

Pain, Suffering, and Meaning

By Catherine S. Magid

Catherine S. Magid, Pain, Suffering, and Meaning, 283 JAMA 114 (2000).

Pain is a serious health problem. In her introductory article to a series on pain published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, Catherine S. Magid states that: "Every doctor who treats patients will confront their pain and suffering. Yet for each individual patient the experience of pain will be private and largely unique. This creates difficulty not only for the clinician but for anyone who tries to grasp the meaning of someone else's pain."

Magid explores the various factors that need to be considered when attempting to treat a person's pain in a clinical setting. Magid sheds light on the underlying factors of pain and the challenges facing those involved in pain management.

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