# The Faces of Fibromyalgia

A recent survey of people living with diagnosed or undiagnosed fibromyalgia or another chronic pain condition revealed the significant impact of pain on daily activities including work, personal relationships and pivotal life decisions.\*

The American Pain Foundation and the National Fibromyalgia Association conducted a survey; the results highlight the magnitude of living with these conditions. The survey is part of an educational initiative that aims to encourage people living with undiagnosed chronic pain to work with their healthcare provider to get a proper diagnosis and find the best management plan for them. 3,018 participated in the survey: 2,559 have been diagnosed by a healthcare professional with fibromyalgia; 459 are living with chronic pain without a diagnosis.\*\*

# Almost 9 in 10 feel they are no longer the person they were before they started living with chronic pain

#### **Significant Impact on Pivotal Life Decisions**

92% reported their pain condition has had a significant impact on their major life decisions, particularly in the following areas:

- Staying physically active (88%)
- Changing jobs (51%)
- Initiating or remaining in a relationship (41%)

#### **Pain Affects Parenting**

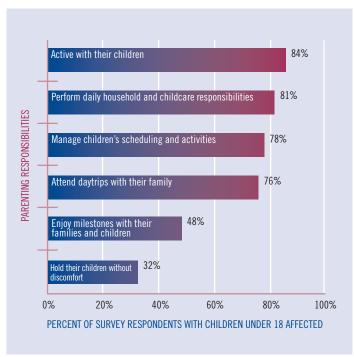
Nearly 7 in 10 (approximately 68%) agree that their pain limits the ability to care for their family

Of those whose condition significantly impacted the decision to have children (about 450 respondents), their top 3 concerns were:

- 1. Caring for an active child (62%)
- 2. Physically going through childbirth (about 53%)
- 3. Further lack of sleep with a baby (about 49%)

Of the more than 650 respondents who have children currently under the age of 18, 95% reported their pain condition affects at least one of their parenting duties

### **Parenting Duties Affected by Chronic Pain Condition**





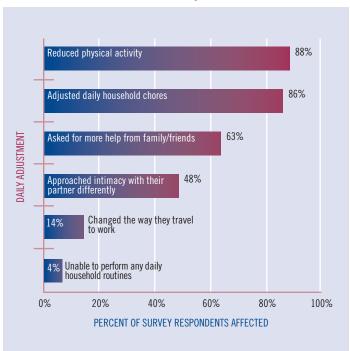


## **Accommodating their Pain to Accomplish Daily Tasks**

Nearly all (approximately 98%) reported they have implemented some type of adaptation to their daily routine in order to conduct activities and tasks despite their pain condition

- Approximately 75% have made three or more daily adjustments
- Approximately 75% visited a healthcare provider about their chronic pain because they were not able to function at work to their best ability

#### **Adjustments Made for Pain**



# **Journey to Diagnosis**

- Half reported that one of the reasons for seeing a healthcare provider about their pain was due to not being able to be there for their partner, spouse or family
- 3 Years: Average time between experiencing symptoms and diagnosis
- 4 Types of Doctors: Consulted about chronic pain

Visit www.FibroCenter.com for additional information and resources



<sup>\* 3,018</sup> people living with diagnosed or undiagnosed fibromyalgia or another chronic pain condition answered a survey hosted by Synovate about the impact of chronic pain on their life from 3/24/2011 - 3/30/2011. The survey was distributed by the National Fibromyalgia Association and the American Pain Foundation to their membership. 2,559 respondents have been diagnosed by a healthcare professional with fibromyalgia; 459 are living with chronic pain without a diagnosis. The average age of the respondents was 51; approximately 91% of respondents are female. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.

<sup>\*\*</sup>The survey was developed through a collaboration among the National Fibromyalgia Association, American Pain Foundation and Pfizer Inc