What is the connection between the presence of chronic pain and insurance coverage?

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What?

Chronic pain is a widespread condition limiting adults’ daily activities and labor force participation.

A longitudinal cohort study of 5,137 middle-aged adults to investigate whether chronic pain is reciprocally associated with coverage.

So What?

- No statistically significant association between the presence of pain and future loss of coverage.
- Lack of coverage in patients without present pain was not associated with future chronic pain.
- Having present chronic pain led to an increased risk of future non-private coverage.
- **Having no coverage or non-private coverage was an independent risk factor for future chronic pain.**

Now What?

Pending publication in The Journal of Pain

Further research is needed to analyze the specific type of insurance to understand this SDOH.

Improving coverage for non-pharmaceutical and multimodal pain management.

Increase availability of pain clinics, PT/OT, massage, biofeedback, and cognitive behavioral therapy.