



QUIPS – Quality improvement in postoperative pain treatment

**Organisation name:** University Hospital Jena

**Country:** Germany    **Region where QUIPS is implemented:** Germany and Austria

**Total Region population:** 90,2 million

**Good Practice Target population:**  
Patients undergoing surgeries in Germany and Austria

**Topics / chronic diseases addressed:**

Acute Pain Registry, quality improvement in postoperative pain treatment

Relevance to B3 Action Plan: select the **most** relevant Action Area (**only 1**)

1		Organisational models	5	Care Pathway Implementation
2	x	Change Management	6	Patient / user empowerment,
3		Workforce Development, Education & Training	7	ICT / Teleservices
4		Risk Stratification	8	Finance, Funding

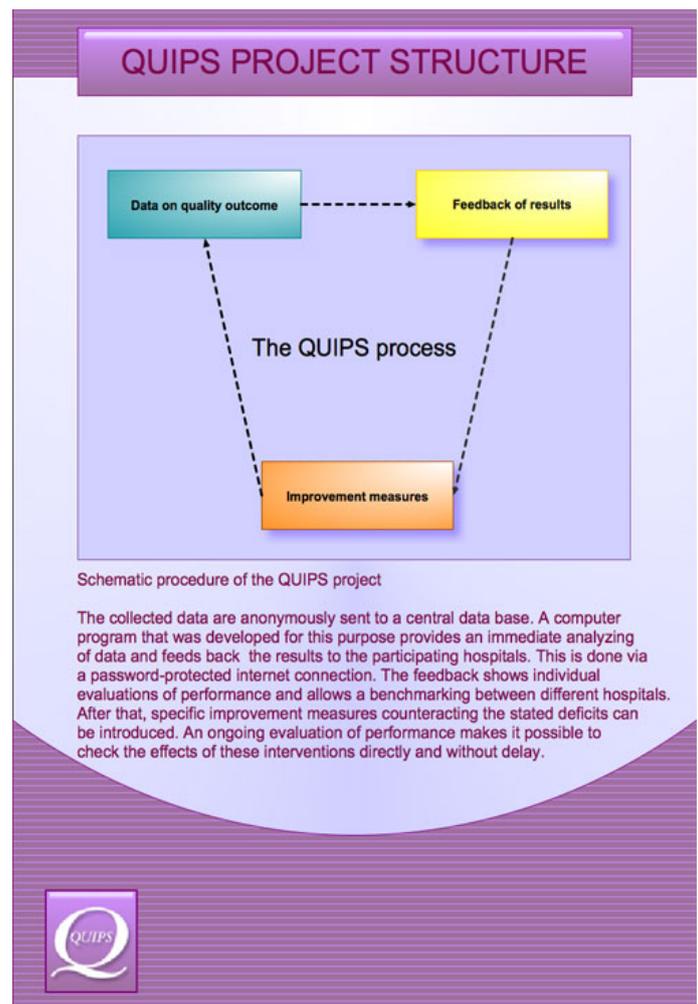
**Description:**

QUIPS (quality improvement in postoperative pain management) is a multicentric, interdisciplinary benchmark project that aims at improving acute pain treatment in hospitals and outpatient clinics. The overall goal of this project is to improve treatment outcomes of postoperative pain therapy by collecting a standardized set of quality data, analyzing them and sending an immediate feedback to the hospitals. This web-based, automatic feedback system enables an internal and external benchmarking as well as an ongoing monitoring of processes.

The main objective of QUIPS is to improve postoperative pain therapy by collecting data on pain treatment quality outcomes, analyzing them and sending an immediate feedback to the participating hospitals. As a sufficient monitoring of symptoms can contribute to reducing the length of stay – and thus increase patient satisfaction – the QUIPS project focuses on outcome quality from the patients' point of view.

**Way of proceeding**

On the first postoperative day, a bedside registration of several outcome quality parameters (pain intensity, functional impairments, side effects) as well as of selected clinical-demographic data takes place.





### **Participation**

QUIPS can be carried out in operative centers of any size. Neither a minimum number of beds nor a broad variety of surgery is necessary. As a valid data collection is of utmost priority, the modular participation package includes a detailed training course and written guidelines on the standard operating procedures. The project was designed without industrial support and was funded by the German Federal Ministry of Health (BMGS) within the BIG project. The steering committees of the German association for anesthesiology and intensive care (DGAI) and of the professional association of German anesthesiologists (BDA) decided in 2005 to take over the patronage of this project, ensuring not only the project's continuity after the BMGS funding expired but also the setup of a Germany-wide benchmark project in post operative pain treatment.

Since autumn 2007, the German association for surgery (DGCH) as well as the professional association of German surgeons (BDC) have been cooperating with QUIPS. Thus, a sustainable and non-commercial implementation of the project is ensured and an extensive platform for discussions on interdisciplinary clinical and nursing questions is made available.

By end of July 2013, the 165 QUIPS participants have collected more than 300,000 datasets for the QUIPS database.

Quips is funded by a fee participating hospitals have to pay. This way of financing ensures sustainability of the project.

### **Innovation, Impact and Outcomes:**

- QUIPS provides the first Germany-wide system for measurement and comparison of quality in postoperative pain therapy between different hospitals. The system features a standardized data collection, realtime analyzing and a webbased feedback system.
- The impact of QUIPS is a continuous monitoring that can lead to improvement of postoperative pain treatment. Patients suffer less, the length of hospital stay can be reduced and both patients and staff are more satisfied.
- During the last 5 years, the number of hospitals participating in QUIPS has risen from 40 to 173. This increase is a clear indicator for the success of QUIPS.

### **Transferability to other organisations /regions:**

QUIPS can easily be transferred to other regions. We have shown this already by establishing an international extension of QUIPS: the PAIN OUT project. The concept of the QUIPS pain registry can serve as a model for other fields of medicine with a high variety of care.

### **Further information:**

*[www.quips-projekt.de](http://www.quips-projekt.de)*

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