



Identifying  
and Managing  
PHN: The Role  
of the Consultant  
Pharmacist

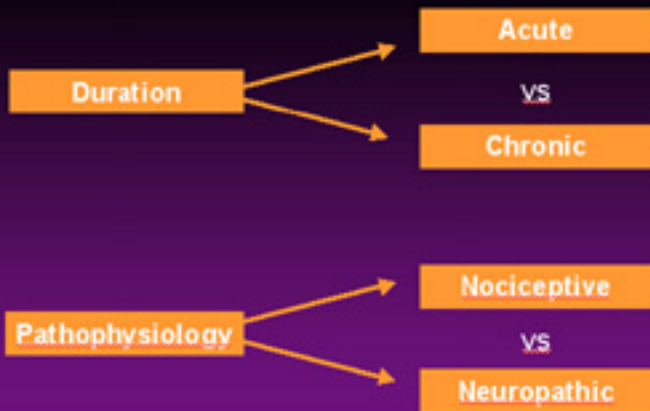


## Objectives

- Identify the etiology of neuropathic pain
- Describe the risk factors, incidence, and symptoms associated with postherpetic neuralgia (PHN)
- Formulate an effective pain management program
- Understand the purpose of minimum data set (MDS) elements



# Classification of Pain



# Mechanisms of PHN

Mechanism	Mechanism Etiology	
	Peripheral	Central
Irritable <u>nociceptor</u>	✓	
<u>Ectopic</u> discharge	✓	✓
Central sensitization	✓	✓
<u>A<math>\beta</math></u> -reorganization		✓
Inhibitory control dysfunction		✓

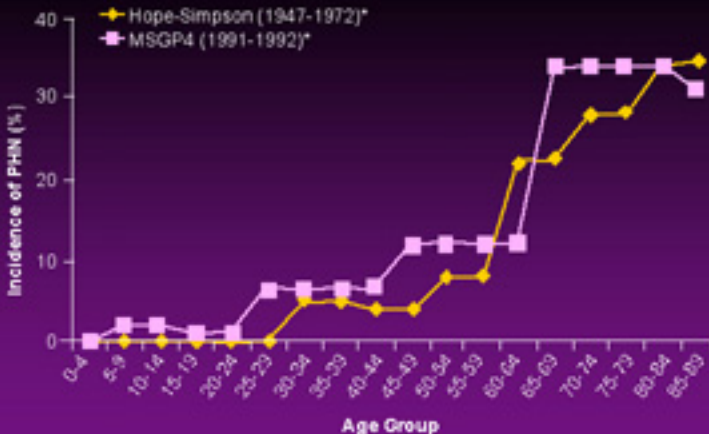
# Annual Incidence of Herpes Zoster and PHN

Data Collected	Rate
Annual incidence of herpes zoster <sup>26</sup>	
<20 years of age	0.4 to 1.6 per 1000
≥80 years of age	4.5 to 11 per 1000
Annual incidence of PHN <sup>27</sup>	11 per 100,000
Lifetime prevalence of PHN <sup>27</sup>	70 per 100,000

<sup>26</sup>Kost and Straus. *N Engl J Med*. 1996;335:30-42.

<sup>27</sup>MacDonald et al. *Brain*. 2000;123:665-676.

# Incidence of PHN Among Acute Zoster Episodes Increases With Age<sup>17</sup>



\* Primary care studies in England and Wales.

<sup>17</sup>Edmunds et al. *Vaccine*. 2001;19:3076-3090.