**Results**

The theory of cognitive appraisal proposed by Lazarus and Folkman was used to guide this study.

**Theoretical Framework**

The theory of cognitive appraisal proposed by Lazarus and Folkman was used to guide this study.

**Methods**

- Baseline data (n=30) from the main study was used to examine the association between variables of interest.
- Recruitment locations: two primary care offices and one pain management clinic in Buffalo, NY.
- Data consists of self-report measures.

**Inclusion Criteria**

Chronic pain patients currently taking opioids for chronic pain, and who score greater than 7 on the Patient Health Questionnaire.

**Discussion/Implications**

- Understanding the mechanisms behind PC can allow specific treatment plans to be developed in order to best meet patient needs.
- Treatments such as behavioral interventions may improve treatment outcomes as they target specific variables such as PC, stress, and mental health.
- Patients with increased feelings of negativity, awfulness, and helplessness in the presence of their pain may benefit from different therapeutic options.

**Limitations:**

- Small sample size
- Inaccurate self-report

**Conclusion**

Future studies understanding the relationship between the given variables can continue to improve patient treatments. Focus on alternative treatments such as behavioral interventions may decrease PC and its corresponding conditions. Implications of this data show a potential solution to opioid dependence and substance abuse.

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