ROLE OF "NEUROKINE SIGNALLING" AS THE PRIMING MECHANISM FOR PERSISTENT PAIN

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The etiology of persistent pain in humans is comprised of a complex, twisted and multi factorial journey that culminates in a "cancer of the soul" (Prof Paul Rolan). Recent advances in the basic science underpinning our mechanistic understanding of persistent pain has embraced "the other brain" as an integrator of multiple life stimuli. This complex integration of life experiences, which are translated into neurokine signals cause the neuroimmune cells of the central nervous system to adapt and change the environment in which the neuronal system operates. If these adaptations present in the somatosensory neuroanatomical locations then this can present as hypernociception and eventual persistent pain. This presentation will summarise recent studies in this field and equip the attendees with further insights of the complexity and power that viewing the brain as a neuroimmune organ brings to understanding persistent pain.