

Pain Uncovered:

The Hidden Connections Shaping Relief and Dependence | 3-Part Series

ABOUT THE VIRTUAL SERIES

Chronic pain exists along a continuum from acute injury to long-standing, centralized pain shaped by neuroplastic changes, trauma, and stress-related learning in the brain and body. Advances in neuroscience and epigenetics show how adverse experiences can alter pain processing and gene expression over time, helping explain why pain may persist even after tissue healing. Accurate identification of pain type is essential for selecting appropriate treatments, including pharmacologic options, while also recognizing the risks associated with long-term opioid therapy, complex persistent opioid dependence, and opioid use disorder. This program will look at current evidence to build integrated, patient-centered strategies that address pain, trauma, and opioid-related risk together. **Participation is free. Pre-registration is required.**

SESSION DATES

- **MARCH 9 | NOON -1PM CST**

Echoes in the Nervous System: Trauma's Influence on Pain Pathways

[Register](#)

- **APRIL 13 | NOON-1PM CST**

From First Hurt to Lasting Relief: Rethinking Pain Treatment

[Register](#)

- **MAY 11 | NOON-1PM CST**

Chasing Comfort: The Hidden Dance Between Pain and Dependence

[Register](#)

Click the "register" buttons above or scan the QR code.



DR. JENNIFER BALL

Jennifer Ball, PharmD, is a clinical pharmacist at Minnesota Direct Care and Treatment, where she specializes in complex care management for jail and forensic patient populations. She previously spent 11 years practicing in family medicine at the Center for Family Medicine and serving in academic roles at South Dakota State University's College of Pharmacy. Dr. Ball completed her pharmacy residency at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics and a fellowship through Purdue University in partnership with North Central Nursing Clinics. Her professional interests include substance use disorders and chronic pain, and she has secured multiple grants supporting innovative care models, including an interdisciplinary substance use disorders clinic and a prenatal care management program.

This presentation was supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$1,865,943 with 100 percent funded by CDC/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CDC/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

