

Examining Social Health Outcomes in Young Adults with Chronic Pain

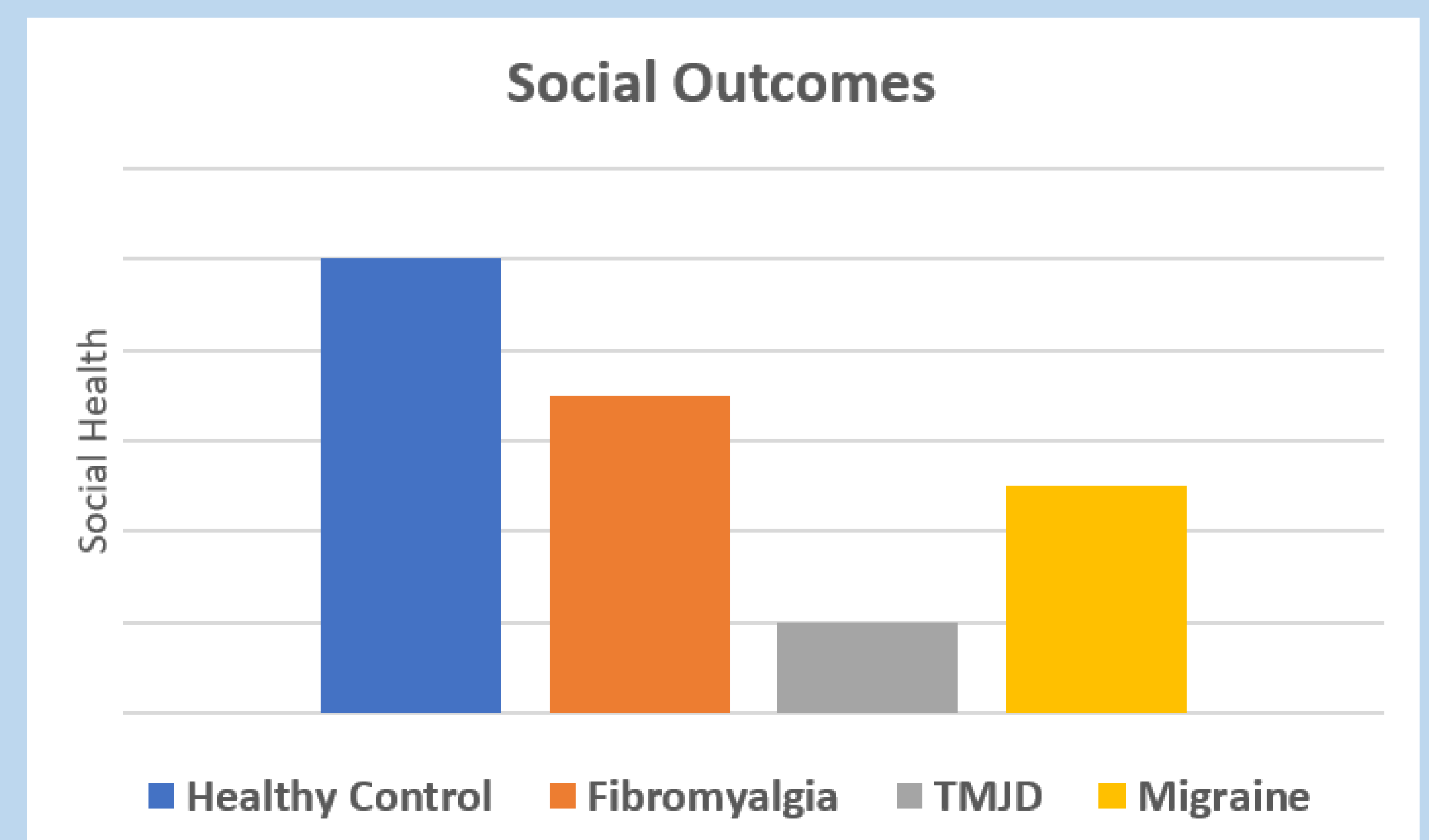
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Introduction

- Over 10 million Americans suffer from chronic pain¹
- Ages 18-30 is a critical time period for forming long-lasting and meaningful relationships²
- Chronic pain in the face may be particularly disruptive for social activities because it is made worse by eating, speaking, and expressing emotions
- This study will compare social health in young adults with temporomandibular joint disorder (TMJD), fibromyalgia, migraine, and healthy controls
- It is hypothesized that patients with TMJD will experience the worst social health

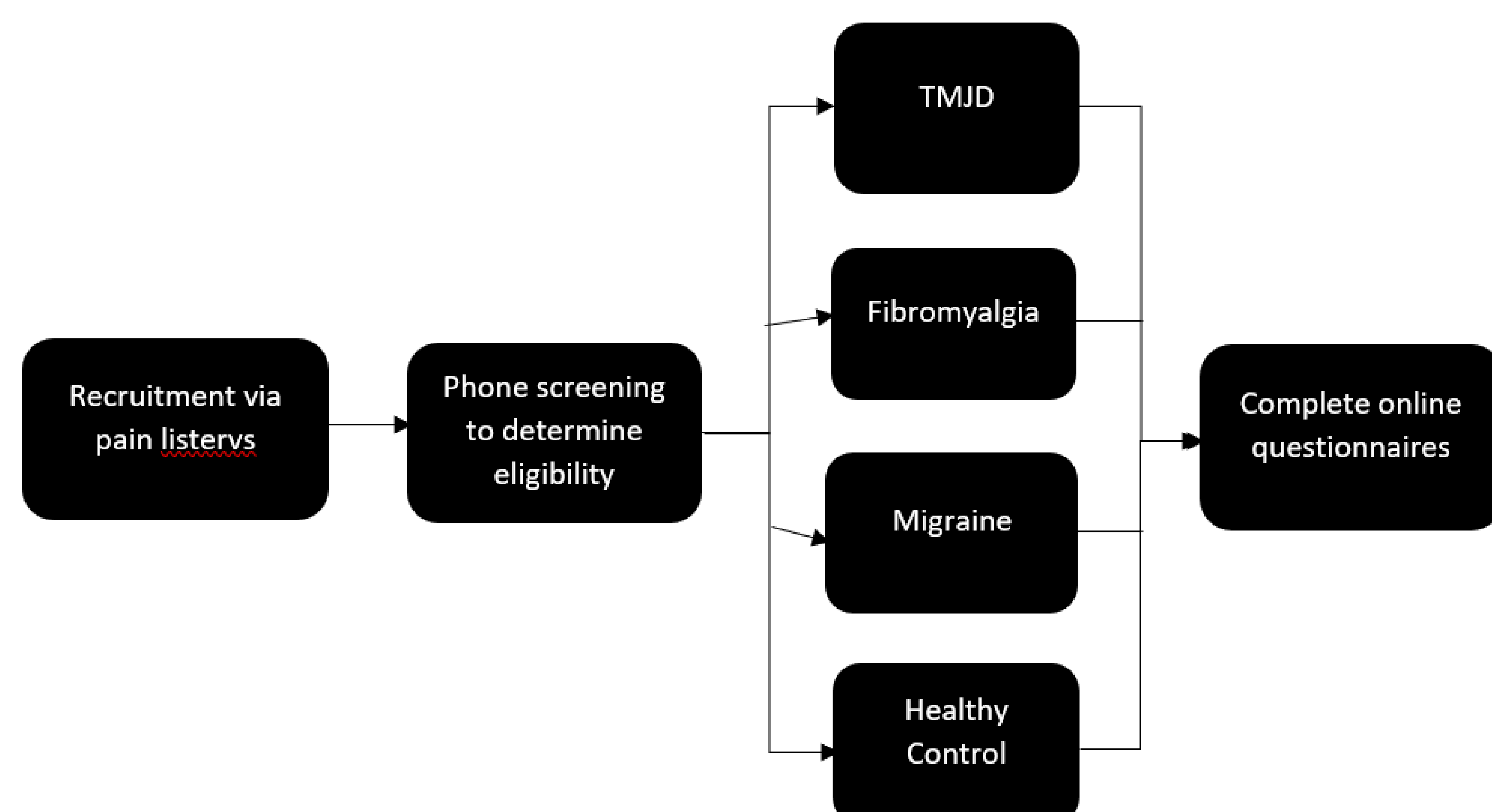
Hypothesized Result



Note: Above graph is hypothetical and based on fictitious data

Methods

- Recruitment
- Complete an online battery of social and psychological questionnaires



Conclusions

- Study has potential to provide knowledge about how chronic pain is addressed and perceived
- If hypothesis is correct, treatment can be changed to target facial pain and improve social health

Learning Outcomes

- Gained knowledge about ethics in a clinical/lab environment
- Learned importance of background research and inquisitiveness
- Can apply new knowledge to major

Citations

¹National Institutes of Health. (2017, September). TMJ Disorders.

²Bonnie, R. J. (2015, January 27). Young Adults in the 21st Century.

