The Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) Platform

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Employment and social integration of pain patients

One of SIP’s four long-term objectives is to help develop policies that address the impact of pain on employment and vice versa.

In June 2021, SIP published its Position Paper on Workplace and Integration and Adaptation. The paper highlights the need for action by European Institutions, national governments, and employers to support a healthy and productive European workforce and society.

SIP 2021/2022 policy activities, involved targeting the EU Social Pillar, Disability Strategy, and Health & Safety Framework.
KEY RECOMMENDATIONS ON SIP POSITION PAPER ON WORKPLACE INTEGRATION AND ADAPTATION

• Ensure that the biological, psychological, and social factors of pain are comprehensively addressed in employment policies.
• Consider the mental and physical health needs of Europeans in other policy areas such as inclusion, transport, digitalisation, and cross-border equity.
• Ensure reasonable, flexible work adjustments for workers.
• Support reintegration of people living with pain back into the workforce.
• Establish mechanisms for financial and rehabilitation support for workers with chronic pain.
• Recognise that good work can have a positive impact on the health, wellbeing, and productivity of Europeans and European society.