UK Fibromyalgia Year 16 · Issue 4 · February 2016

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The Fibromyalgia Magazine Support for the FM FaMily

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FIBROMYALGIA

Dr Morton's - 'The Medical Helpline' – says fibromyalgia was 2015's top condition searched for by people before calling a GP. Top 10 health searches in the UK in 2015

1. Fibromyalgia

- 2. Chickenpox
- 3. Shinales
- 4. Diarrhoea
- 5. Pneumonia
- 6. Depression
- 7. Diabetes
- 8. Scarlet Fever
- 9. Tonsillitis



ASK THE DOCTOR

By Dr. Jenner



Fibromyalgia Receives Official Diagnosis In US

The New Year is off to a great start already, as fibromyalgia sufferers in the U.S. have finally been acknowledged. As 2015 came to a close, fibromyalgia received its own official diagnostic code in the ICD-10-CM codes in the U.S. ICD-10-CM stands for International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification. This is a list of diagnostic codes used for medical reporting in the U.S.

The ICD-10-CM is based on the ICD-10, the statistical classification of disease published by the World Health Organization. ICD codes are used by everyone in the healthcare industry, such as doctors, insurance companies and government agencies. They are used to identify and classify diagnosed diseases and conditions.

Prior to the official code, when diagnosing a patient with fibromyalgia, doctors had to use a general code, which could include any muscle pain or inflammation. However, now FM is recognised as a distinct entity with its own code—a meaningful and exciting change for all who suffer.

The fact that fibromyalgia has its own diagnostic code now makes it impossible for anyone to insist that fibromyalgia isn't real. Both the World Health Organization as well as the U.S. Government have given it unquestionable legitimacy.

Additionally, a distinct diagnostic code will improve consistency in fibromyalgia research, as the data for many observational studies is gathered by tracking diagnosis codes. Without its own diagnosis code, fibromyalgia studies have sometimes been hindered by inaccurate data from the inclusion of patients that did not actually have FM.

Here at The Fibro Clinic, we know that fibromyalgia's journey to legitimacy has been long and often arduous. However, this exciting milestone will be sure to set a precedent for the rest of the world, and we expect and look forward to a time when the UK will recognise fibromyalgia as an official diagnosis as well. In the meantime, we are dedicated to providing a multidisciplinary approach to treatment, that can effectively lower and manage symptoms of fibromyalgia for a better quality of life.

Dr Chris Jenner is the leading Pain Consultant at The Fibro Clinic and believes that many of those suffering from the effects of Fibromyalgia can find increased comfort through a multidisciplinary approach to pain relief. With expertise in treating over 90 different pain conditions and detailed research from around the world, Dr Jenner has developed a variety of medical treatments for Fibromyalgia. At The Fibro Clinic, we offer numerous treatments for managing your fibromyalgia, including both pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapies. With the right combination, patients can often see incredible results, and the symptoms of FMS/ ME can often be reduced dramatically.

Website: TheFibroClinic.com Telephone: 020 7118 0350

ASK THE DOCTOR

Doctor Jenner of the Fibro Clinic has agreed to answer readers' questions

If you have any fibromyalgia specific questions that you would like addressed please email your question to office@UKFibromyalgia.com or write to: UK Fibromyalgia 7 Ashbourne Road Bournemouth BH5 2JS age fourteen - Ask the Doctor

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