ACTOR-PARTNER EFFECTS OF CHILD AND PARENT PAIN CATASTROPHIZING AND SCOLIOSIS PAIN PRIOR TO AND 4-6 WEEKS FOLLOWING SURGERY

Kathryn Birnie, BA (Hons)
Dalhousie University / IWK Health Centre
Student/Trainee

INTRODUCTION / AIM
To examine dyadic relations between child and parent pain catastrophizing and child and parent ratings of child pain prior to surgery and 4-6 weeks post-surgery. To examine the stability of child and parent pain catastrophizing from pre- to post-surgery.

METHODS
152 youth aged 10-18 years undergoing surgery for scoliosis at 7 Canadian hospitals, and one of their parents (82% mothers), completed measures of trait pain catastrophizing about child pain (PCS-C and PCS-P) and ratings of child worst pain prior to surgery (baseline) and 4-6 weeks after surgery (follow-up). Cross-sectional and longitudinal actor-partner interdependence models (APIMs) assessed bidirectional influences within parent-child dyads.

RESULTS
At baseline, higher child pain catastrophizing predicted higher ratings of pain by children (significant child actor effect; β=.267; p<.01) and parents (significant parent partner effect; β=.183; p<.05). Parent pain catastrophizing did not predict ratings of pain by parents or children. A similar pattern was observed at follow-up, with higher child pain catastrophizing predicting higher ratings of pain by children (significant child actor effect; β=.309; p<.01) and parents (significant parent partner effect; β=.266; p<.01). Follow-up parent pain catastrophizing did not predict follow-up ratings of pain by parents or children. Higher pain catastrophizing at baseline predicted higher pain catastrophizing at follow-up for children (β=.352; p<.01) and parents (β=.621; p<.01); no partner effects were observed.

DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS
Child, not parent, pain catastrophizing predicted child and parent ratings of child pre- and post-operative pain. Parent and child pain catastrophizing showed relative stability within individuals over pre- to post-operative period.

OTHER AUTHORS
Jill Chorney; PORSCHE Study Group