

# Addressing an unmet need and optimising patient outcomes within the National Cellulitis Improvement Programme in Wales

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## Introduction

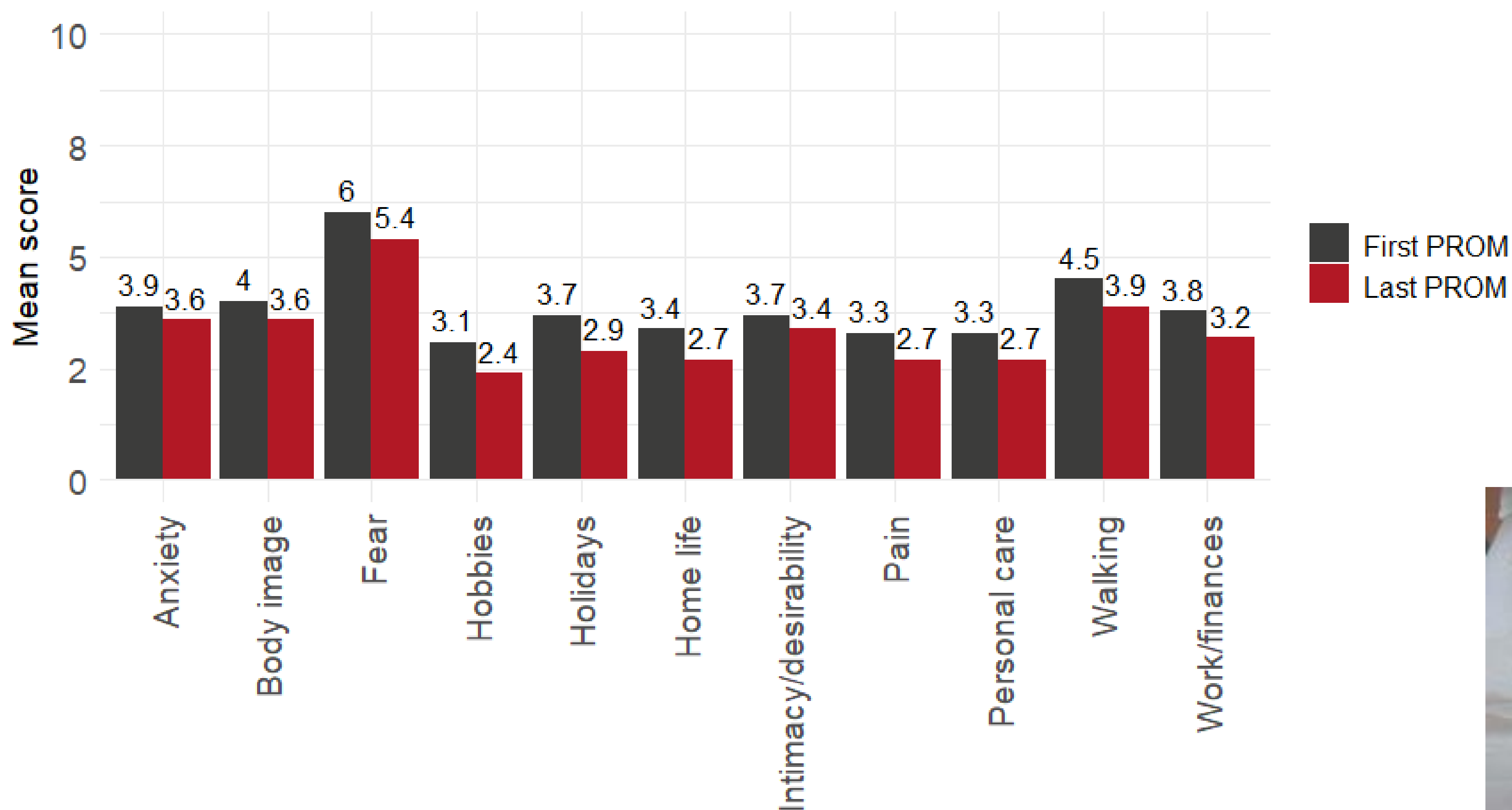
The National Cellulitis Improvement Programme (NCIP) offers a targeted initiative to reduce the risks and burdens of a cellulitis ( skin infection) recurrence.

## Method

Anonymised routinely collected NCIP data were evaluated and reported.

## Results (data April 2020-2024)

Patients were triaged two months after a cellulitis-related admission (n=28,458). More cellulitis events occurred in socially deprived areas, but uptake to the NCIP invite was highest in the least deprived areas. At discharge (4,799: Cellulitis typically affected lower limbs (69%). Almost half (2,608) had untreated lymphoedema, 57% obesity (BMI over 30), 28% diabetes, 38% cardiac conditions and 56% dry skin. Over 22,000 bed days were reported before NCIP and 207 in the 12-month period after. CELLUPROM<sup>®</sup> scores improved (38.3 to 32.9, n=479) Patient experiences (1,709) were positive, with improved confidence to reduce their risk of a cellulitis recurrence.



## Conclusion

NCIP affords value by reducing the risk and associated costs of a cellulitis recurrence and improving cellulitis-specific patient reported outcomes and experiences. Despite earlier NCIP first contact, the percentage of non-responders remains steady at over 60%, with ongoing work underway to promote uptake.

Ethical approval was not required for this service evaluation.

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