

# Nociceptive and Hyperalgesic Components of Cancer Pain

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# Pain types

## Neurobiology

- *Inflammatory pain*

↑ SP                      Substance P

↑ CGRP                      Calcitonin gene-regulated peptide

↑ NG                      Nerve growth Factor

↑ Proinflammatory cytokines

- *Neuropathic pain*

↓ SP, CGRP

↑ Gal                      Galanin

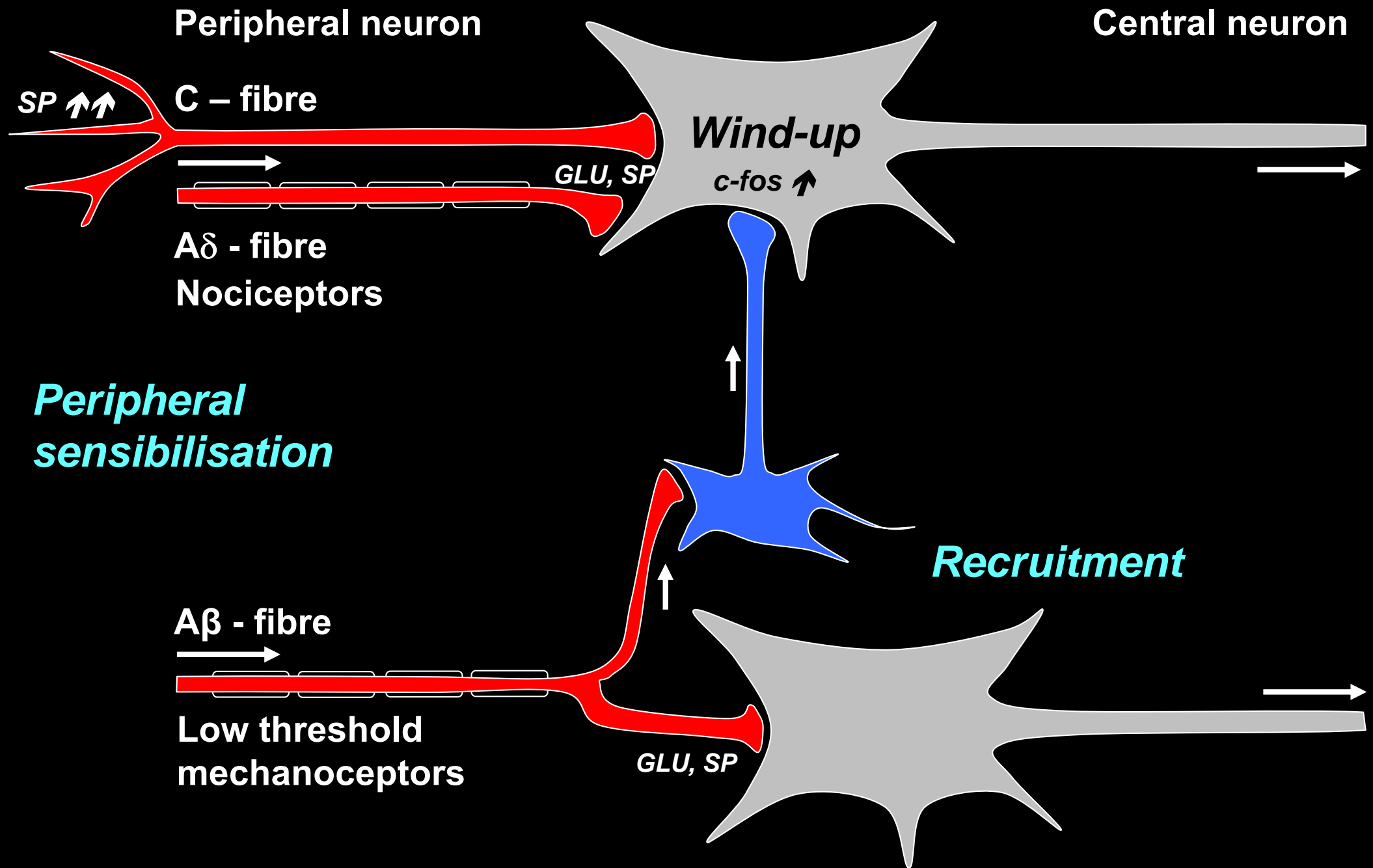
↑ NPY                      Neuropeptide Y

- *Tumorigenic pain*

↑ DYN                      Dynorphine

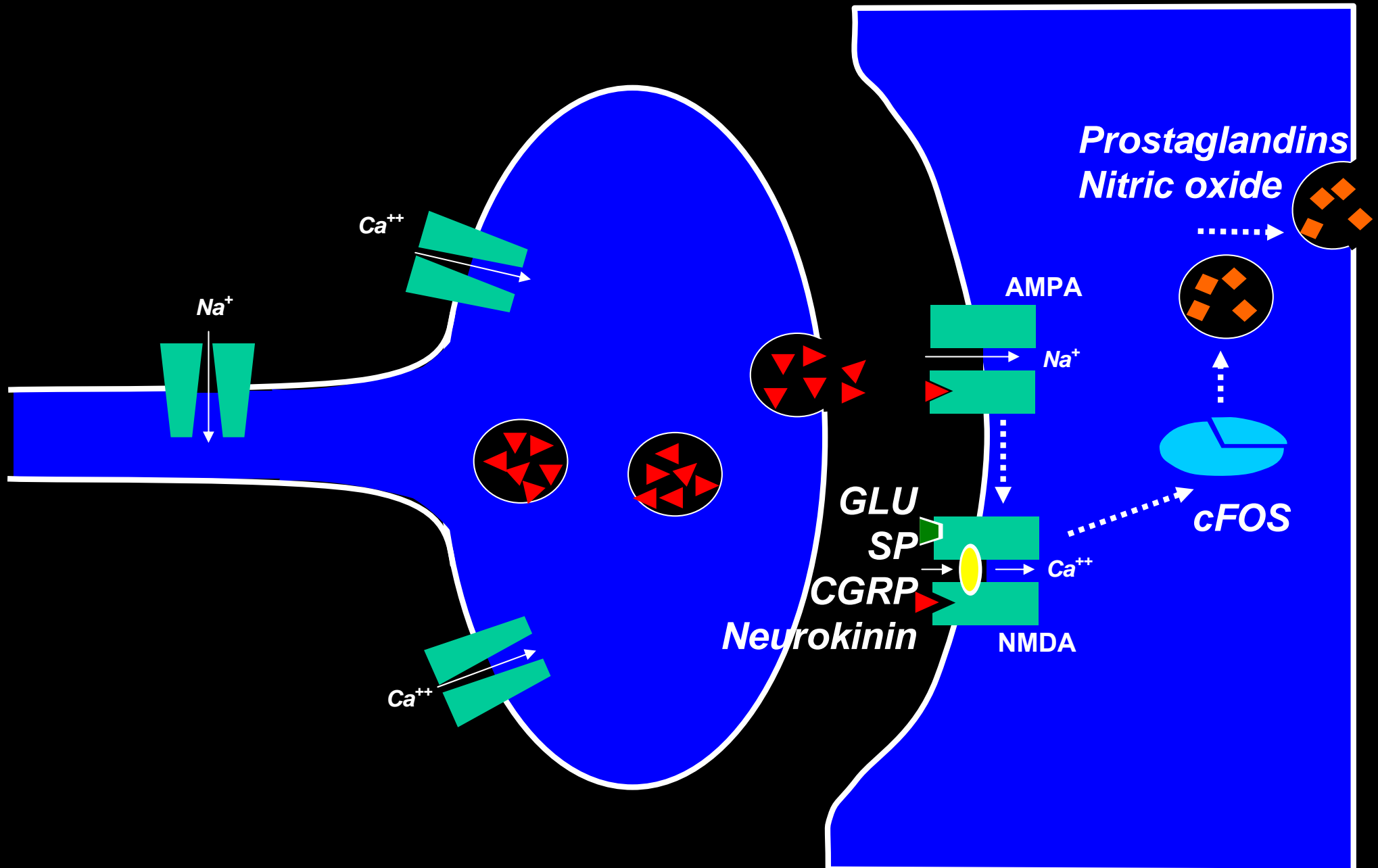
↑ GFAP                      Glial fibrillary acidic protein (astrocytosis)

↑ cFos                      Marker of neuronal activity



Peripheral Neuron

Central neuron



# Pain types

## Cancer bone pain: mouse model

	<i>Sarcoma</i>	<i>Melanoma</i>	<i>Colon</i>
• <i>Central sensitization</i>			
Dynorphin	↑	↑	↑
Gliososis	10-fold	2-fold	10-fold
cFos in dorsal horn	↑	↑	↑
• <i>Peripheral sensitization</i>			
cFos in superficial dorsal horn	↑	↑	(↑)

# Pain types

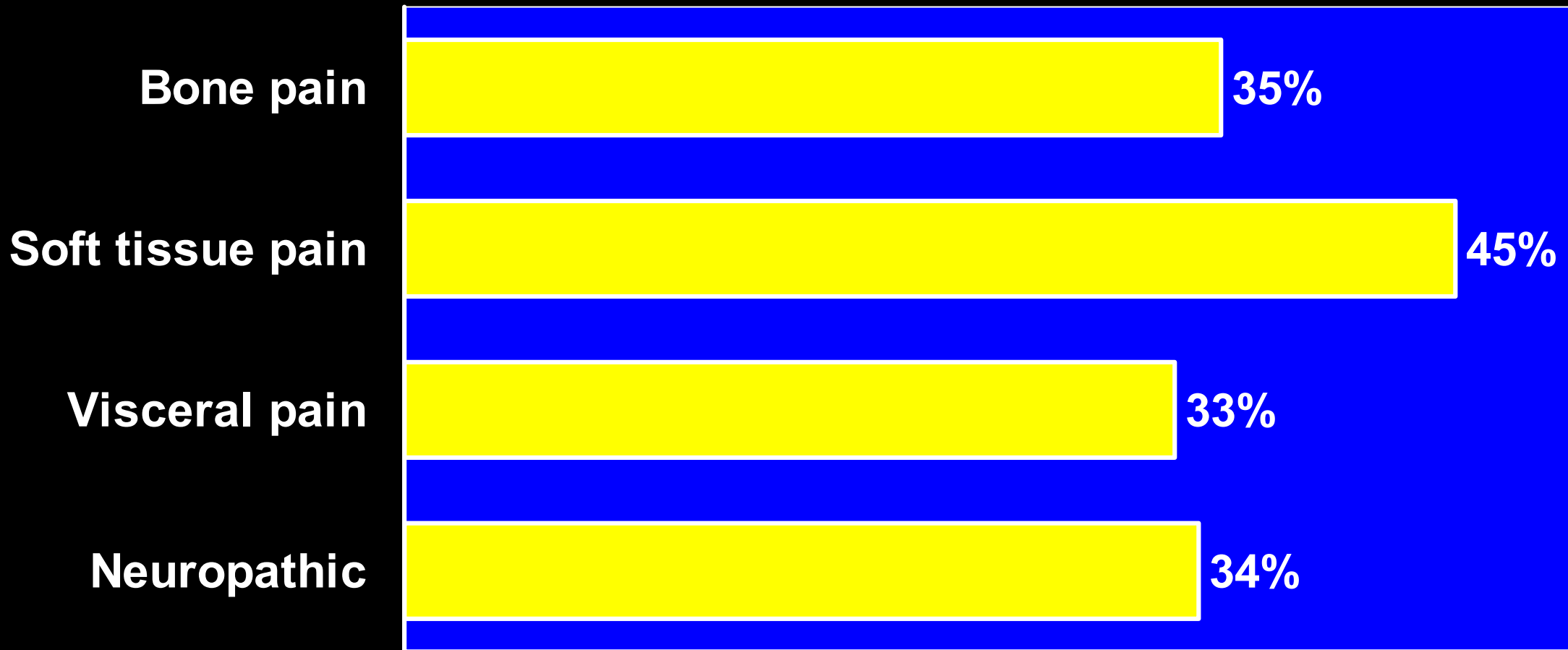
## Phenomenology

- ***Nociceptive pain***
  - Bone pain
  - Soft tissue pain
  - Visceral pain
- ***Neuropathic pain***
  - Peripheral neuropathic pain
  - Central neuropathic pain
  - Sympathetically maintained pain



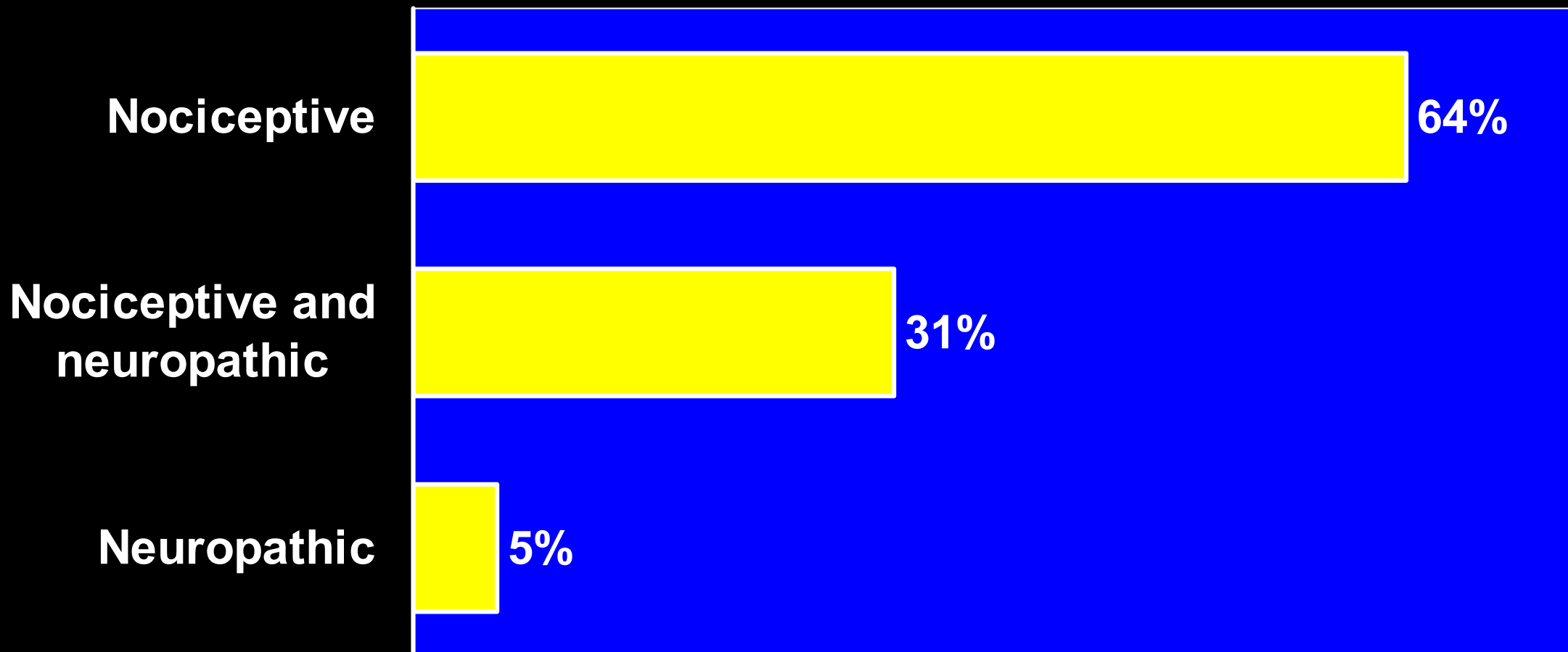
# Cancer Pain

Pain type (n= 2266)



# Cancer Pain

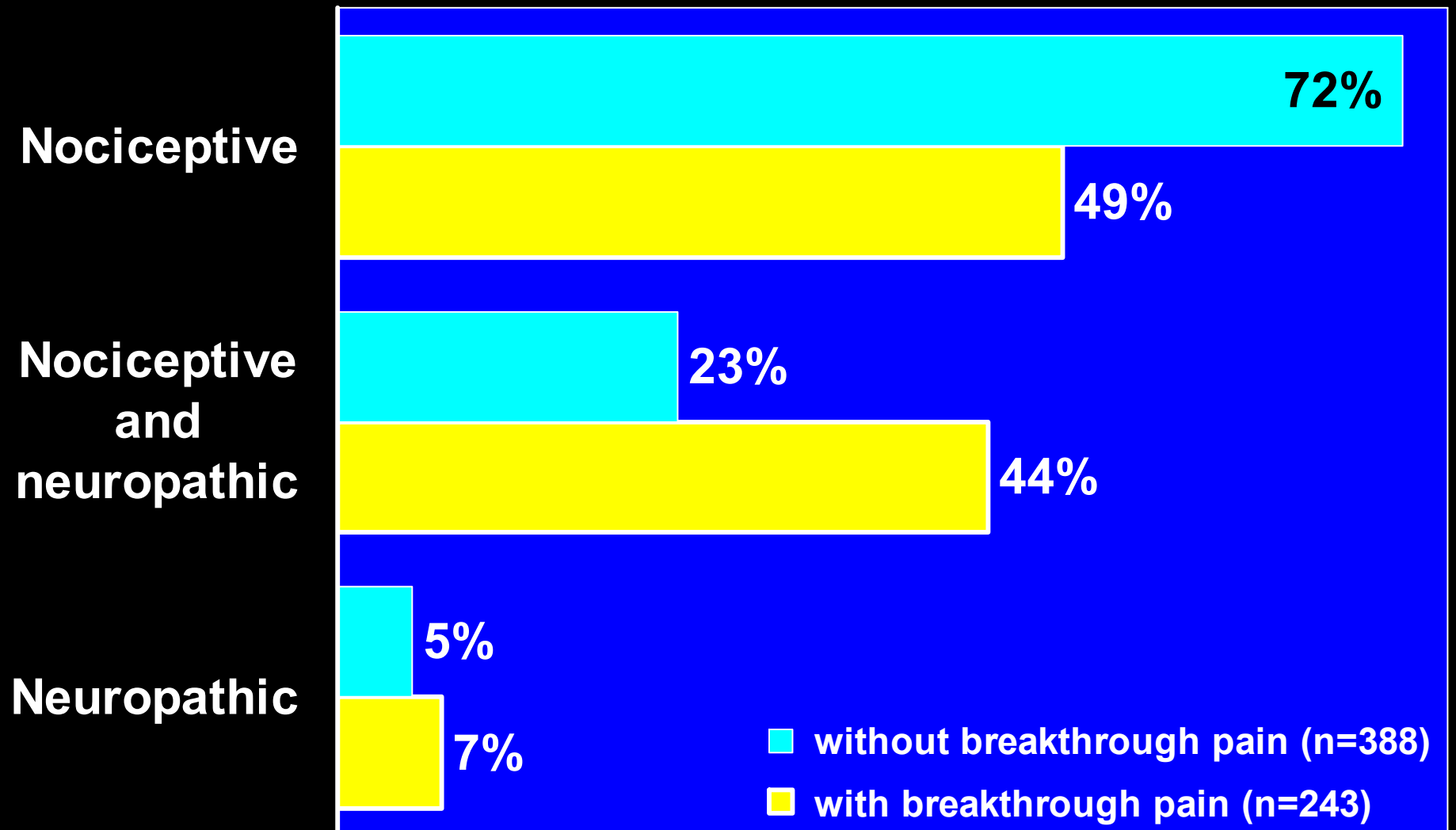
Pain type (n= 593)

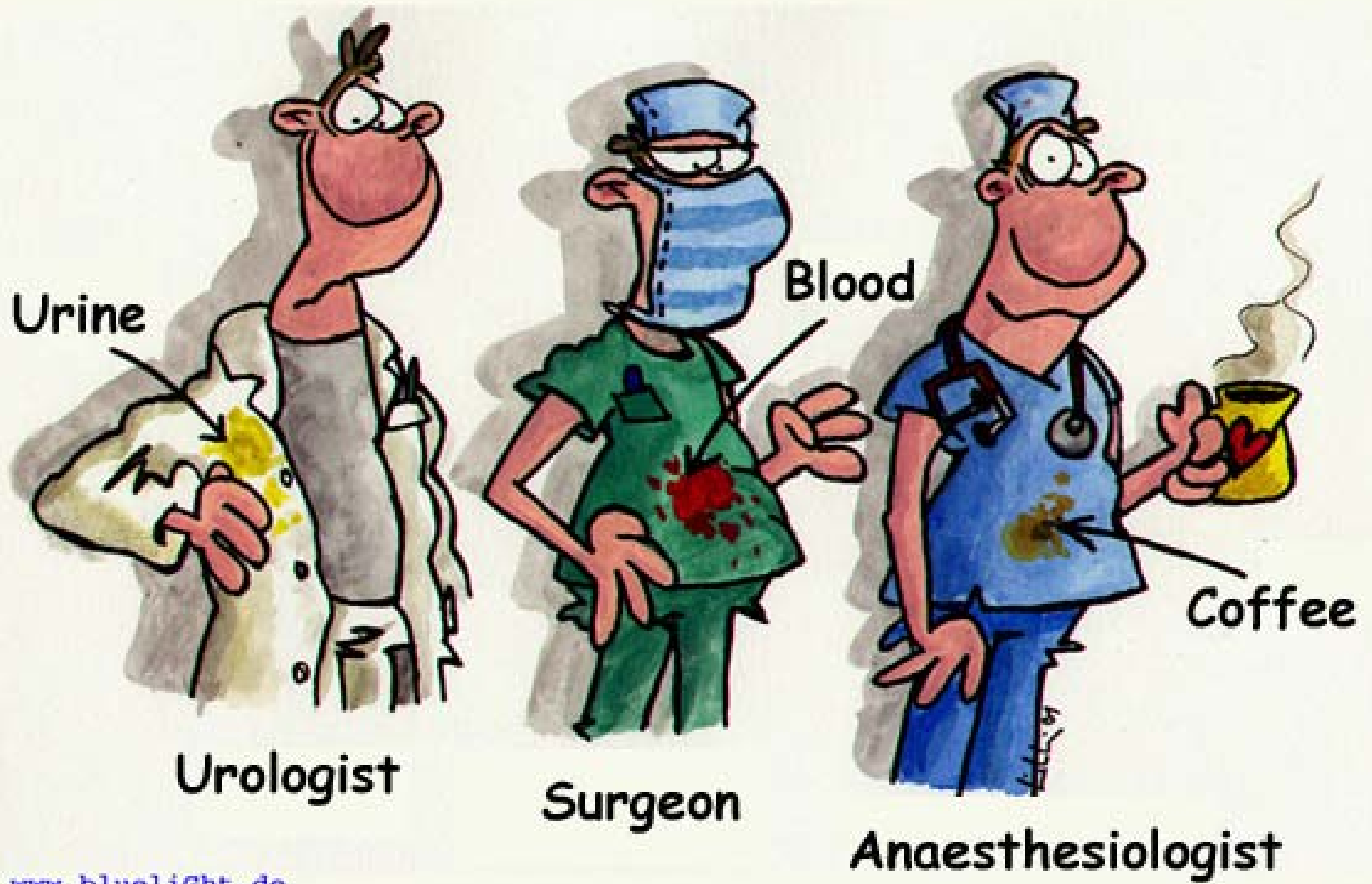




# Breakthrough Pain

Pain type (n=631)





# Pain types

## Phenomenology

<i>Nociceptive pain</i>	<i>Neuropathic pain</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• local, spreading locally</li><li>• sharp, stabbing or dull, cramping</li><li>• without neurological deficits</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• area of nerve structures (dermatomes, peripheral nerve distribution, glove, hemibody)</li><li>• lancinating, shooting or burning</li><li>• allodynia, hyperpathia</li><li>• with neurological deficits</li></ul>



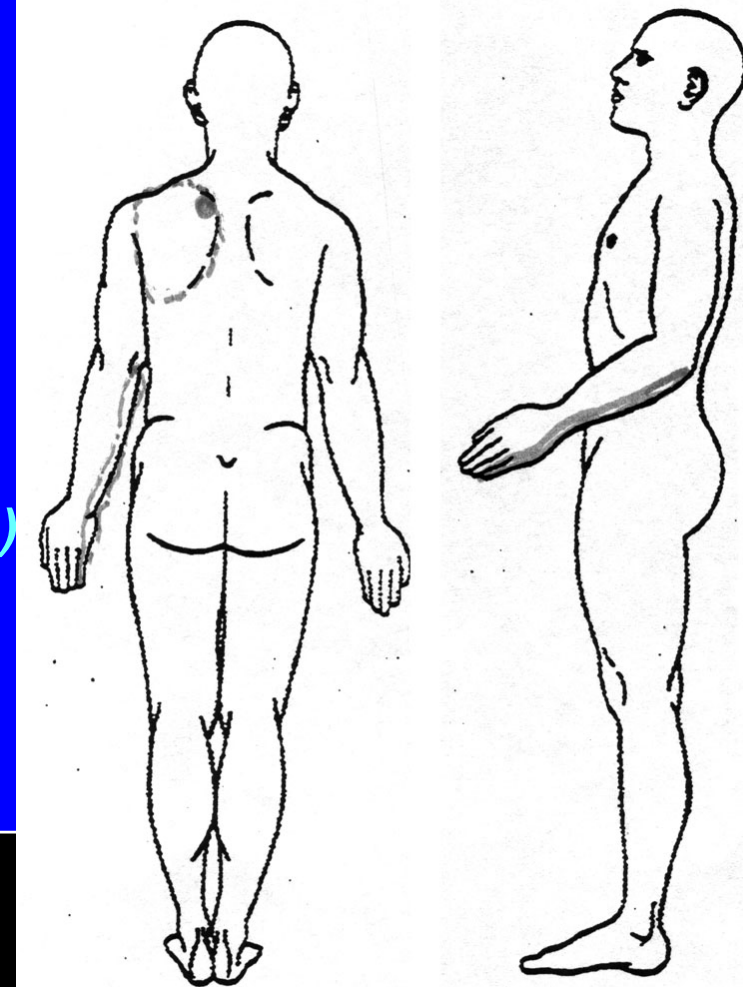
# Male, 46 years

**History:** Male, pancoast tumour left lung apex, diagnosed 1/2002  
radiotherapy 59 Gy, chemo carboplatin + navebine.

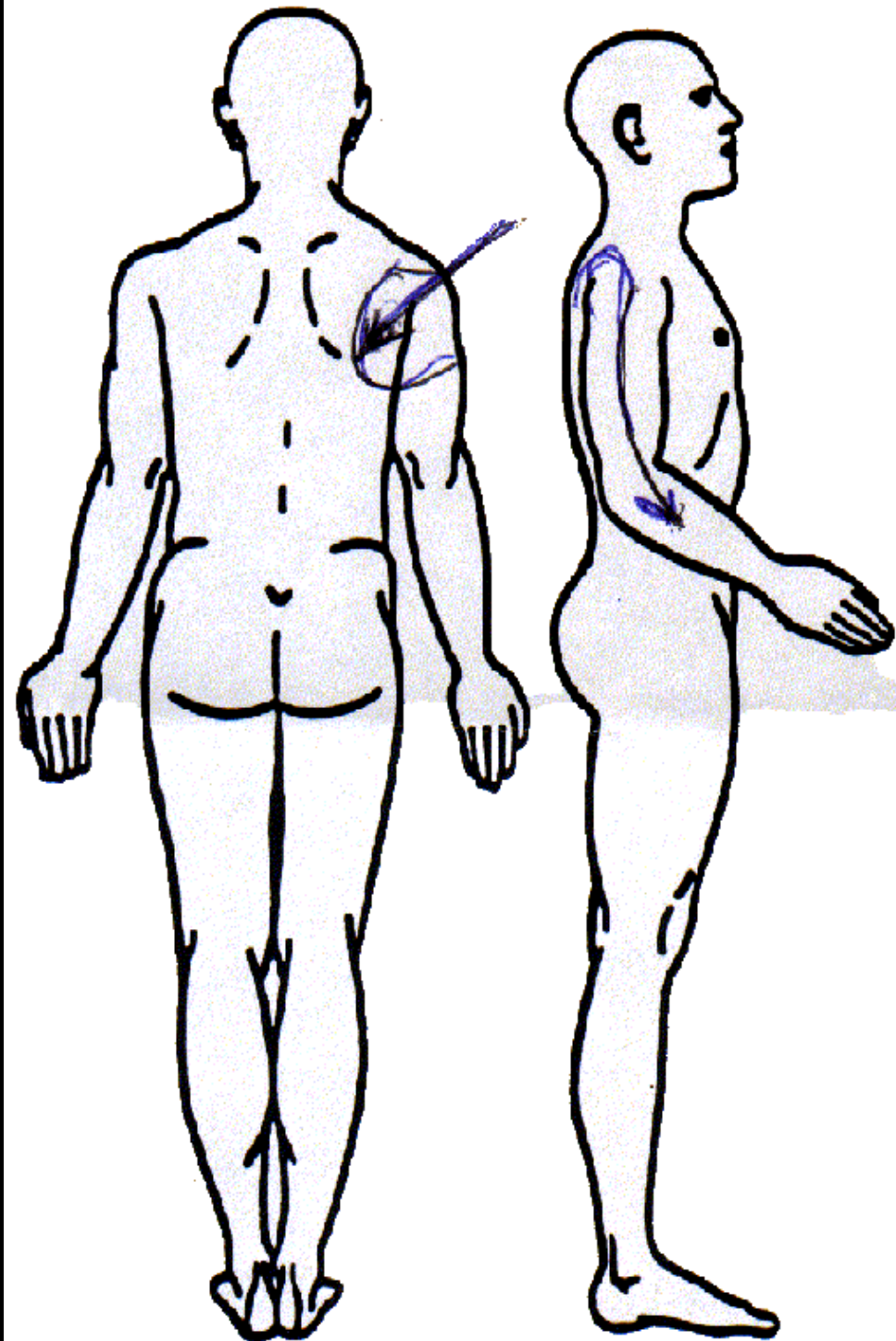
**Pain:** continuous pain in the left shoulder  
hyperaesthesia and allodynia in the lower left arm  
up to NRS 8  
sweating

**Pretreatment:** Fentanyl TTS 5x100,  
Ibuprofen 400  
Dipyrone 3x 750  
Carbamazepine 2x300  
Morphine prn 120 mg

**Treatment:** *Hydromorphone 3x24 mg ⇒ 2-2-3 (168mg)*  
*Gabapentin 2100 mg*  
*Dexamethasone 24 mg*  
*Ibuprofen SR 3x800*  
*Sweatosan 1-1-2*

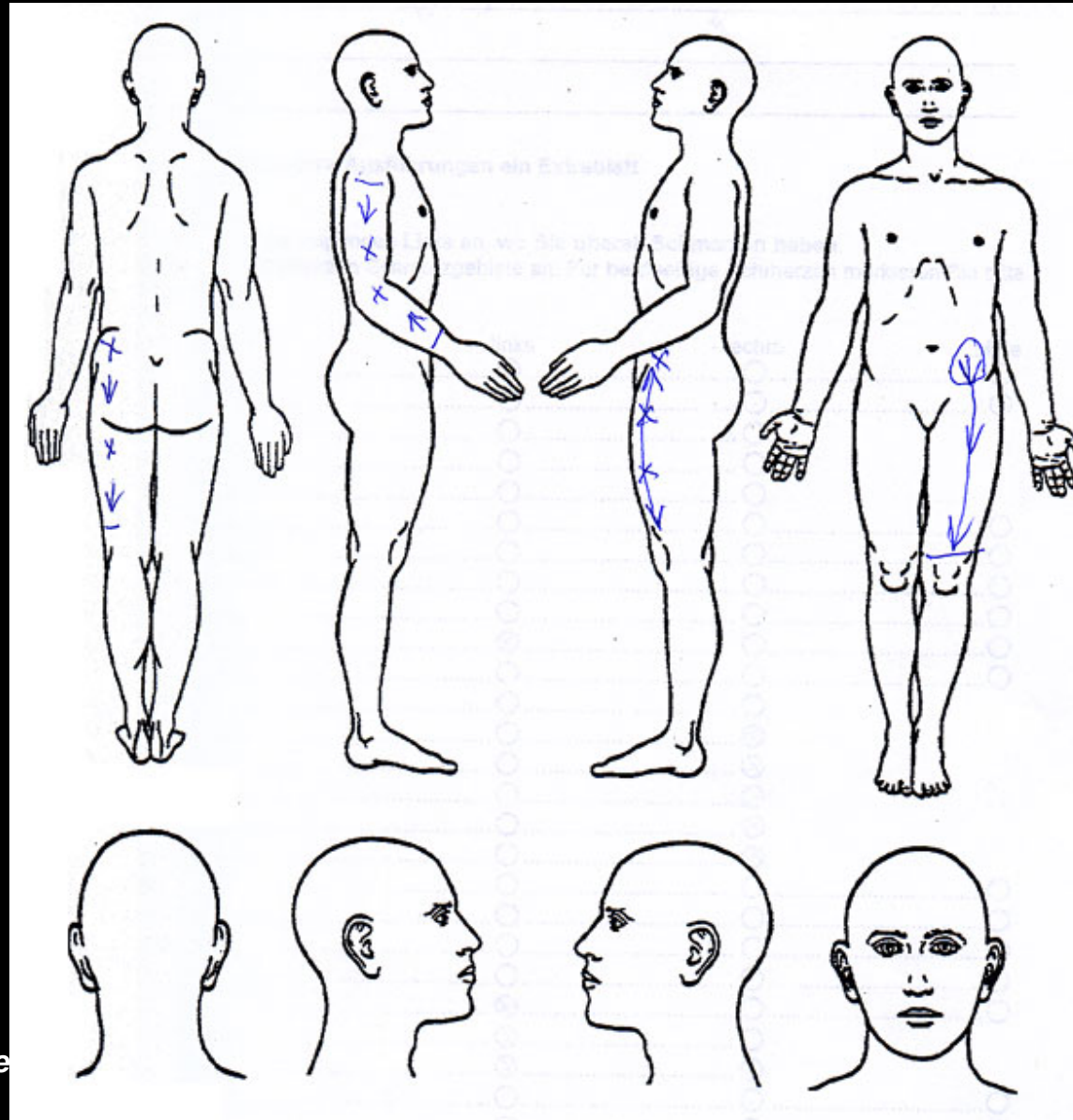


**Male, 67 years**  
**Pleuramesothelioma,**  
**pain right arm and shoulder**



# Male, 60 years

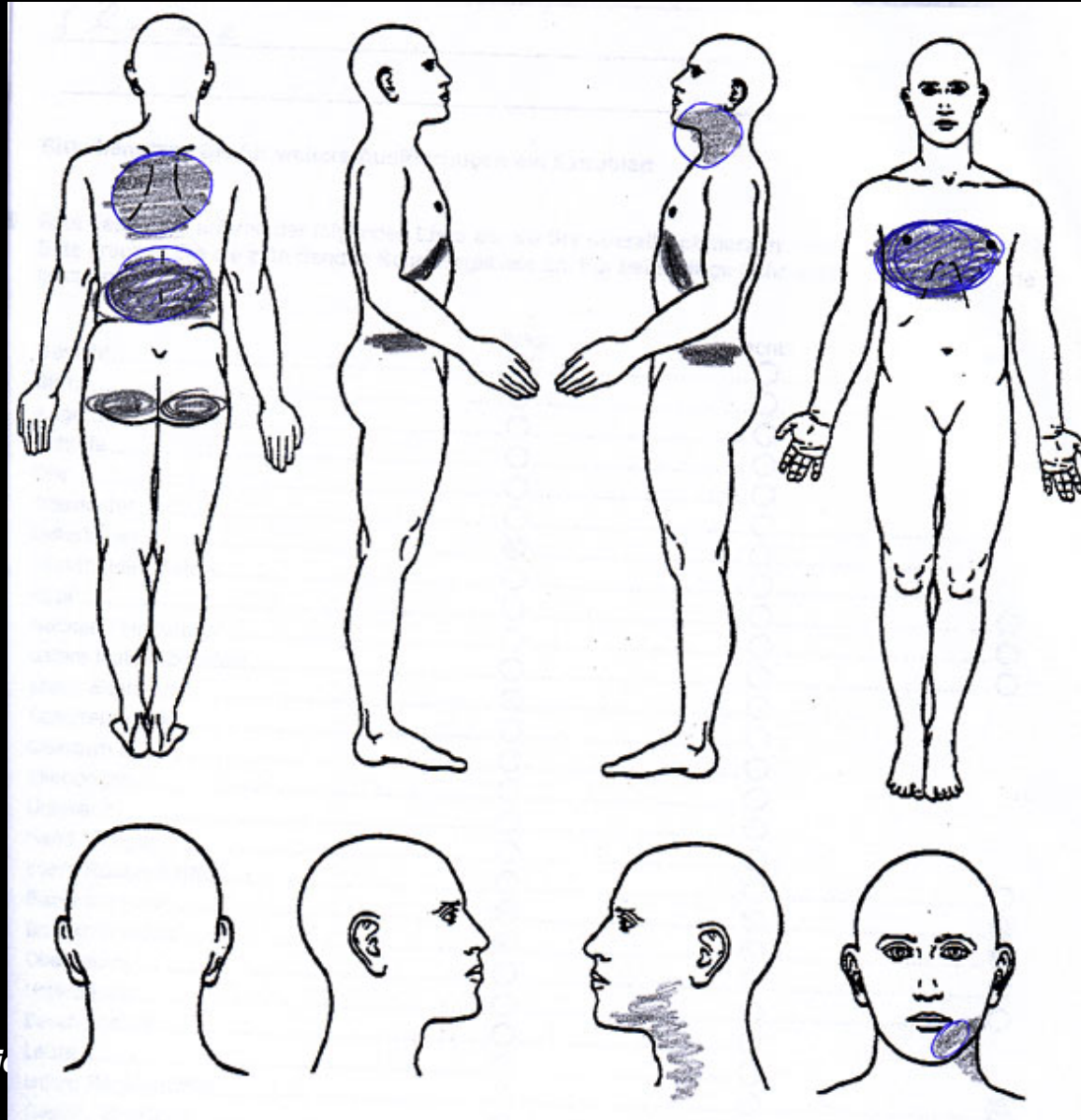
## Recurrent renal cancer





# Male, 37 years

## Parotis cancer



# Female, 57 years

<b>Quantitative Sensory Testing (QST)</b>		<b>control</b>	<b>test side</b>
<b>Thermal:</b>	<b>cold detection threshold</b>	<b>-16.1 °C</b>	<b>-9.7 °C</b>
	<b>warm detection threshold</b>	<b>12.1 °C</b>	<b>8.2 °C</b>
	<b>thermal sensory limen</b>	<b>22.7 °C</b>	<b>15.6 °C</b>
	<b>paradoxical heat sensations</b>	<b>0 / 3</b>	<b>0 / 3</b>
	<b>cold pain threshold</b>	<b>22.7 °C</b>	<b>15.6 °C</b>
	<b>warm pain threshold</b>	<b>42.8 °C</b>	<b>45.4 °C</b>
<b>Mechanical:</b>	<b>detection threshold</b>	<b>13.0 mN</b>	<b>36.8 mN</b>
	<b>pain threshold</b>	<b>27.9 mN</b>	<b>45.3 mN</b>
<b>Stimulus/ response:</b>	<b>mechanical pain sensitivity</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>
	<b>allodynia</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Wind-up ratio:</b>		<b>n.a.</b>	<b>n.a.</b>
<b>Vibration threshold:</b>		<b>4.5 / 8</b>	<b>0.3 / 8</b>
<b>Pressure pain threshold:</b>		<b>173 kPa</b>	<b>164 kPa</b>



→ *polyneuropathy*



# Nociceptive/Hyperalgesic

## Take-home Message

- *Neuropathic pain syndromes are frequent in cancer patients*  
often no clear differentiation possible
- *Diagnosis from phenomenology*  
pain type and location
- *Quantitative Sensory Testing*  
if indicated

