

Headache-26-4-97

IHS Classification

- **Primary** headache

- Symptom based

- Secondary headache

Etiology based

- Key to diagnosis is the
“HISTORY”

- **Secodery** headache

1. Progressive course

2. Symptoms persist

3. Pain selected to
anatomical lesions

4. Physical examination
usually abnormal

Secodery

Hypertension

,Stroke ICH ,SAH

Drug-related, e.g. nifedipine, medication overuse

CVST ,Postdural tap

, SINUSITIS ,Meningitis

Caffeine withdrawal ,Anaemia

Idiopathic intracranial hypertension

AVM (can enlarge/bleed in pregnancy)

Enlargement of a pituitary tumour

Enlargement of a hormone-sensitive tumour, e.g. meningioma

Bleeding into a pre-existing tumour

Cervicogenic headache

Cerebral metastasis of choriocarcinoma

Primary

1.Migraine

2.Tension type

3.Cluster & other trigeminal autonomic cephalalgias

4.Other primary headaches

- Cough

- Exertional

- Headache associated with sexual activity

- Hypnic

- Primary thunderclap

- Hemicranial continua

- New daily-persistent headache

Mechanisms of cranial pain:

Intracranial mass lesion

ICP , dilatation of intra Extra cranial a.s

Traction , displacement of vessels durra

Following seizure

Pulsation , febrile H/A

High BP

Cough & Exert ional H/A , distention of intra cranial vessels

Obstruction of an artery

Inf . or blockage of PNS

With ocular origin following prolonged use of eyes

IOP (Acute glaucoma)

Lig. muscles , joints inflammation of spine

LP H/A (IC. Hypotension), inflammation of meningeal vessels

Malig. infiltration.

Peak & Duration H/A

Mig : peaks within 1-2 hr , Lasts 6-36 hr

Cluster : peaks immediately Lasts 45-120 min
many year's duration (**Benign** origin)

Begin in childhood , early adulthood (mig)

New H/A in elderly : intracranial lesion.

SDH , Giant cell

Tension H/A : over hours , last days to years

New sudden sever H/A : SAH , C.V.S.T, pituitary
apoplexy

Time & occurrence

Cluster often awaken , occur at the same time

Hypnic H/A : elderly , regularly awaken **not**
associated with autonomic phenomena.

Mig : at any time , usually in the **morning**

Tension H/A : present during much of the day
and often more sever **late** in the day

Quality and severity

Ask the pt. to grade the severity of pain on a scale of 1 to 10

Migrain : Pulsating quality

Cluster H/A is sever , boring , steady

Tension H/A : as a feeling of fullness , tightness or pressure like a band.

Meningeal irritation (inf , hemorrhage) are sever.

Trigeminal N, is sever (electric shock)

tension , tumor : **dull**

- To awaken from sleep
- In incapacitated

Precipitating factors

cluster : alcohol

if bending , lifting coughing or valsalva's produce H/A :
intracranial lesion.

Upright position : CSF leak

During sexual activity : Benign origin-SAH

Facial or intraoral stimuli : trig . Neuralgia

Chewing , swallowing , talking : Glosso pharyngeal N.

By torsion of the neck suggests a musculoskeletal
component

Tension: stress, mental tension, smoking, alcohol,
Menstruation, sexual Act, weather changes

What triggers a mig

Emotional **stress** : anxiety , worry , excitement fatigue.

Certain **foods**: cheese , alcohol, food additives (Nitrates , monosodium glutamate)

Caffeine : Excessive consumption or withdrawal

Changing weather conditions

Menstrual periods

Excessive fatigue

Skipping meals, changes in normal sleep pattern (longer or less than NL), Bright light

Accompanying symptoms

Symptoms of B.stem (Basilar mig)

N/v , phonophobia , photophobia (mig)

Migraine :cranial **autonomic** symptoms cutaneous allodynia

In addition , lacrimation , rhinorrhea and nasal congestion accompany mig,and **should not be** confused with a H/A of sinus origin.

Horner's syn , lacrimation , conjunctival injection and nasal stiffness accompany **cluster** also sweating and facial swelling.

Horner" syn also a feature of C.A. dissection

Mitigating Factors

Rest , sleep , avoidance of light & noise provide **relief** to the migraineur

Massage of heat (tension H/A)

Pressure over the affected eye or temp. a. , local heat or cold or intense physical activity may **alleviate** the pain of **cluster**

Recumbency (I.C. Hypotension)

Headaches

Sinus:
pain is
behind
browbone
and/or
cheekbones



Cluster:
pain is
in and
around
one eye



Tension:
pain is
like a band
squeezing
the head



Migraine:
pain, nausea
and visual
changes are
typical of
classic form



Examination

P/E often shows **no** abNL.

N/E including mental status , gait , cranial N. , motor , sensory

Findings : optic Atrophy , **papilledema** , focal abnlity

Retinal H. , Bruit , stiff neck, thickened tender , irregular temp a. ,3rd N. palsy , dilated pupil , Tenderness over inflamed sinuses, vital signs (Bp, pulse).

Red flag features for potential secondary headache1

Thunderclap: **rapid** time to peak headache intensity (seconds to 5 minutes), e.g. with a SAH

Focal neurological symptoms (e.g. limb weakness, aura <5 minutes or >1 hour)

Non-focal neurological symptoms (**cognitive** disturbance)-
CVST(pregnancy ,potpartum 4wk)

, **Change** in headache frequency, Papilledema , Red eye

Abnormal neurological examination

Headache that changes with **posture** – a sign of high or low CSF pressure,

substance abuse ,associated with seizure

2

Headache awakening the patient – associated with migraine and raised ICP.

Headache precipitated **by physical exertion** or Valsalva manoeuvre – consider SAH or raised ICP.

Hypothyroidism, cranial n palsy, HT, intrathecal inj, ↓wt, VFD,

Jaw claudication or visual disturbance – associated with **giant** cell arteritis (women over 50 years)

Hypoxia, Hypercapnia, immunodeficiency, **Fever** – consider meningitis

Neck **stiffness** – indicative of meningeal irritation

New onset of headache in a patient with a history of **HIV** infection

New-onset headache in a patient with a history of **cancer**

Diagnostic criteria of Migrain

- A. At least five attacks fulfilling criteria B–D**
- B. Headache attacks lasting 4–72 hours (when untreated or unsuccessfully treated)^{2,3}**
- C. Headache has at least two of the following four characteristics:**
 - 1. unilateral location**
 - 2. pulsating quality**
 - 3. moderate or severe pain intensity**
 - 4. aggravation by or causing avoidance of routine physical activity (e.g. walking or climbing stairs)**
- D. During headache at least one of the following:**
 - 1. nausea and/or vomiting**
 - 2. photophobia and phonophobia**
- E. Not better accounted for by another ICHD-3 diagnosis.**

Prodromal symptoms

may begin **hours or a day** or
two before a migraine attack without aura:
fatigue, neck stiffness,
difficulty in concentrating,
sensitivity to light and/or sound
nausea, blurred vision, yawning and pallor.

Diagnostic criteria of Migrain with aura

A. At least two attacks fulfilling criteria B and C

B. One or more of the following fully reversible aura symptoms:

- 1. Visual**
- 2. sensory**
- 3. speech and/or language**
- 4. Motor**
- 5. brainstem**
- 6. retinal**

C. At least three of the following six characteristics:

- 1. at least one aura symptom spreads gradually over 5 minutes**
- 2. two or more aura symptoms occur in succession**
- 3. each individual aura symptom lasts 5–60 minutes.**
- 4. at least one aura symptom is unilateral.**
- 5. at least one aura symptom is positive.**
- 6. the aura is accompanied, or followed within 60 minutes, by headache**

D. Not better accounted for by another ICHD-3 diagnosis.

Diagnostic criteria of Tension Headache

- A. At least 10 episodes of headache occurring on <1 day/month on average (<12 days/year) and fulfilling criteria B–D**
- B. Lasting from 30 minutes to seven days**
- C. At least two of the following four characteristics:**
 - 1. bilateral location**
 - 2. pressing or tightening (non-pulsating) quality**
 - 3. mild or moderate intensity**
 - 4. not aggravated by routine physical activity such as walking or climbing stairs**
- D. Both of the following:**
 - 1. no nausea or vomiting**
 - 2. no more than one of photophobia or phonophobia**
- E. Not better accounted for by another ICHD-3 diagnosis**

Diagnostic criteria of Cluster Headache

- A. At least five attacks fulfilling criteria B–D**
- B. Severe or very severe unilateral orbital, supraorbital and/or temporal pain lasting 15–180 minutes (when untreated).**
- C. Either or both of the following:**
 - 1. at least one of the following symptoms or signs, ipsilateral to the headache:**
 - a) conjunctival injection and/or lacrimation**
 - b) nasal congestion and/or rhinorrhoea**
 - c) eyelid oedema**
 - d) forehead and facial sweating**
 - e) miosis and/or ptosis**
 - 2. a sense of restlessness or agitation**
- D. Occurring with a frequency between one every other day and eight per day.**
- E. Not better accounted for by another ICHD-3 diagnosis.**

