Background and experience

Chair – NICE Guideline on Low Back Pain & Sciatica

Chair – NICE Guideline on Rheumatoid Arthritis

Chair – NICE Guideline on Epilepsy

Chair – Scientific Programme Committee of the British Pain Society

Co-opted Council member of the British Pain Society

Editorial board member – Interventional Pain Medicine Journal (Statistics editor)

Dr Ward has been an elected member of Council of the British Pain Society and of the Board of the Faculty of Pain Medicine of the Royal College of Anaesthetists. He chaired the National Pain Audit and was Honorary Secretary of the British Pain Society's Interventional Pain Medicine group. Dr Ward is a member of the Cochrane Back Group and was a member of the Complex Spinal Surgery Clinical Reference Group.

He is a member of the Standards Committee (evidence analysis group) of the Spine Intervention Society - a multinational specialty group and leads the European Low Back Pain Taskforce for the European Pain Federation (EFIC).

Dr Ward continues to lecture nationally and internationally and maintains a research interest in evidence reviews of pain interventions. He is currently a Masters degree student at Oxford University studying Medical Statistics.

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Recent publications include:

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1. Clinical guidelines for low back pain: A critical review of consensus and inconsistencies across three major guidelines. O'Connell NE, Cook CE, Wand BM, Ward SP. Best Pract Res Clin Rheumatol. 2016 Dec;30(6):968-980. doi: 10.1016/j.berh.2017.05.001.

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2. Low Back Pain: What Have Clinical Guidelines Ever Done for Us? O'Connell NE, Ward SP. J Orthop Sports Phys Ther. 2018 Feb;48(2):54-57. doi: 10.2519/jospt.2018.0602.

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3. An update of comprehensive evidence-based guidelines for interventional techniques in chronic spinal pain. Part II: guidance and recommendations.

Manchikanti L, Abdi S, Atluri S, Benyamin RM, Boswell MV, Buenaventura RM, Bryce DA, Burks PA, Caraway DL, Calodney AK, Cash KA, Christo PJ, Cohen SP, Colson J, Conn A, Cordner H, Coubarous S, Datta S, Deer TR, Diwan S, Falco FJ, Fellows B, Geffert S, Grider JS, Gupta S, Hameed H, Hameed M, Hansen H, Helm S 2nd, Janata JW, Justiz R, Kaye AD, Lee M, Manchikanti KN, McManus CD, Onyewu O, Parr AT, Patel VB, Racz GB, Sehgal N, Sharma ML, Simopoulos TT, Singh V, Smith HS, Snook LT, Swicegood JR, Vallejo R, Ward SP, Wargo BW, Zhu J, Hirsch JA.

Pain Physician. 2013 Apr;16(2 Suppl):S49-283.

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4. An update of the effectiveness of therapeutic lumbar facet joint interventions.

Falco FJ, Manchikanti L, Datta S, Sehgal N, Geffert S, Onyewu O, Zhu J, Coubarous S, Hameed M, Ward SP, Sharma M, Hameed H, Singh V, Boswell MV.

Pain Physician. 2012 Nov-Dec;15(6):E909-53. Review.

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4. An update of the systematic assessment of the diagnostic accuracy of lumbar facet joint nerve blocks.

Falco FJ, Manchikanti L, Datta S, Sehgal N, Geffert S, Onyewu O, Singh V, Bryce DA, Benyamin RM, Simopoulos TT, Vallejo R, Gupta S, Ward SP, Hirsch JA.

Pain Physician. 2012 Nov-Dec;15(6):E869-907. Review.

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5. Systematic review of the therapeutic effectiveness of cervical facet joint interventions: an update.

Falco FJ, Manchikanti L, Datta S, Wargo BW, Geffert S, Bryce DA, Atluri S, Singh V, Benyamin RM, Sehgal N, Ward SP, Helm S 2nd, Gupta S, Boswell MV.

Pain Physician. 2012 Nov-Dec;15(6):E839-68. Review.

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6. Effectiveness of therapeutic lumbar transforaminal epidural steroid injections in managing lumbar spinal pain.

Manchikanti L, Buenaventura RM, Manchikanti KN, Ruan X, Gupta S, Smith HS, Christo PJ, Ward SP.

Pain Physician. 2012 May-Jun;15(3):E199-245. Review.