

“The Badness of Pain”

Why is pain bad? The literature abounds with discussion of wellbeing, but there is so little about what is *bad* for us that you would think we're in denial about it. Surely if anything is bad, it's pain. Yet there are instances where we do not treat pain as something that's intrinsically bad, but only instrumentally so, and still further cases where it is not treated as bad at all and even welcomed. What is the best account to capture the badness of pain? This paper explores several possible accounts, and finally highlights the merits of what seems to be the most promising account so far.