



Management of Orofacial Pain

July 21, 2023

Gary D. Klasser
Department of Diagnostic Sciences
School of Dentistry
Louisiana State University
gklass@lsuhsc.edu



- **Presenter:** Dr. Gary D. Klasser - **Hub Team Specialist**
- **Relationships with commercial interests:**
 - **Grants/Research Support: None**
 - **Speakers Bureau/Honoraria: None**
 - **Consulting Fees: None**
 - **Other: None**

What is Pain?

- IASP definition (Revised 2020)

*"An unpleasant **sensory and emotional experience** associated with, or resembling that associated with, **actual or potential tissue damage**"*

Notes

- Pain is always a **personal experience** that is influenced to varying degrees by biological, psychological + social factors.
- Pain + nociception are **different** phenomena. Pain **cannot** be inferred solely from activity in sensory neurons.
- Through their life experiences, individuals **learn** the concept of pain.
- A person's report of an experience as pain should be **respected**.
- Although pain usually serves an **adaptive** role, it may have **adverse effects** on function + social + psychological well-being.
- Verbal description is only one of several behaviors to express pain; inability to communicate **does not** negate the possibility that a human or a nonhuman animal experiences pain.

What is Orofacial Pain

“**Orofacial Pain** is the specialty of dentistry that encompasses the diagnosis, management and treatment of pain disorders of the jaw, mouth, face, head and neck”

“The specialty of **Orofacial Pain** is dedicated to the evidenced-based understanding of the underlying pathophysiology, etiology, prevention, and treatment of these disorders and improving access to interdisciplinary patient care”

American Academy of Orofacial Pain 2023

Specialty Recognition

“Dental specialties are recognized by the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards to protect the public, nurture the art and science of dentistry, and improve the quality of care. Specialties are recognized in those areas where advanced knowledge and skills are essential to maintain or restore oral health (Association policies are contained in the ADA Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct).”

American Dental Association 2020

Orofacial Pain - Specialty

Press Release: Orofacial Pain is Now the 12th ADA-Recognized Dental Specialty

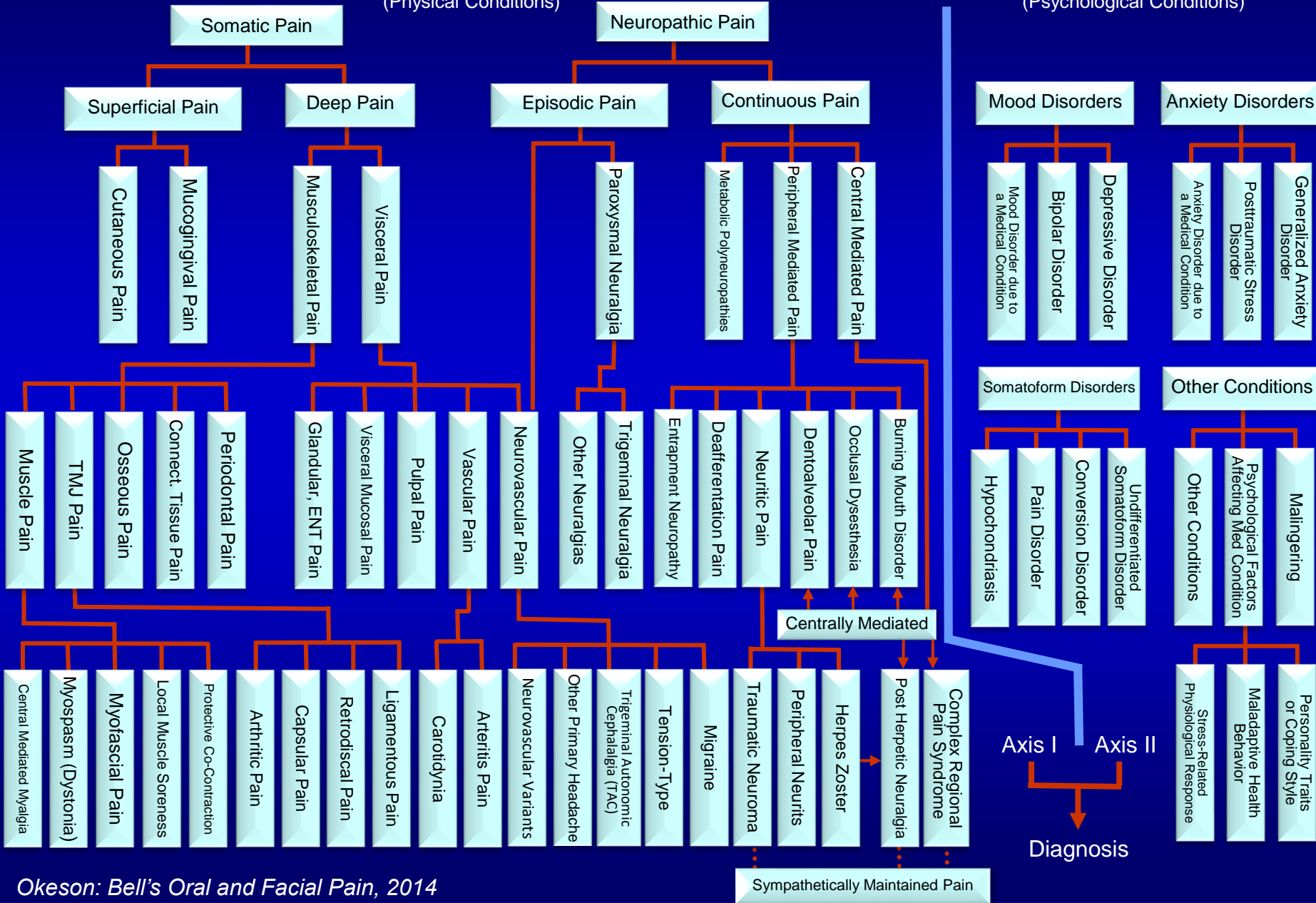
Oceanville, NJ - April 24, 2020

On **March 31, 2020**, the American Academy of Orofacial Pain's request to recognize orofacial pain as a dental specialty was **granted** by the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards based on compliance with the Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties

Classification of Orofacial Pains

Axis I (Physical Conditions)

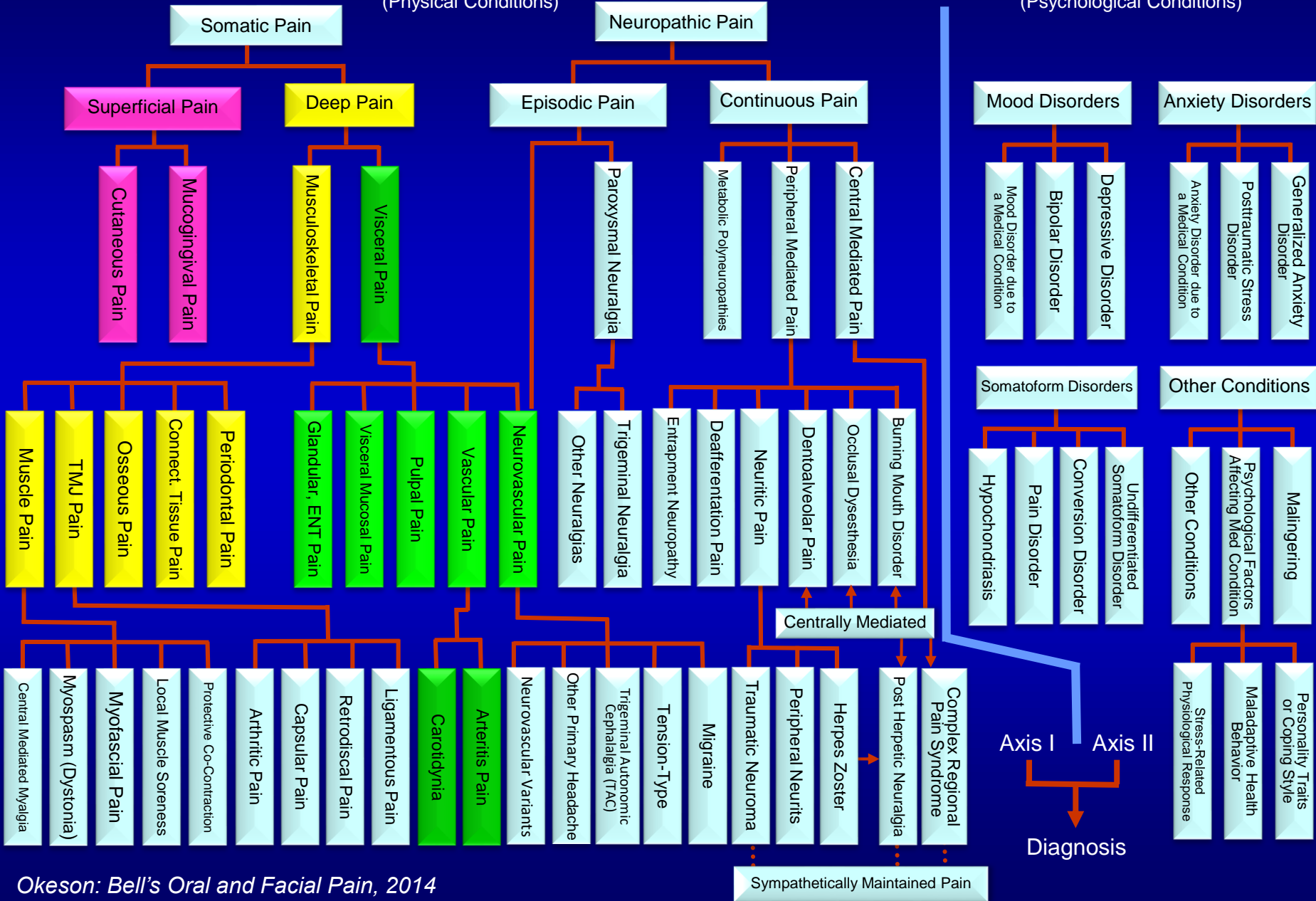
Axis II (Psychological Conditions)



Classification of Orofacial Pains

Axis I (Physical Conditions)

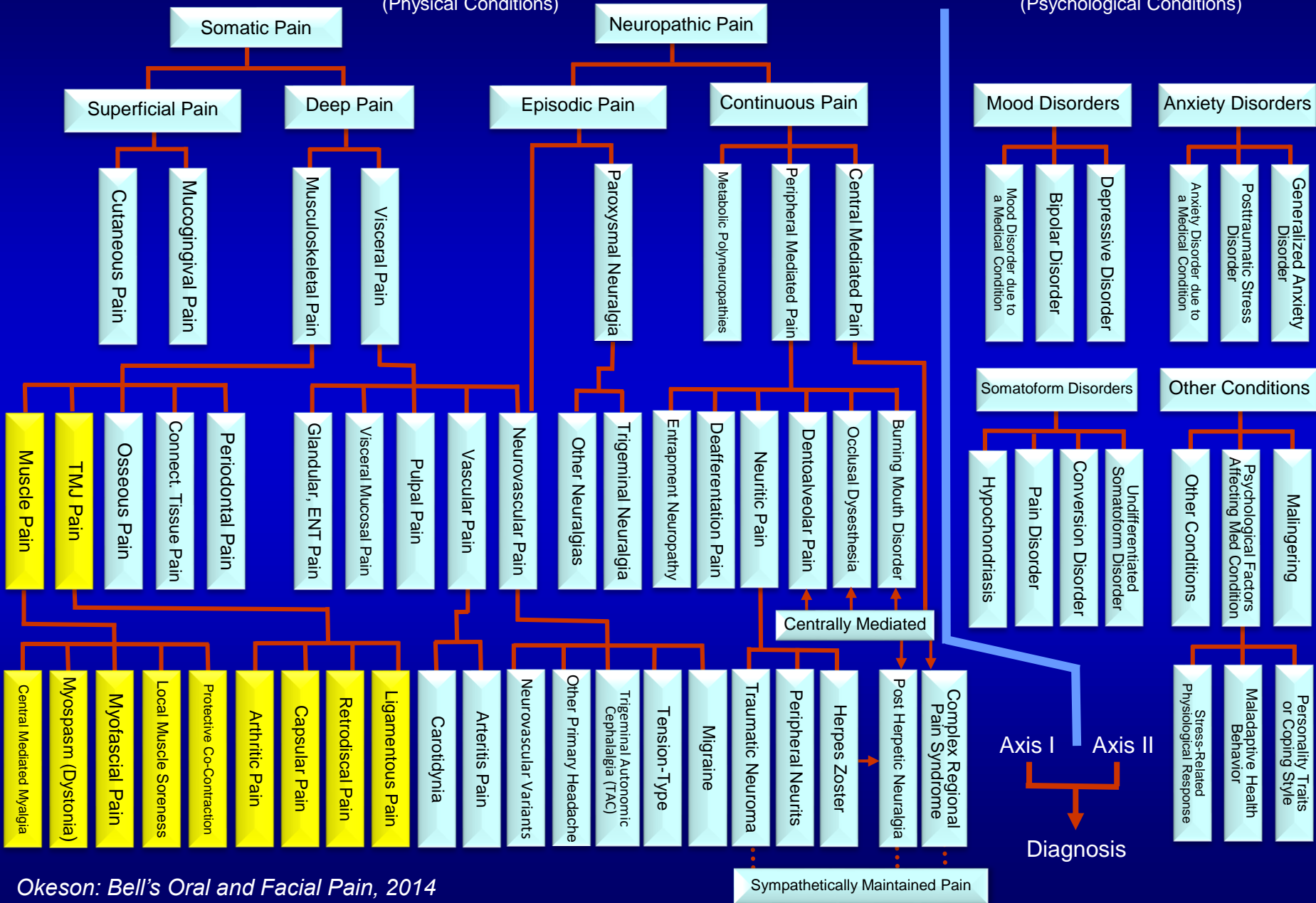
Axis II (Psychological Conditions)



Classification of Orofacial Pains

Axis I (Physical Conditions)

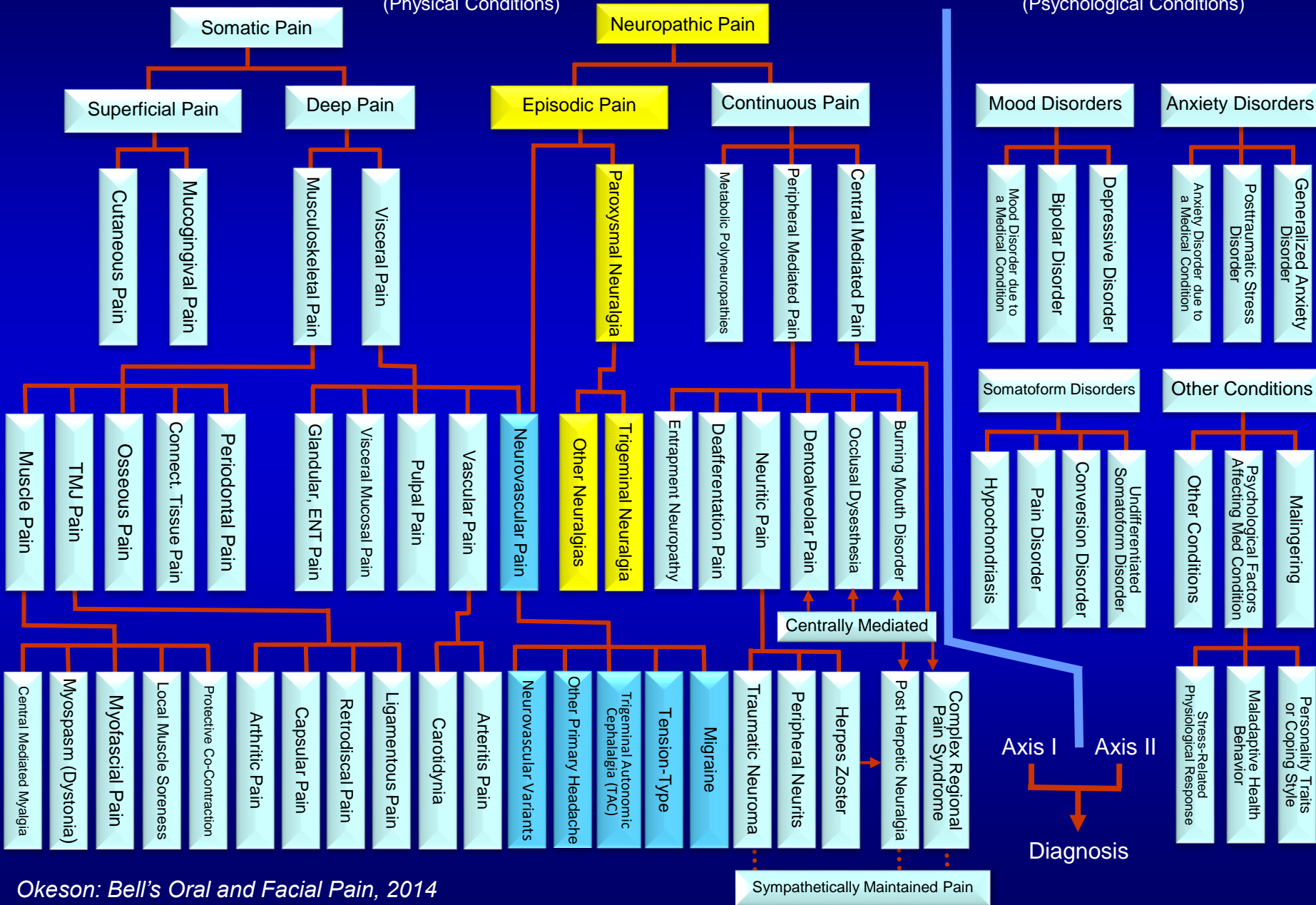
Axis II (Psychological Conditions)



Classification of Orofacial Pains

Axis I (Physical Conditions)

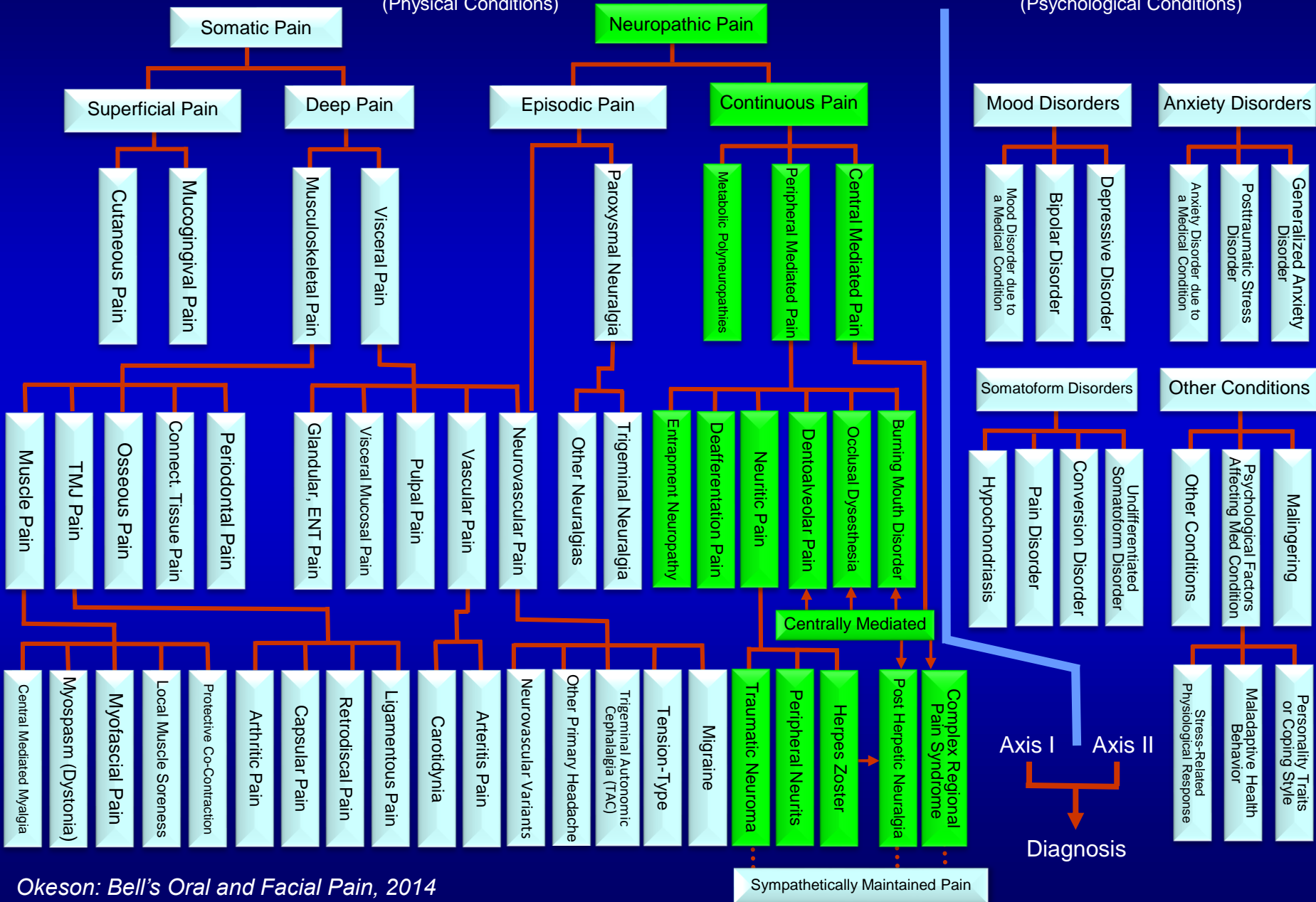
Axis II (Psychological Conditions)



Classification of Orofacial Pains

Axis I (Physical Conditions)

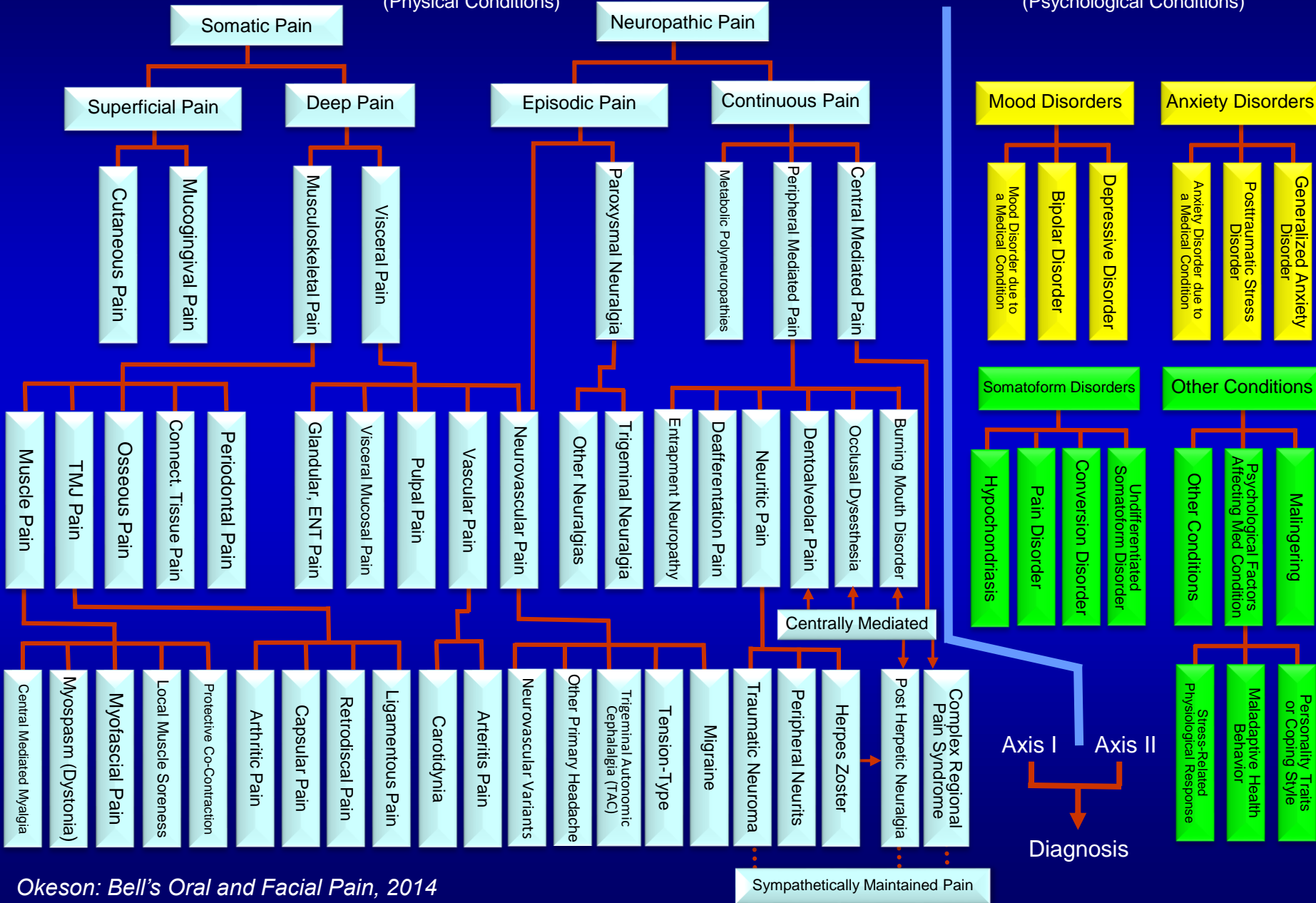
Axis II (Psychological Conditions)



Classification of Orofacial Pains

Axis I (Physical Conditions)

Axis II (Psychological Conditions)



Evidence-based model

Dr. David Sackett (1996)

- The conscientious, explicit and judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions about the care of the individual patient. It means integrating individual clinical expertise with the best available external clinical evidence from systematic research.

Clinical Expertise

```
graph TD; CE[Clinical Expertise] --> EBP[EBP]; BRE[Best Research Evidence] --> EBP; PVP[Patient Values & Preferences] --> EBP;
```

The diagram illustrates the three pillars of Evidence-Based Practice (EBP). At the top is a blue-outlined box labeled 'Clinical Expertise'. Below it, a blue arrow points down towards the central 'EBP' text. To the left is a teal-outlined box labeled 'Best Research Evidence', with a teal arrow pointing right towards 'EBP'. To the right is a red-outlined box labeled 'Patient Values & Preferences', with a red arrow pointing left towards 'EBP'. The central text 'EBP' is in a bold, dark blue font.

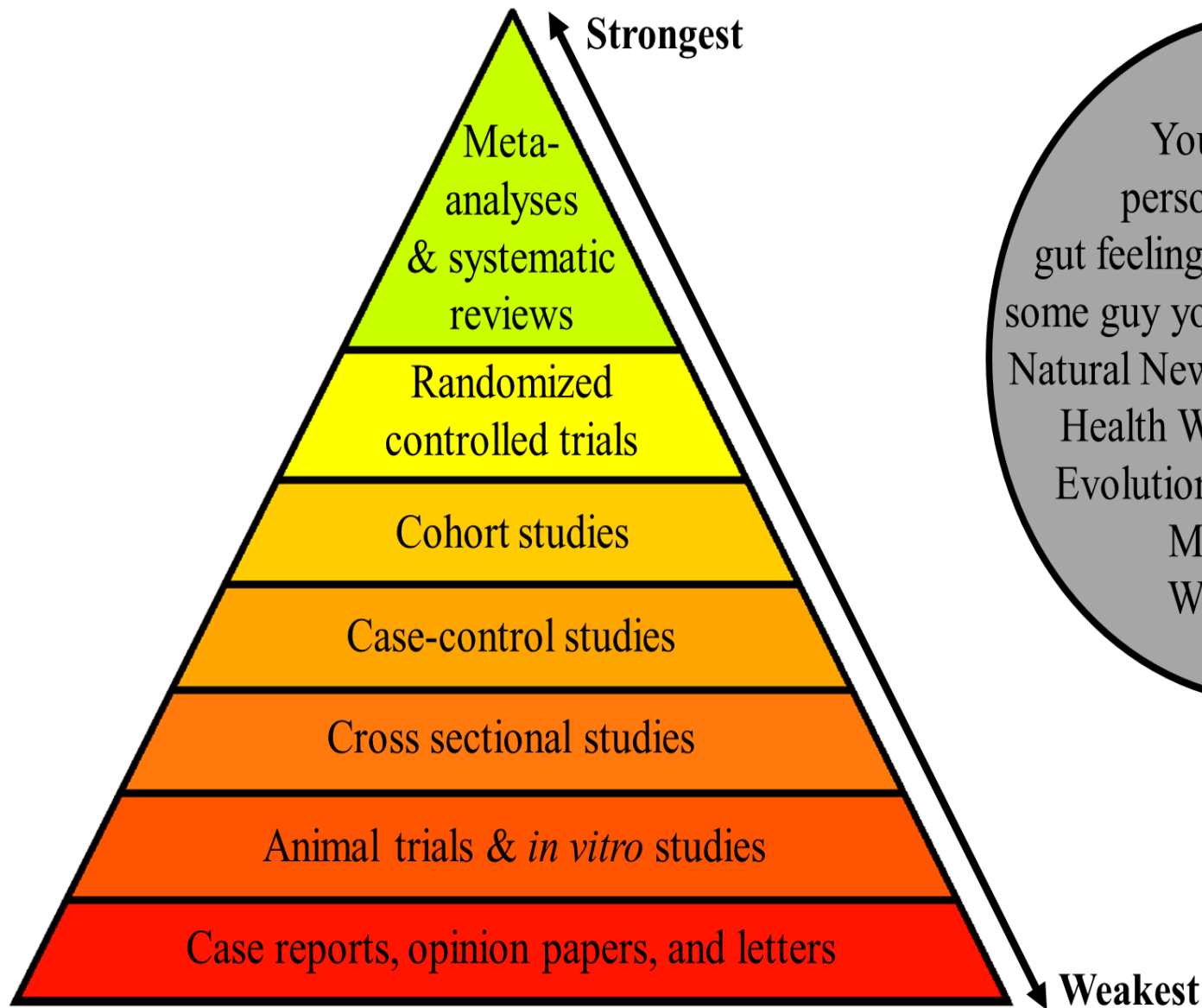
**Best
Research
Evidence**

EBP

**Patient
Values &
Preferences**

Hierarchy of Scientific Evidence

Not Scientific Evidence



Youtube videos, personal anecdotes, gut feelings, parental instincts, some guy you know, websites like Natural News, Info Wars, Natural Health Warriors, Collective Evolution, Green Med Info, Mercola.com, Whale.to, etc.

Best Practices model

Oxford Dictionary (2023)

- Professional procedures that are accepted or prescribed as being correct or most effective

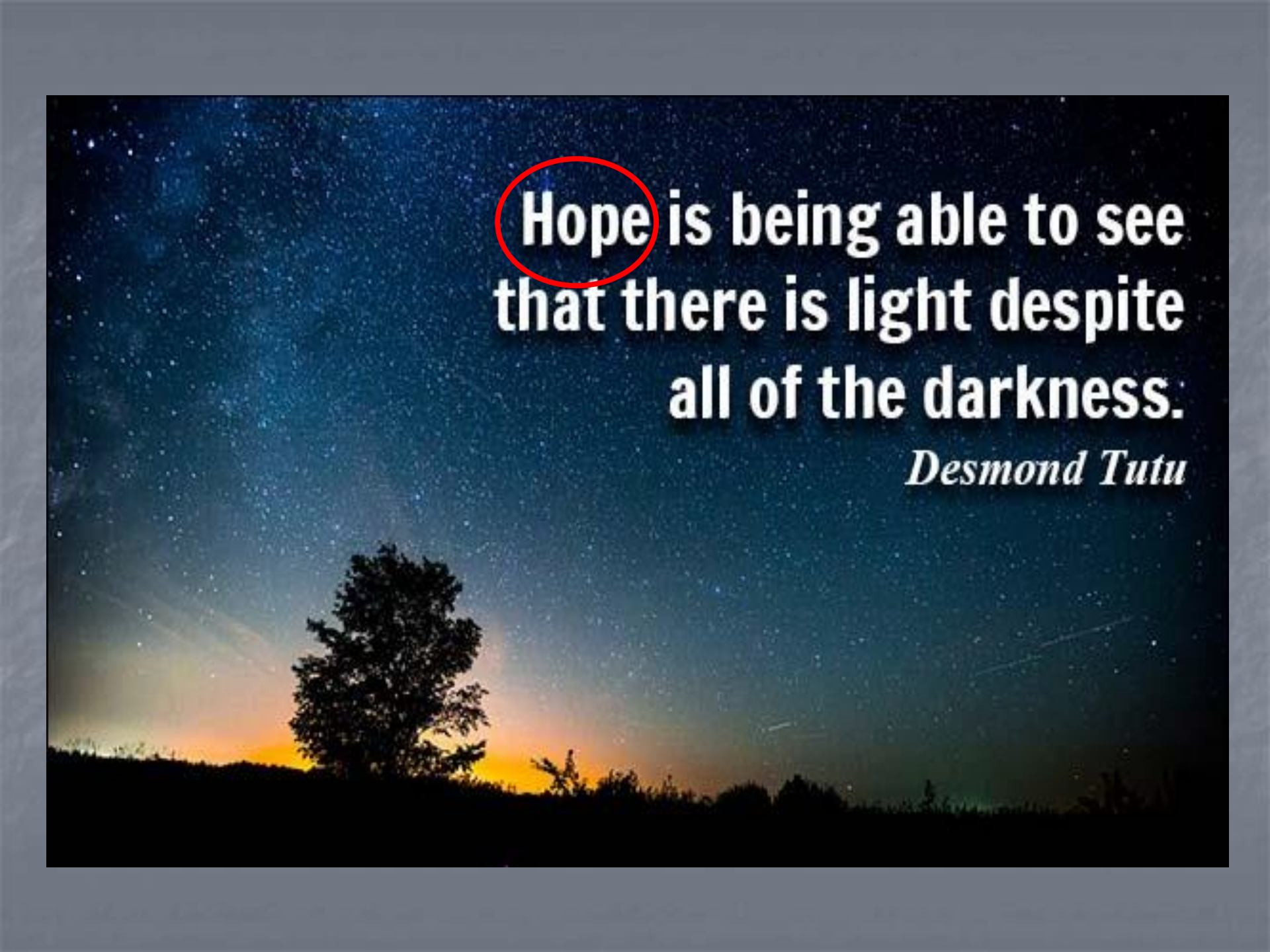
Diagnosis
Diagnosis

Diagnosis
Diagnosis

Diagnosis
Diagnosis


Goals of Management

- Education/reassurance
- Provide realistic expectations
 - Cure
 - Management
- Validate the pain complaint
 - Am I crazy?
- Improve quality of life

A night sky filled with stars, with a silhouette of a tree in the foreground. The sky transitions from a dark blue at the top to a lighter blue and then a yellowish glow near the horizon, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The tree is dark and stands out against the lighter part of the sky.

Hope is being able to see
that there is light despite
all of the darkness.

Desmond Tutu



Chronic Pain: The Importance
of a **Multidisciplinary** Approach
to Diagnosis and Treatment

Summary of Findings

- Differential Diagnosis
- Contributing Factors
- Patient Specific Management Plan

Philosophical Approaches

“The good physician treats the disease; the great physician treats the patient who has the disease”

Sir William Osler

“It is much more important to know what sort of a patient has a disease than what sort of a disease a patient has”

Sir William Osler



The most important duties of the health care professional

- To cure sometimes
- To relieve often
- To comfort always

DO NO HARM!!!

