** There were **164** respondents to the survey from **97** individual clinical sites.



- 4** Respondents identified themselves as **primary** (community), **secondary** (hospital) and **tertiary** (with higher pain services).

- 5** **74.23%** of respondents worked in secondary care, **22.68%** of respondents worked in tertiary care, **3.09%** of respondents worked in primary care.



- 6** Overall, **58.22%** of all pooled responses stated these standards were fully met, **19.65%** were partially met, **15.08%** were unmet with the rest being classed as 'don't know/didn't answer'.

- 7** **No standard** was fully met by all pain services with large regional and nation variation.



- 8** **Four** aspects of chronic pain services need **urgent** redress. These are the standards where **more than 25%** of the respondents indicated that these were unmet in their services.

- Provision of **paediatric services** **38.1%** unmet, **23.7%** partially met
- Provision of **cancer pain services** **27.8%** unmet and **36.1%** partially met
- **Research and development** **42.3%** unmet and **19.6%** partially met
- **Outcome data** management support **33%** unmet and **21.6%** partially met



- 9** Further **key areas** where attention is needed are:

- Provision of **psychological support** services and PMP access. **16%** unmet and **20.6%** partially met
- Provision of **neuromodulation services**. **13.4%** unmet and **18.6%** partially met
- Information **website** and **remote consultation** facilities. **13.9%** unmet and **26.8%** partially met

