Headache

1-introduction:

-most prevalent medical problem worldwide, 50-75% of adults experienced, 3rd cause of disability and lost productivity, MC cause to visit physicians.

-categories: 1-primary headache (not due to another medical condition) 2-secondary headache (underlying cause)

-pain originates from involving pian-sensitive structures in the head e.g. cranial nerves/roots, blood vessels

-headache can be multifactorial, refractory to treatment

2-diagnosis:

-clinical diagnosis: Hx and Phx, there are no biomarkers for primary headache, patient may bring pictures with paroxysmal symptoms and signs (ptosis and lacrimation) which can add in diagnosis

1-history:

Key points from the history When obtaining the history the <u>following information</u> must be elicited: Onset Precipitants and triggers Duration Location(unlisteral or bilateral; frontal, lateral, vertex, or occipital) Quality and severity Frequency Aleviating and exacerbating factors Positional influences: (batter or worse when supine) Waking the patient from sleep, or occurring upon awakening Associated with menses	* 5	Additional aspects of the history important in evaluating a patient with headache are: - Analgesic use - Caffeine use - Medical history - Current or recent pregnancy - Medications' including asking specifically about contraceptive use, over-the-counter treatments, and supplements) - Social history, including detailed screening for illicit drugs - Family history - Sleep, including a history of insomnia and snoring, symptoms suggestive of <u>obstructive sleep apnea</u>	••••
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-the semiology helps to differentiate primary from secondary headache

-red flags that suggest secondary headache:

1-acute onset or progressive worsening from baseline, new or different headache

2-smoking

3-age>50, or no prior headache history

4-systemic symptoms: fever, weight loss

5-risk factors: pregnancy, hypercoagulability, malignancy, immunosuppression, IV illicit substance use

6-increase ICP: waking from sleep, worsening with Valsalva maneuver, worsening with supination

7-focal features: seizures, mental status abnormalities, cranial nerve deficit, weakness, sensory changes

8-precipitants: trauma, newly prescribed medications, infection

2-physical examination:

-full **neurological exam** + **fundoscopic exam**(papilledema) + **cortical sensory** exam (cortical dysfunction occurs with venous sinus thrombosis) + exam for **focal neurological deficit** (including field cuts, cranial nerve palsies, weakness, sensory symptoms (suggest 2 headaches)+ **CVS exam** to evaluate arrhythmias and carotid stenosis

primary headache:

-normal general and neurological examination (autonomic cephalalgias may present with specific signs suggesting that disorder)

-finding in chronic headache: temporomandibular joint (TMJ) tenderness, dental wearing, pain of cervical muscles, suggesting comorbid conditions like cervicalgia

Secondary headache:

-assessed by general and neurological examination

-CVS exam to evaluate arrhythmias and carotid stenosis (cause 2 headache)

-it's important to pay attention to: 1-hypertension (cause 2 headaches) 2-fever (suggests underlying infection like CNS infection)

-head and neck exam include: (Evaluating nuchal rigidity, cervical myofascial pain, occipital tinsel sign, plate the TMJ, asses dental wearing or chipping, observe the oropharynx for signs of narrowing (suggest OSA))

Primary headache disorder:

TABLE TO-T.	Episodic	Enicodic Tension	Episodic Cluster	Hemicrania	SUNCT and SUNA
	Migraine	Episouic reliatori	Male S female	Female > male	Male > female
Sex	Female > male	Female > male	Male / Ternare	Unilateral	Unilateral
Location	Unilateral > bilateral	Bilateral (band around the head)	Unilateral (behind or around the eye)	(behind or around the eye)	(behind or around the eye)
Quality	Throbbing, pulsatile	Dull pressure or tightening (vice-like)	Stabbing, burning, boring	Stabbing, burning, throbbing	Stabbing, burning
Severity	Moderate to severe	Moderate	Severe	Severe	Severe
Attack duration	4–72 h	30 min-7 d	15-180 min	2-30 min	1 s-10 min
Attack frequency	Variable	Variable	From 1 every other day to 8/d	>5/d to 40/d	From 1/d to 200/d
utonomic atures	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes



1-Migraine:

-most prevalent primary headache

-develop mostly in adolescence and early adulthood (can be episodic or chronic),2F:M

-**Triggers:**(whether changes, menses, caffeine (withdrawal and overuse), alcohol (red wine), soft cheeses, nitrite-heavy food (processed meats))

*migraine attacks can also occur without identifiable triggers

-Diagnosis: after at least 5 attacks + the following characteristics:

1-The headache lasts 4to72 h if untreated

2-at least 2: (throbbing, unilateral, worsening with activity (waking), moderate to severe pain)

3-at least 1: ((nausea, vomiting or both), (phonophobia and photophobia))

Classification:

A-migraine without aura:

-may start in childhood and manifest occasionally with abdominal symptoms (abdominal migraine)

-risk factor: motion sickness at childhood

B-migration with aura: (classic or complicated migraine)

-migraine is usually preceded by an aura

Aura? Fully reversible neurological symptoms with a gradual onset, usually followed by a headache

-from 5 to 60 min (usually 20 min), relieve without lingering neurologic deficits

-if aura occurs without headache, we call it (acephalgic migraine)

Cause: the spread of **hyperpolarization** of the cortex followed by a wave of **depolarization** (cortical spreading depression)

-imaging shows that during aura regional cerebral blood flow decreases but not to an

ischemia level

-Aura types:

Visual aura	Sensory aura	Hemiplegic migraine
-most common	paresthesia	-severe in nature
Include:	-tingling or pins-and-needles sensation	-general onset of weakness
1-fortification spectrum (Zigzag lines	-progress gradually (spreading along a limb	-sporadic Vs familial hemiplegic migraine
observed off the central vision, typically	or extending from one part to another from	syndrome
spreading gradually)	an arm to the leg or face)	
2-scintillating (or flickering) scotoma: An		
area of decreased visual acuity surrounded		
by preserved vision		

Complications associated with migraine:

Status migrainous	Stroke risk associated with	Migraine with menses	Chronic migraine
	migraine		
-last more than 72 h	-aura migraine increases CVS	-women with migraine usually	-diagnoses: headache more
-caused by abortive medication	risk	suffer worsening of symptoms	than 15 days/months for more
overuse (rebound headache)	-aura migraine + estrogen-based	during menses	than 3 months (not all patients
-TX: IV or a brief course of oral	contraceptive increases stroke	-exacerbation occurs 1 to 2 days	have typical features of migraine
steroid to break the headache	risk	before bleeding and may persist	but they must have at least 8
cycle		to 3 days into the menstrual	days of headache)
		period	-chronic migraine patients suffer
		-some patient suffers from	from medication overuse
		migraine only during menses	headaches (MOH) due to
		(pure menstrual migraine)	frequent use
			-Effective TX can revert it to
			episodic migraine

Migraine treatment:

1-abortive TX	-used to stop migraine, most affected when taken at the onset , delay Tx results in more prolonged disability
(rescue medication)	-NSAIDs + triptans (serotonin 1b/1d agonists) are the mainstay of abortive TX
(,	-many patients respond well to NSAIDs alone, but others may require triptans if NSAIDs are insufficient or contraindicated, Triptane and NSAIDs can be combined and have synergistic effects in treating migraine pain

	Triptans				
	-numerous different types with different rates of onset, half/lives, formulations (oral pills, disintegrating				
	tablets, nasal sprays, and injectables)				
	-2 long-acting (naratriptan, frovatriptan), 5 fast-acting (almotriptan, eletriptan, sumatriptan, rizatriptan,				
	zolmitriptan)				
	- not safe during pregnancy and has a CVS risk				
	- it interacts with antidepressant-like SSRIs and SNRIs that lead to low risk of serotonin syndrome (recent medications: "ditans" which are 5HT1F agonists and "gepants" which are CGRP blockers)				
	-historically ergotamines were used but have been replaced due to their higher CVS risk				
	-caffeine is added to migraine Tx due to its pain-aborting properties				
	-chronic use of abortive TX more than twice a week can lead to medication overuse headache (MOH)				
2-adjuvant Tx	-antiemetics > used for nausea and vomiting associated with migraine				
-	-prochlorperazine and metoclopramide more effective than ondansetron				
	-prevent patients from vomiting their abortive therapies				
	-used in ER for severe refractory migraine causes				
	-combined with ketorolac and diphenhydramine to Treat status migrainous				
3-preventive Tx	-used for chronic migraine or frequent and disabling headaches that do not respond to abortive TX				
(Prophylactic Tx)	-Patients needing preventive TX also need abortive TX (it is important to consider interaction between them)				
	-it reduces frequency and severity but can't eliminate headache completely				
	-patient should remain on Tx for at least a month to evaluate effectiveness				
	-3 primary categories:				
	Antidepressant				
	Authorization Antisolation Antiriptyline				
	Metoprobil Topiramate Venlafaxine				
	Transfel Management that you must a contense, to indicace, too officially and the officially.				
	-onabotulinum toxin A and Calcitonin Gene-related peptide (CGRP) antagonists like erenumab can be used				
	in chronic migraine				
4-life style modification	-comorbid sleep disorder (insomnia, OSA), skipping meal, insufficient fluid, excessive caffeine intake, and lack				
	of exercise can increase the risk for migraine				
	-patient should be counseled				

2-Tension-type headache:

-also called stress or ordinary headache, 2 MC primary headache

-bilateral pain described as pressure or tightness, mild to moderate, lasting for under an hour to several days

-not associated with phonophobia, photophobia, nausea, vomiting

-Phx: generally **normal**, but some patients have **pericrania tenderness** to palpation of the scalp, neck, or shoulder muscles

-can be episodic or chronic (more than 15 days/month)

-usually don't seek medical attention (no significant disability)

-chronic and frequent tension-type usually benefit from TX

-treatment

Abortive Tx:	Adjuvant Tx	Preventive Tx:
- mild pain (not required)	-identify triggers (stress, physical, and	1-antidepressant:
-moderate to severe (NSAIDs primary	emotional)	-First-line preventive therapy for chronic
option)	-biofeedback (a mind-body technique used	tension headache (tricyclic amitriptyline)
-alternatives aspirin and acetaminophen	to teach patients greater body awareness	-second line mirtazapine and venlafaxine
(less effective)	and how to control some physical reactions	(another antidepressant)
-counseling: (about MOH and not to use	to pain and stress)	
analgesics more than twice a week for long	-physical therapy (poor posture and neck	2- muscle relaxant:
period)	muscle spasms can cause chronic tension-	Tizanidine is helpful in patients with a
	type headache	cervicogenic component

Trigeminal Autonomic Cephalalgias (TACs):

-The 3rd major category of primary headache, characterized by **unilateral pain** that is associated with **cranial autonomic symptoms**

- types: A-cluster headache B-short-lasting unilateral neuralgiform headache C-hemicrania

A-cluster headache

-severe headache with unilateral pain in the orbit, supraorbital, temple, or a combination

-recurrent attack lasting weeks to months followed by remission lasting months to years

-excruciating pain often leads to restlessness and pacing during the attack

-associated cranial autonomic symptoms:

(conjunctival injection, lacrimation, nasal congestion, rhinorrhea, Eyelid edema, forehead and facial sweating or flushing, sensation of fullness in the ears, miosis, ptosis)

-typically, between **15 and 120 min** occurs **several times a day**, more common in **men**, affecting early to mild-adult hood **(20-40)**

-unknown cause but activation of the posterior hypothalamic gray matter has been noted in some patients also alcohol, histamine, and nitroglycerin are considered triggers.

-types: episodic or chronic (intractable headaches with <1 month of remission)

Horner syndrome can mimic cluster headache but lacks typical pain characteristic

-Treatment:

Abortive Tx:	Preventive Tx:
-oxygen therapy: 100% oxygen delivered at 12 to 15L/min, used in	-similar to migraine preventive Tx (antihypertensive, antiseizure,
an urgent care setting or at home (home oxygen tank)	psychiatric)
-if patient do not respond use triptan (suma triptan, zolmi triptane)	-the first line is verapamil, but if contraindicated glucocorticoids
-occipital nerve Block effective for abort cluster cycle	(prednisone or dexamethasone)
-in the past dihydroergotamine was used instead of triptan	-second line: lithium and topiramate

B-short-lasting unilateral neuralgiform headache attacks:

-unilateral, moderate to severe headache around the orbit or temple, may occur in the trigeminal distribution (mistaken for trigeminal neuralgia)

-stabbing pain or recurrent stabbing sensation lasting from 1 sec to 10 min

-A brain image MRI is crucial to differentiate it from a secondary headache due to a lesion in the posterior fossa

-two types:

1-short-lasting unilateral neuralgiform headache with conjunctival injection and tearing (SUNCT)

Conjunctival infection and lacrimation

2-short-lasting unilateral neuralgiform headache attack with cranial autonomic symptoms (SUNA)





At least 1 of the following (forehead or facial sweating or fusing, ptosis and miosis, eyelid edema, nasal congestion, rhinorrhea, ear fullness, (either conjunctival injection or lacrimation but not both))

-SUNCT and SUNA can be **episodic** or **chronic** (diagnosed by persistent symptoms lasting **more than a year** or **less than a year with less than 1 month of remission**)

Abortive Tx	Preventive TX
-IV lidocaine	-antiseizure medications (topiramate, gabapentin, lamotrigine) used
	in frequent or recurrent symptoms
	-occipital nerve block is used when systemic medication is
	contraindicated or not tolerated

C-Hemicrania:

-unilateral orbital or temporal headache with a unique response to indomethacin (different from other TACs) associated with autonomic symptoms on the same side

-variant (by duration of symptoms)

1-episodic paroxysmal hemicranias: recurrent attack lasting 2-30min, separated by at least one pain-free month

2-chronic paroxysmal hemicranias: recurrent attacks lasting **2-30min**, **without remission** or with **less than 1 month** of remission before recurrence

3-Hemicrania continua: intractable pain and autonomic symptoms persisting for more than 3 months

-all 3 types respond to indomethacin, F>M, occurs in mid-adulthood (30-40), MRI to exclude 2 headache by posterior fossa lesion

-Abortive and preventive Tx:

Indomethacin: (definitive TX, gradually titrated over 10 days to a maximum of 225 mg a day divided into 3 doses, utile the patient has therapeutic response) If no response finds other diagnosis

Opioid in headache Treatment:

-are not superior to alternative therapies, strongly discouraged in headache medication

-risk:1- developing secondary opioid use disorder 2-cause MOH

Secondary headache:

-headache caused by **medical conditions or medications** (preeclampsia, pheochromocytoma, fever, medical SE), addressing the cause is important in Tx.

-often accompanied by additional history, examination, or laboratory findings aiding in diagnosis

-6 primary categories:

Vascular causes:

1-cerebral hemorrhage:

-all cerebral hemorrhages cause headache (SAH, intraparenchymal hemorrhage, subdural, epidural) -spontaneous (due to stroke or hypertension) vs traumatic

-intracerebral hemorrhage typically presents with thunderclap headache (abrupt and severe onset) -emergency imaging (non-contrast CT brain scan) is needed to evaluate abrupt-onset headache

-cerebral vessel imaging is needed after SAH identification to asses of an aneurysm



2-Ischemic stroke:

-associated with a headache that is abrupt in onset -focal **neurologic deficit** (aid in diagnosis)

3-cerebral thrombosis:

-arterial or venous thrombosis can cause headache -venous sinus thrombosis headache usually

presents with increased ICP -considered in patients with hypercoagulable state (pregnancy) -diagnosis by imaging (cerebral vessels)

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4-cerabral vasculitis:

-cause nonspecific headache + paroxysmal focal
neurological deficits
-can be part of systemic vasculitis (secondary
angiitis) or isolated to cerebral vessels (primary CNS
angiitis)
-for diagnosis: cerebral arterial vessel imaging
+lumbar picture (LP)

5-giant cell arteritis (GCA):

-also called temporal arteritis -peripheral cranial arterial vasculitis, present with unilateral headache -patient>50 years, present with vision changes (amaurosis fugax), jaw claudication, fever, and scalp tenderness -can cause blindness if involves ECA and ophthalmic artery branches

-elevated inflammatory markers (ESR, CPR) are common
- temporal artery biopsy is the gold standard, but

also **serial biopsies** can also be done because GCA can cause skip lesions

Neoplastic cause

 -intracranial neoplasm causes headaches, especially with significant mass effect
 -the headache characteristics may not be specific but can include features of intracranial hypertension, including wakening the patient from sleep, being worse when supine, and worse with Valsalva maneuver

- can occur **early or late** with neoplasms and with any type of primary cancer

Intracerebral pressure disorder

1-intracranial hypertension:

-causes: idiopathic (obese young women), medication, systemic disorder

-worse when **supine or sleep** (awake patient from sleep), or with **Valsalva maneuver**

-associated features: papilledema, pulsatile tinnitus, or visual symptoms

-imaging: to exclude a mass lesion or venous sinus thrombosis

-if imaging is unrevealing, diagnosis is made with a LP - elevation of ICP above 200mm CSF

-acetazolamide > idiopathic intracranial hypertension (first line Tx)

-monitor the visual field and treat obesity

2-intracranial hypotension:

-improves with supination but worsens with standing -severe pain at the vertex and associated with neck pain or tinnitus

-May be spontaneous or traumatic

-usually, it's due to **epidural puncture or LP** (traumatic cause)

-dural leak usually heals without intervention but if symptoms persist or when the etiology is unclear (brain MRI may help show evidence of stagging) a blood patch may be attempted.

-definitive diagnosis is by LP (CSF pressure below 60 mm)



Medication

-various medications including hormonal therapies like **contraceptives** and **nitric oxide**, can cause headaches.

-Discontinuation or withdrawal of certain medications can also trigger headaches(caffeine)

- Headache characteristics are nonspecific, but the temporal association to medication change helps establish the diagnosis

Medication Overuse Headache (MOH) also known as rebound headache, occurs when patients excessively use abortive therapy more than 10 times per month for over 3 months, leading to exacerbation of the baseline headache disorder.

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mechous	or minarin	II ALUI V	Lauses

-intracranial infection such as encephalitis and meningitis cases (headache, fever, nuchal rigidity, altered mental status)

-if infection progresses (seizures, focal neurological deficits) -infection can be **bacterial**, **viral**, **fungal**, **or parasitic**, and headache features **do not distinctly indicate the underlying cause**

-diagnosis: lumbar puncture

-Also, **CNS inflammatory** and **autoimmune conditions** such as **sarcoidosis** and **lupus** frequently present with headache

Traumatic causes

-Head and neck trauma frequently leads to headaches.

-severity of the headache may **not directly correlate** with the severity of the injury (minor trauma like whiplash can cause headaches.)

-Patients with significant head or neck trauma require assessment for intracranial hemorrhage or dissection of the cervical vessels

1	VI) <u>Head</u> and <u>neck disorders</u> There are many <u>different structural disorders</u> that can cause headache		2	Temporomandibular joint disorder (TMD) is another common cause of headache and may be unilateral or bilateral	
	<u>Treatments</u> are based on the specific causes identified, and these disorders may <u>occur simultaneously with</u> other <u>primary</u> or <u>secondary</u> headache <u>disorders</u>			<u>On exam</u> , there may be evidence of <u>dental wearing(</u> chipped and flattened teeth) and <u>discomfort</u> on <u>palpation</u> of the joint	
3	<u>Sinusitis</u> is commonly associated with a headache	● 95 98 ▼		<u>Cervicogenic headaches</u> are also common and may be identified by palpation of <u>myofascial trigger points</u> in the <u>neck</u>	
	Acute sinusitis is often associated with other symptoms of a respiratory tract infection			<u>Cervical range</u> of <u>motion</u> is often <u>reduced</u>	96 98 ¥
	VII) <u>Trigeminal neuralgia</u> The <u>pain</u> of trigeminal neuralgia is <u>shock-like</u> , occurring in <u>one</u> or <u>all branches</u> of the <u>trigeminal</u> nerve		N	<u>VIII) SUMMARY</u> <u>Migraines, tension headaches</u> , and <u>TACs</u> are the 3 most common types of <u>primary</u> headache <u>disorders</u>	
	The pain is usually <u>paroxysmal</u> and <u>recurrent</u>			The <u>International Headache Society</u> maintains an <u>evidence-based</u> <u>categorization</u> of <u>primary</u> and <u>secondary</u> headache <u>disorders</u>	
	It may be <u>triggered by</u> common <u>activities</u> such as brushing hair or teeth It may be <u>idiopathic</u> or due to <u>structural causes</u> such as a mass or vascular lesion, or a demyelinating lesion of multiple sclerosis	₹7 197 198 ▼		If a <u>headache</u> history and pattern is <u>not consistent</u> with a <u>primary</u> <u>headache</u> disorder, the clinician should <u>consider</u> a <u>secondary headache</u> disorder, <u>review</u> the <u>rare</u> types of <u>primary</u> headache disorders, or consider that the headache may be a combination of more than one	98 98
	<u>Carbamazepine</u> is a common <u>first-line</u> treatment			headache <u>disorder</u>	
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