The Global Year About Back Pain aims to guide and support clinicians, scientists and the public in understanding the global challenges of preventing and treating back pain. Our globally represented task force seeks to provide a diverse range of information to assist in understanding what is currently known about the epidemiology, pathophysiology, and management of back pain, particularly with respect to the delivery of evidence-informed, cost-effective services to those disabled by back pain. The 2021 Global Year Task Force recognises the difficulties presented with understanding and treating back pain across the world and hopes to facilitate changes needed to address the global burden of disability due to low back pain.

Aim

The aim of this year is to help clinicians, scientists and the public understand the nature of back pain and the utility of available treatment modalities. We aim to raise awareness of special considerations in different populations, including children and older adults. Ultimately, the Global Year Task Force aims to provide useful, practical and relevant resources to assist a worldwide community in approaching the prevention and treatment of back pain.

Objectives

1. To identify barriers and propose solutions for improving the prevention, investigation and treatment of back pain.
2. To summarise the most effective and cost-effective modalities for the successful management of back pain, particularly in resource-poor communities.
3. To integrate the use of tools for stratifying people with back pain into management pathways with the provision of person-centred care.
4. To facilitate further research, management, education and advocacy needed to reduce the global burden of back pain.

Owen D Williamson  
IASP Co-chair  
2021 IASP/EFIC GYABP

Paul Cameron  
EFIC Co-chair  
2021 IASP/EFIC GYABP