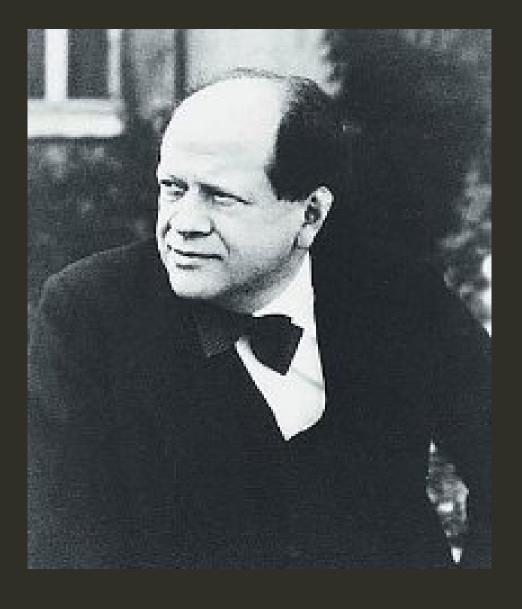
GRESHAM COLLEGE

A HISTORY OF PAIN

JOANNA BOURKE

AUTHOR OF THE STORY OF PAIN AND PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, BIRKBECK, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



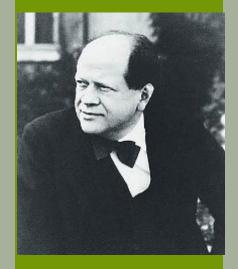


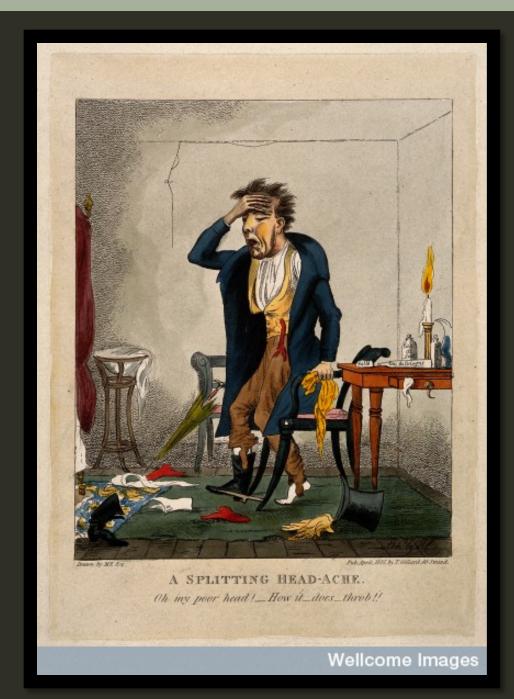
René
Leriche's

The
Surgery
of Pain
(1939)

RENÉ LERICHE

"THERE WAS SIMPLY NOTHING TO BE SEEN"







Wellcome Images

For NERVE PAINS and NEURALGIA

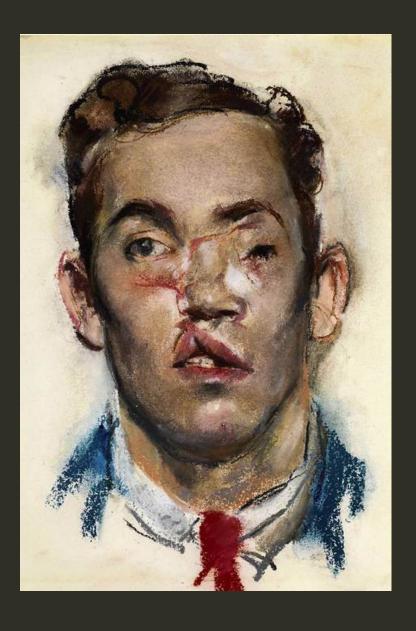
They're Wonderful

When the whole bodily system cries a halt through Nerve Pains, or mental effort is retarded by the wretched pain of Neuralgia, then is the time to take Beecham's Powders. I find them really wonderful! Quickly absorbed they are speedy in action and very welcome relief soon comes. They are equally good for Headaches, Lumbago, Colds and Chills.

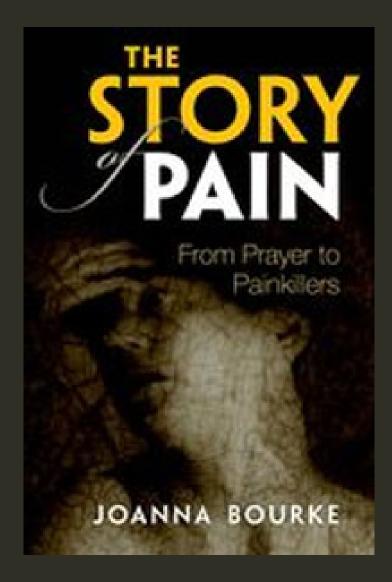




Wallcome Images



Henry Tonks (First World War)





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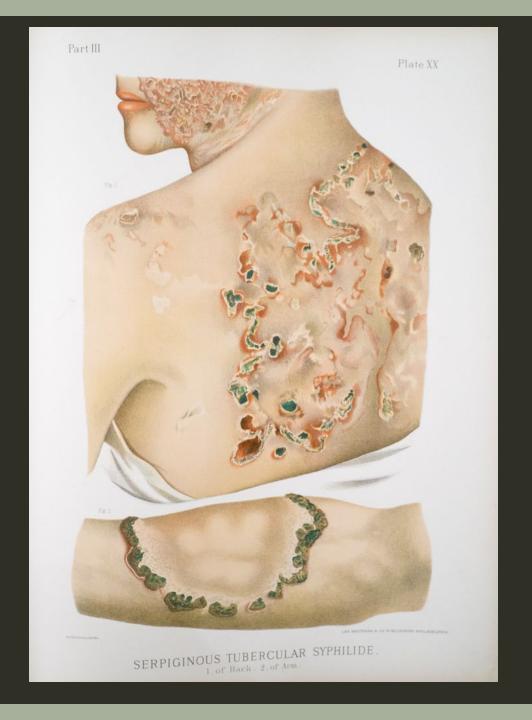
Nineteenth-century physicians,
who prided themselves as "men of feeling",
reinvented themselves as "men of science",
with empathetic detachment
being seen as the most appropriate
comportment of
physicians vis-a-vis their patients.



Wellcome Images

In the nineteenth century, body and mind, pain and suffering, were sheared apart.







Wellcome Images

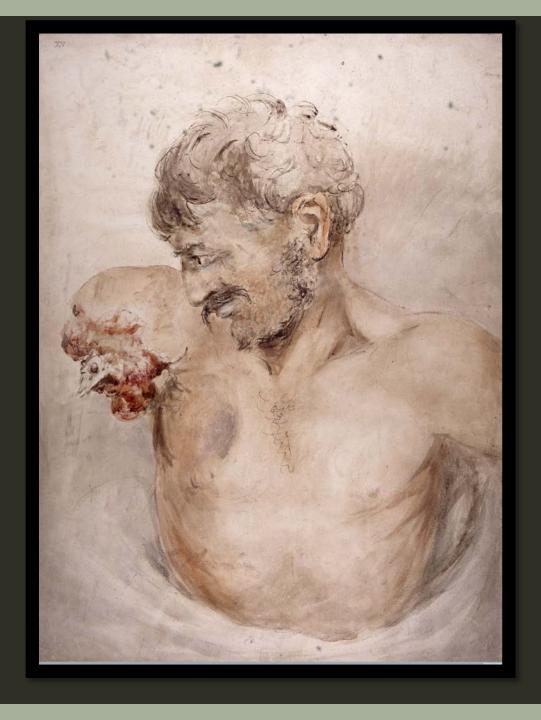


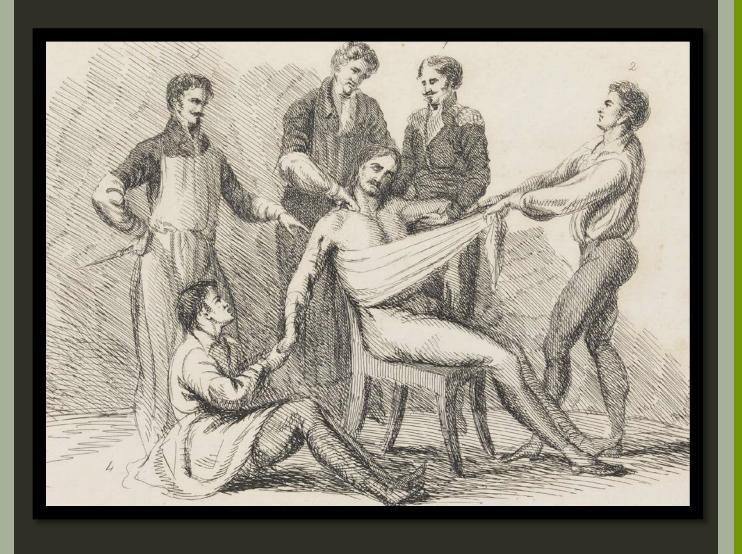


"Pain is affirmed to be unqualified evil; yet pain is necessary to our existence; at birth, it rouses the dormant faculties, and gives us consciousness.

To imagine the absence of pain, is not only to imagine a new state of being, but a change in the earth and all upon it....

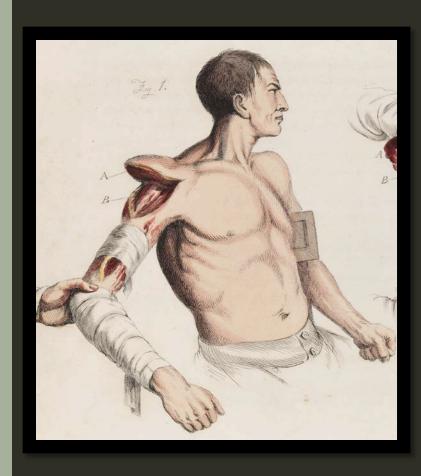
Sensitivity to pain is destined to be the protection; it is the safeguard of the body."

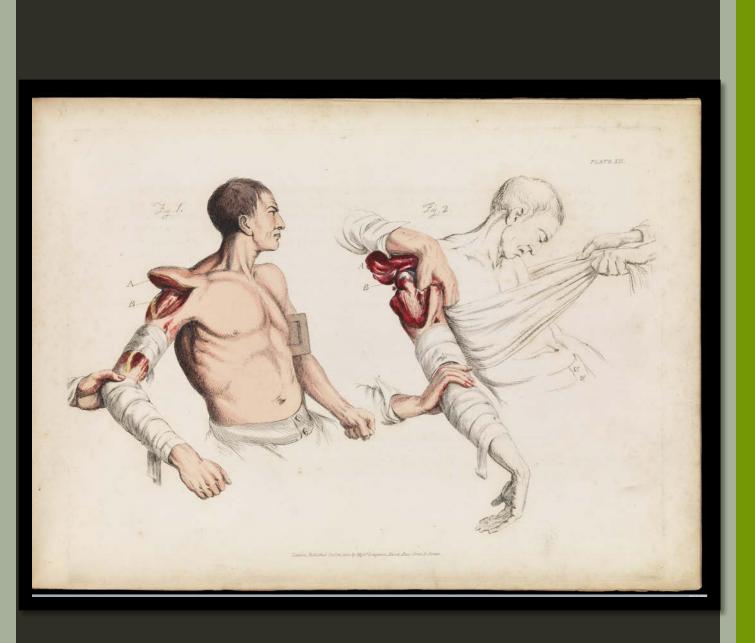






The surgeon should not "stand[] like the foolish maid, who holds her apron betwixt her pretty eyes and the object of her horror".





Facial expressions and gestures were a "natural language".

God-given; Phrenology and physiognomy



Pain would

- 1) heal the sufferer and
- 2) have an "irresistible moral influence over the minds of spectators,

through the amazing power of sympathy".





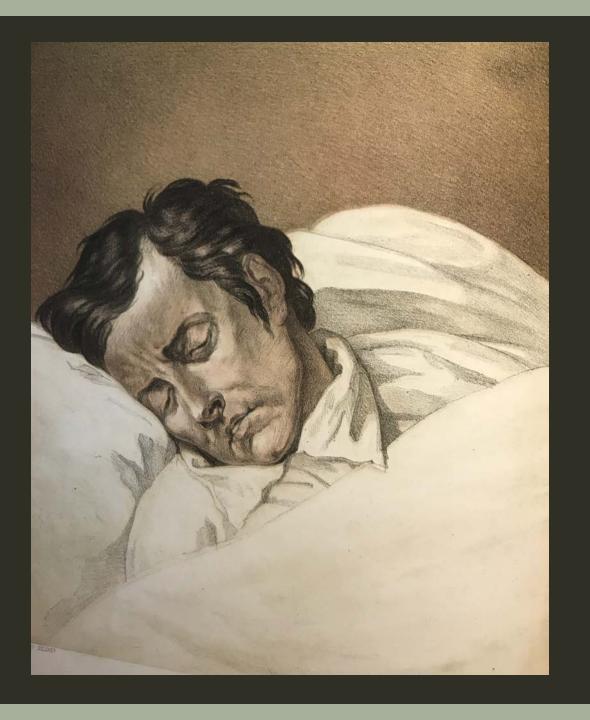
Battle of Waterloo



THE EXPRESSIONS OF AGONY WERE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE HEALING PROCESS

- 1) THEY PREPARED THE FRACTURED-BODY FOR THE TRIAL AHEAD,
- 2) THEY PREPARED THE SURGEON FOR HIS ACT OF GIVING AID,
- 3) AND THEY PREPARED THE WITNESSING PUBLIC FOR THEIR ACT OF SYMPATHY.





George Corfe

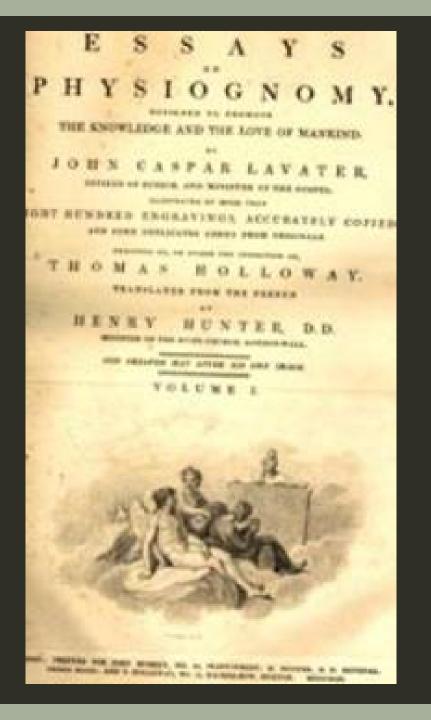
"FIRST RUN HIS EYE OVER THE FACE,

AND GET THAT BY HEART, SO TO SPEAK"

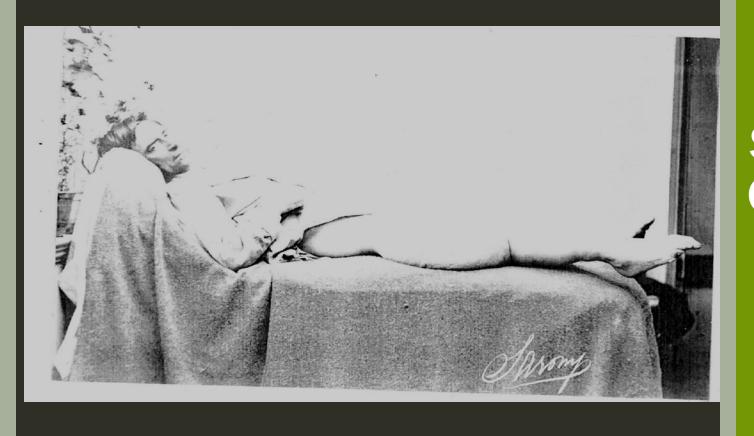
George Corfe



Johann Kaspar Lavater

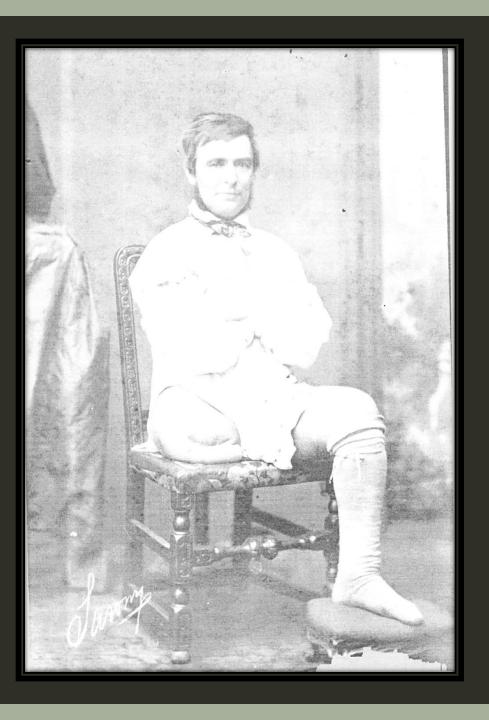


Johann Kaspar Lavater





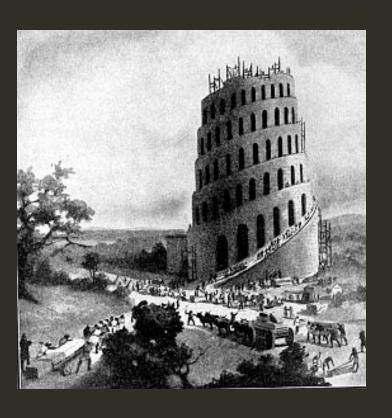




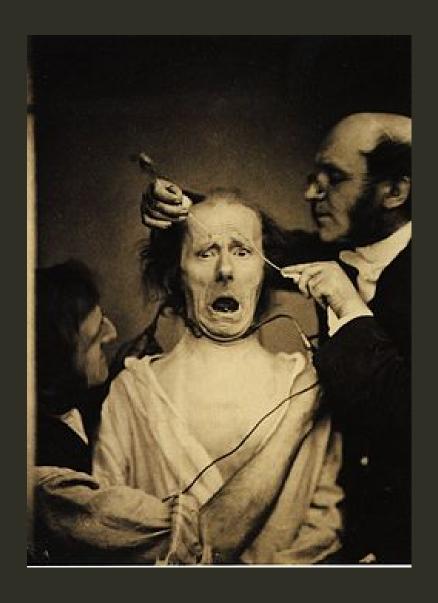








Gestures superior to words



Guillaume Benjamin Amand Duchenne de Boulogne

"In the face, our Creator was not concerned with mechanical necessity. He was able, in his wisdom, or – please pardon this manner of speaking - in pursuing a divine fantasy, to put any particular muscles into action, one alone or several muscles together, when he wished the characteristic signs of the emotions, even the most fleeting, to be written briefly on man's face. Once this language of facial expressions was created, it sufficed for him to give all human beings the instinctive faculty of always expressing their sentiments by contracting the same muscles."

Guillaume
Benjamin
Amand
Duchenne
de
Boulogne

Diagnostic classification systems

Changing medical technologies

Hospital medicine focused not on individual peculiarities but generalizations based on large numbers of people.

The growth of laboratory medicine enabled physicians to bypass patient-narratives in their search for an "objective diagnosis" based on knowledge taken from microbiology, chemistry, and physiology.









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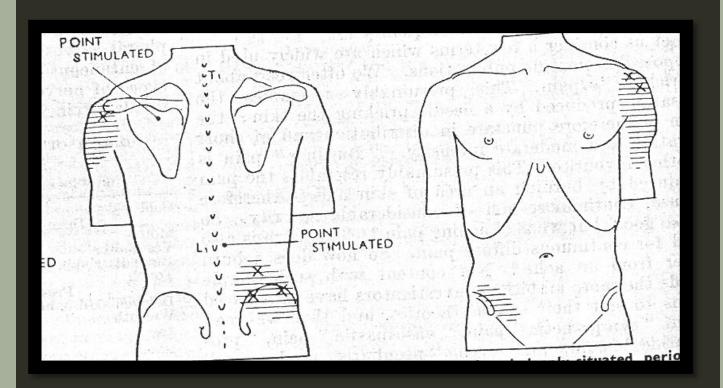
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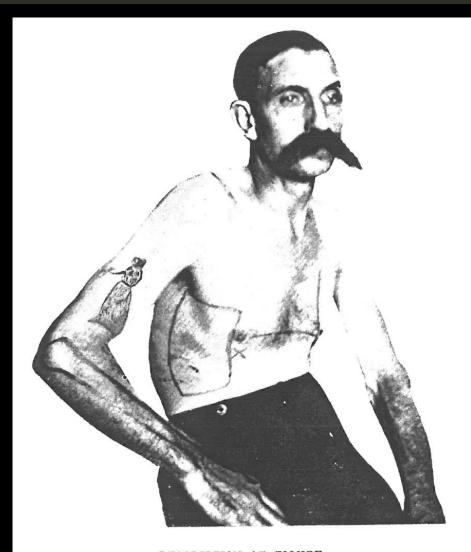








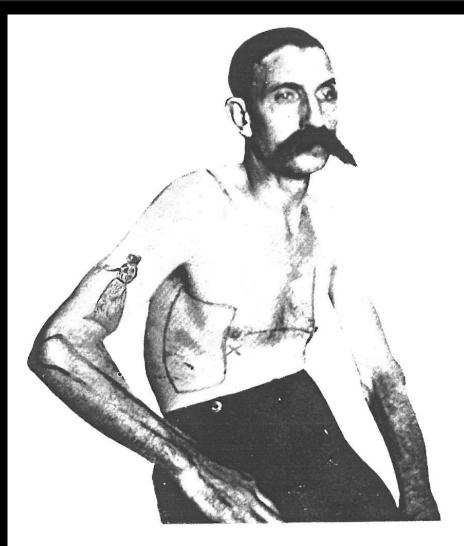
Kellgren, 1949



DESCRIPTION OF FIGURE.

The area A is seen marked out by ink on the back of the right forearm and hand. A tattooed figure is seen on the upper arm. The area F is marked out on the right side of the chest, and a cross below the right nipple indicates one seat of pain. Friction or simple pressure over A causes pain in F.

Monro, 1895



DESCRIPTION OF FIGURE.

The area A is seen marked out by ink on the back of the right forearm and hand. A tattooed figure is seen on the upper arm. The area F is marked out on the right side of the chest, and a cross below the right nipple indicates one seat of pain. Friction or simple pressure over A causes pain in F.

Pain resides on the surface of the body, typically conceived of geographical terms i.e. "pain maps" and "regions of pain"

The specificity theory of pain
focused on the way pain travels
(the geographical metaphor is important)
from the skin to a pain centre in the brain



Wellcome Images

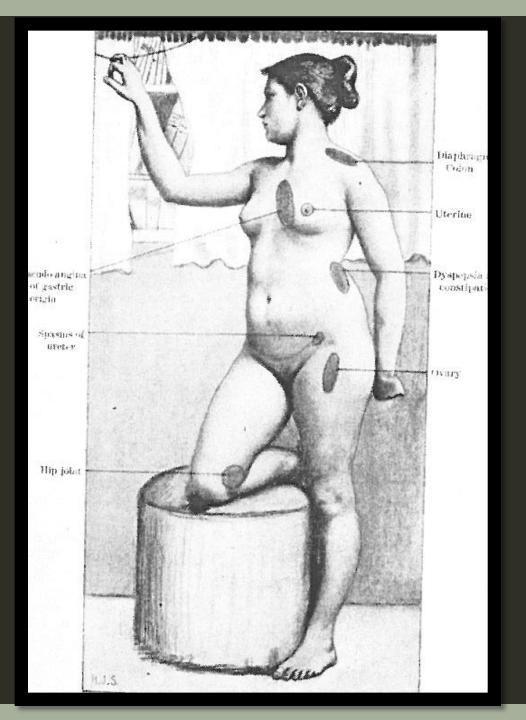
"Invisible" pain could be discounted.



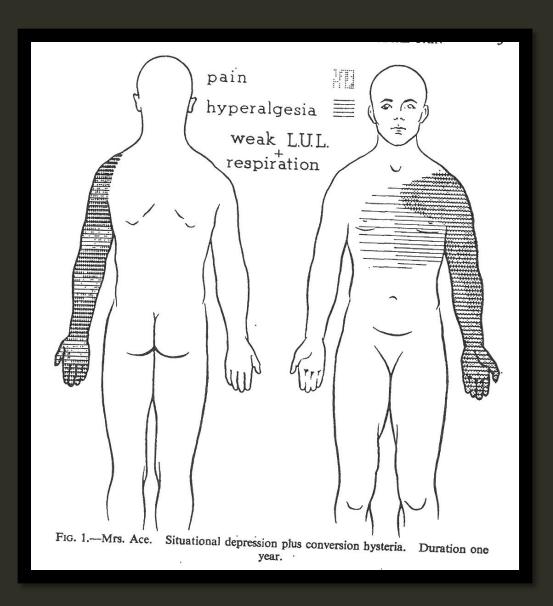
"Referred pain", or pain that did *not* straightforwardly relate to the site of lesion or disorder.



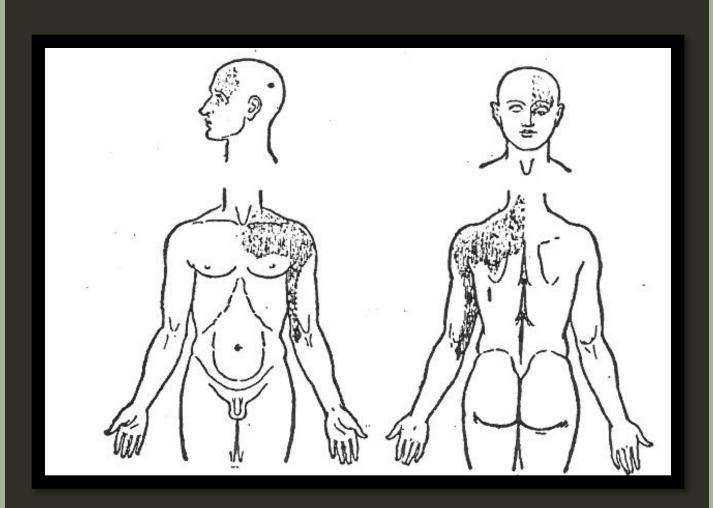
Wellcome Images



Butler, 1901



Walters, 1961



Henry Head, 1896 and 1922

CHART A2(a).-Organic pain. Cervical prolapse disc lesion.

Palmer, 1949

(organic pain)

Palmer's

"A Description of a Technique Whereby

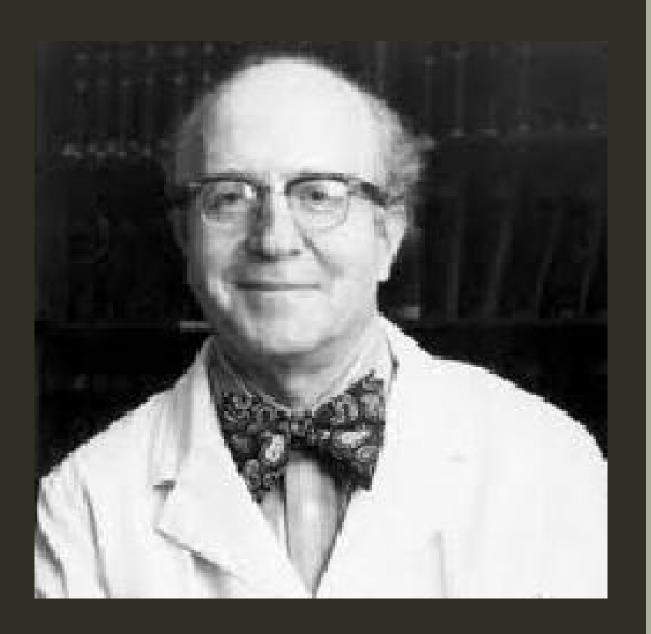
Functional Pain May Be Diagnosed from Organic Pain".



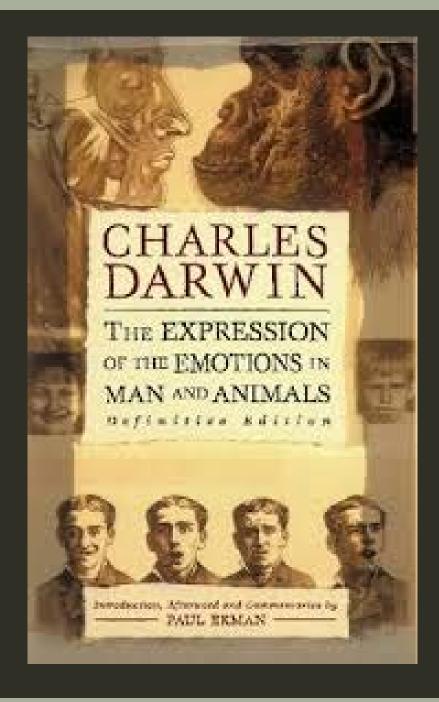
Palmer, 1949

(functional pain)

CHART B7.—Diffuse tension syndrome with multiple aches and pains.



George Engel

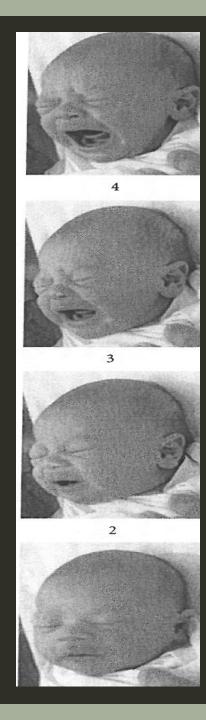




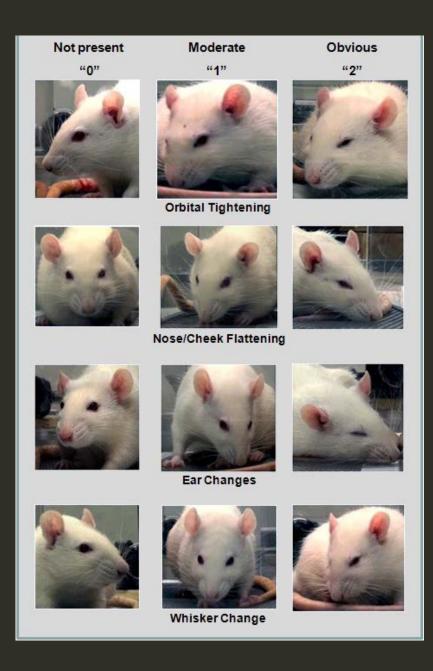
Wellcome Images



Paul Ekman (1970s)



Infant Expressive Scale



"Rat Grimace Scale"

Prkachin and Craig observed that

"Clinicians, adjudicators, insurance investigators, and family members often propose that the financial or social consequences of pain displays, rather than the experience of suffering, represent their true source."



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