

# Back pain in older male Italian-born immigrants in Australia: The importance of socioeconomic factors

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## **Reference:**

### **Key Words:**

Italian, back pain, socioeconomic factors

### **Research aim:**

We investigated differences in back pain characteristics, effects and medication use in a population-based sample of 335 Italian-born immigrants and 849 Australian-born men aged 70 years and over.

### **Results/Conclusion:**

Despite no difference in the reported prevalence of back pain between the two groups of men, Italian-born men were more likely to report that their pain was frequent, severe and chronic. Italian-born men were also more likely to report having other sites of pain and that they had limited their activities in the past 12 months due to back pain. Despite these differences, the use of analgesic medication was the same in both groups. Multivariate analyses showed that differences in pain characteristics and effects between the two groups of men were explained by socioeconomic factors such as years of education and occupation history.

### **Implications:**

### **Cultural Group(s):**

Italian, Australia-born

### **Location of study:**

New South Wales (Sydney)

### **Age group:**

70+

### **Number included in study:**

1,184

### **Type of participants:**

aged 70+ reported experiencing back pain in the past 12 months

### **Research approach:**

Quantitative

### **Type of data:**

Primary

### **Secondary data sources used:**

Concord Health and Ageing in Men Project (CHAMP)

### **Specific scales or analytical techniques used:**

### **Implications/ Recommendations:**

### **Notes:**