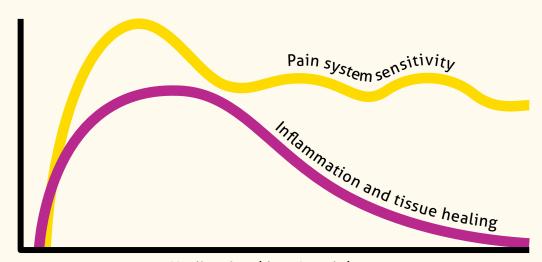
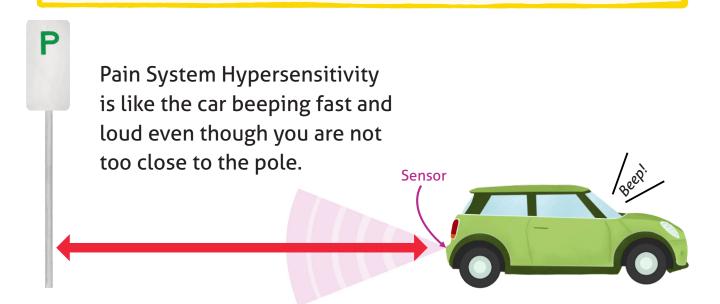


## What if pain persists?

Sometimes pain goes on for longer than expected, even after the tissues have healed. This is when pain becomes overprotective and prevents recovery. This is also referred to as **Pain System Hypersensitivity.** 



Healing time (days / weeks)



## How do you know if you have Pain System Hypersensitivity?

My pain has spread.

Activities and movements I did before that weren't painful, are now painful.

Things that seem unrelated to my painful body part can trigger or increase pain.



## Why do we develop Pain System Hypersensitivity?

We don't fully understand why some people develop Pain System Hypersensitivity, and others don't, but here are some things that we do know:

- The longer we have pain the more sensitive the pain system gets.
- The pain system always involves a combination of factors. Understanding
  what influences your pain system can help you identify what you can do to
  change it.
- The contributors to Pain System Hypersensitivity are different for each person.
- The good news: the process that creates Pain System Hypersensitivity can also reduce it.

How well do you understand your pain? Read Fact Sheet 3 to explore further.

