

Pain Reprocessing Therapy: A Literature Review

Research conducted on the alleviation of chronic pain offers a pathway to substantial societal benefits across social, financial, and emotional dimensions. In 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sought to evaluate the financial implications of chronic pain, estimating its annual contribution to be around \$560 billion (Dalhamer et al., 2016). Pain Reprocessing Therapy (PRT) offers a fresh perspective on chronic pain management. This therapeutic approach entails guided reassessment of pain sensations in various contexts, coupled with interventions targeting psychosocial factors that could intensify pain perception. Moreover, PRT integrates methods to bolster positive emotions and cultivate self-compassion (Ashar et al., 2022). This literature review will delve into the current research being performed on the novel field of PRT and compare it to extant mind-body therapies that aim to improve chronic pain. This literature review employed PubMed, Google Scholar, and ScienceDirect databases, utilizing search queries related to Pain Reprocessing Therapy (PRT) and other established mind-body therapies for pain. Relevant search terms included "Pain reprocessing therapy," "Mind-body pain therapy," "Forms of chronic pain," and "Central sensitization." Only papers published between 2000 and the current year were considered, and only those with full-text availability were included in the review. The initial randomized control study on Pain Reprocessing Therapy (PRT) demonstrated statistically significant improvement in lower back pain compared to placebo or usual care (Ashar et al., 2022). However, the study's limitations included a small sample size of only 50 individuals in the control arm and a homogeneous study group. Future research in the field of PRT will require enhancements in sample size, generalizability, and inclusion of other forms of chronic pain.