



HEADACHE

Dr .Abdalkareem Maghmomeh

Hama university

Faculty of pharmacy

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INTRODUCTION

Introduction

- Definition : A headache is a pain or discomfort in the head , scalp , or neck
 - One of the most common of all human physical complaints.
 - Headache is actually a symptom rather than a disease a stress response, vasodilation (migraine), skeletal muscle tension (tension headache), or a combination of factors.
- 

Worldwide problem

- Up to 25% of adults have a severe headache each year
- Up to 4% have daily or near-daily headache
- Lifetime prevalence: 90% or more
- Significant suffering and economic loss



2 TYPES



Classification

I. PRIMARY HEADACHE

- A headache that is not caused by another **underlying disease, trauma or medical condition.**
- Accounts for about **ninety percent** of all headaches.



Cont.

- Intrinsic dysfunction of the nervous system
- Most patients presenting with headache have primary headache syndromes
- Episodic (عرضي) headache: more common
- Chronic headache: attacks occurring more frequently than **15 days/month for more than 6 months**



II. SECONDARY HEADACHE

- 20% of headaches in primary care offices
- Caused by exogenous disorders:
 - Head trauma
 - Vascular disease
 - Neoplasms (الأورام)
 - Substance abuse or withdrawal
 - Infection/Inflammation
 - Metabolic disorders
 - others





3 PRIMARY HEADACHE SYNDROMES

➤ PRIMARY HEADACHE SYNDROMES

- Tension type headache
- Migraine
- Trigeminal Neuralgia التهاب العصب الثالث
- Cluster headache الصداع العنقودي
- Others



I- TENSION TYPE

- Most common-69%
- Episodic or chronic
- Primary disorder of CNS pain modulation
- seen equally in both sexes



➤ Precipitating factors

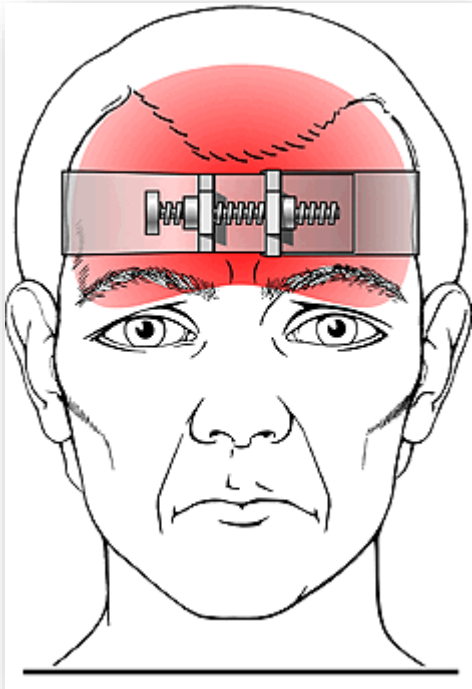
- **Stress:** usually occurs in the afternoon after long stressful work hours or after an exam
- **Sleep deprivation**
- **Uncomfortable stressful position**
- Irregular meal time (hunger)
- Eyestrain
- Caffeine withdrawal
- Dehydration



Symptoms & Signs

- **Gradual onset** , radiate forward from back
- Two-sided, dull, tight, band like pain
- Less in morning, pain increase as day goes on
- **No** accompanying sensitivity to light, sound or movement





➤ Management

- Paracetamol, Aspirin, NSAIDs
- Behavioral approach-relaxation
- Chronic-amitriptyline



II- MIGRAINE

- 2nd most common-16%
- %15women and 6% men
- Severe, episodic ,one side, throbbing pain
- Nausea,Vomiting
- Sensitivity to light ,sound, movement
- Genetic predisposition



- Different theories suggest different causes

I. Vascular theory:

- **vasoconstriction** followed by **vasodilation** with resulting in changes in blood flow causes the throbbing pain.

II. Second theory:

- pain results from **muscular tension**

III. Biochemical changes:

- changes in **serotonin level**



Triggers

- Flashing lights , Loud sounds , Strong odors
- Stress
- Hunger
- Fatigue
- Smoking
- Pregnancy , Menopause , Oral Contraceptives
- Sleep changes
- Caffeine ,Chocolate ,Tyramine



Diagnosis

■ Simplified Diagnostic Criteria for MIGRAINE

| <i>At least 2 of the following</i> | <i>+At least 1 of the following:</i> |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Unilateral pain○ Throbbing pain○ Increased by movement○ Moderate or severe intensity | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Nausea/vomitting○ Photophobia and phonophobia |

Management

- Non drug treatment
- Preventive therapy
- Abortive therapy



Management

➤ Non drug treatment

- Avoid headache triggers: foods, drugs, activities
- Avoid frequent abortive treatment
- Stop smoking
- Normalize sleeping and eating
- Exercise
- Relaxation and biofeedback
- Psychotherapy



Management

➤ Preventive Treatment

- Tricyclic antidepressants (first-line)
 - Amitriptyline
- Beta-blockers (first-line)
 - Atenolol, nadolol
- Ca^{++} channel blockers – less effective
 - Verapamil most commonly used



Management

➤ Preventive Treatment

- Anticonvulsants (second-line; valuable)
- Valproate and topiramate are quite effective
- Gabapentin
- Pregabalin



Management

➤ Abortive Treatment

- Simple and combined analgesics e.g NSAIDs.
- Mixed analgesics (barbiturate plus simple analgesics)
- Triptans
- Opioids



Management

❖ Triptans:

- Serotonin 5-HT₁ agonists
- Reduce neurogenic inflammation
- Most effective if used at onset of headache, though may be helpful
- Used specifically for migraine



Management

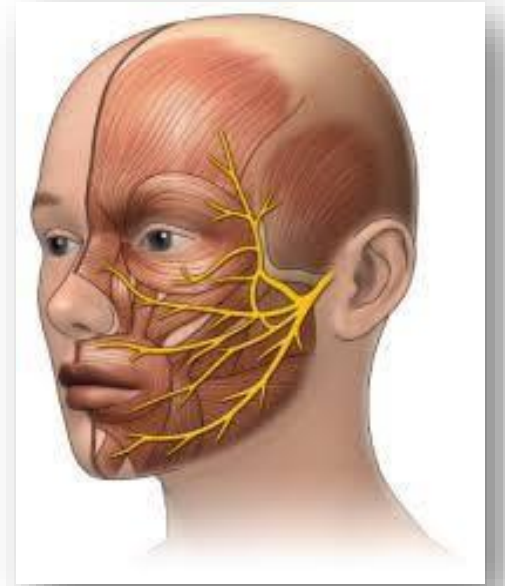
➤ Other Agents

- Antiemetics/Neuroleptics:
 - often combined with abortive agents
 - Prochlorperazine, hydroxyzine, promethazine, metoclopramide



III- Trigeminal Neuralgia

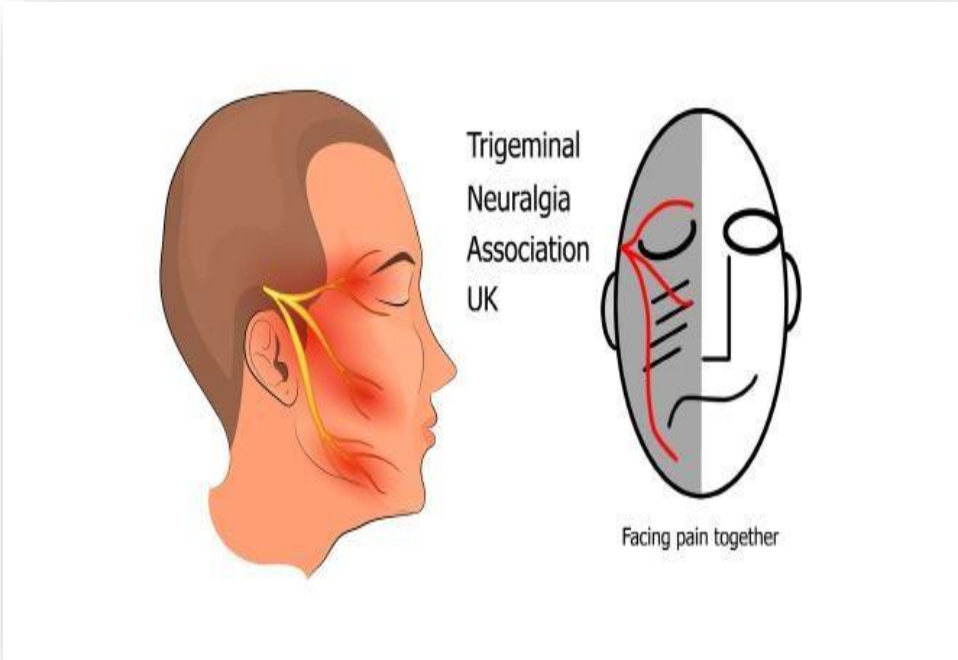
- Trigeminal neuralgia is a chronic pain condition that affects the trigeminal nerve, which carries sensation from your face to your brain.
- **occur in people who are older than 50.**



Trigeminal Neuralgia

Is sudden, severe facial pain. It's often described as a sharp shooting pain or like having an electric shock in the jaw, teeth or gums. It usually happens in short, unpredictable attacks that can last from a few seconds to about 2 minutes. The attacks stop as suddenly as they start.





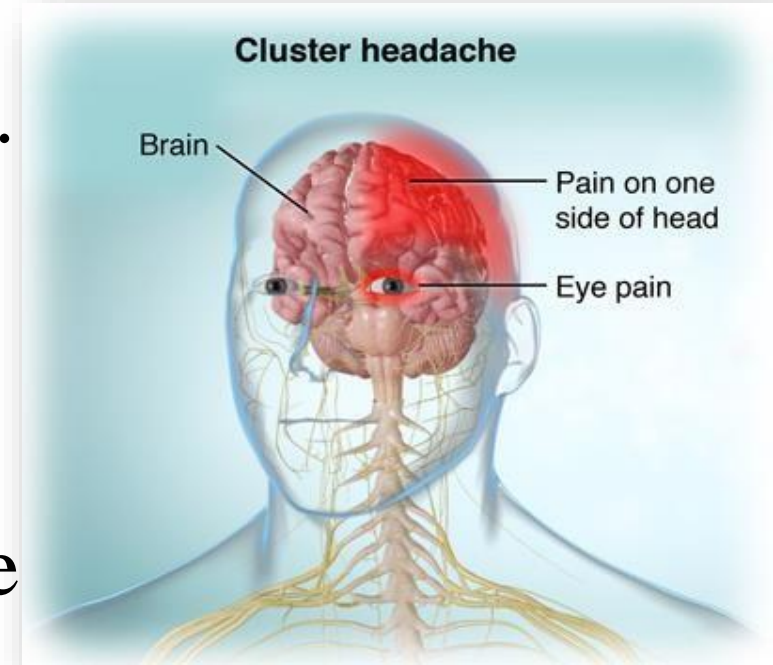
Management

- Carbamazepine
- Gabapentin/Pregabalin
- Injection of alcohol into peripheral branch of nerve



IV- CLUSTER HEADACHE

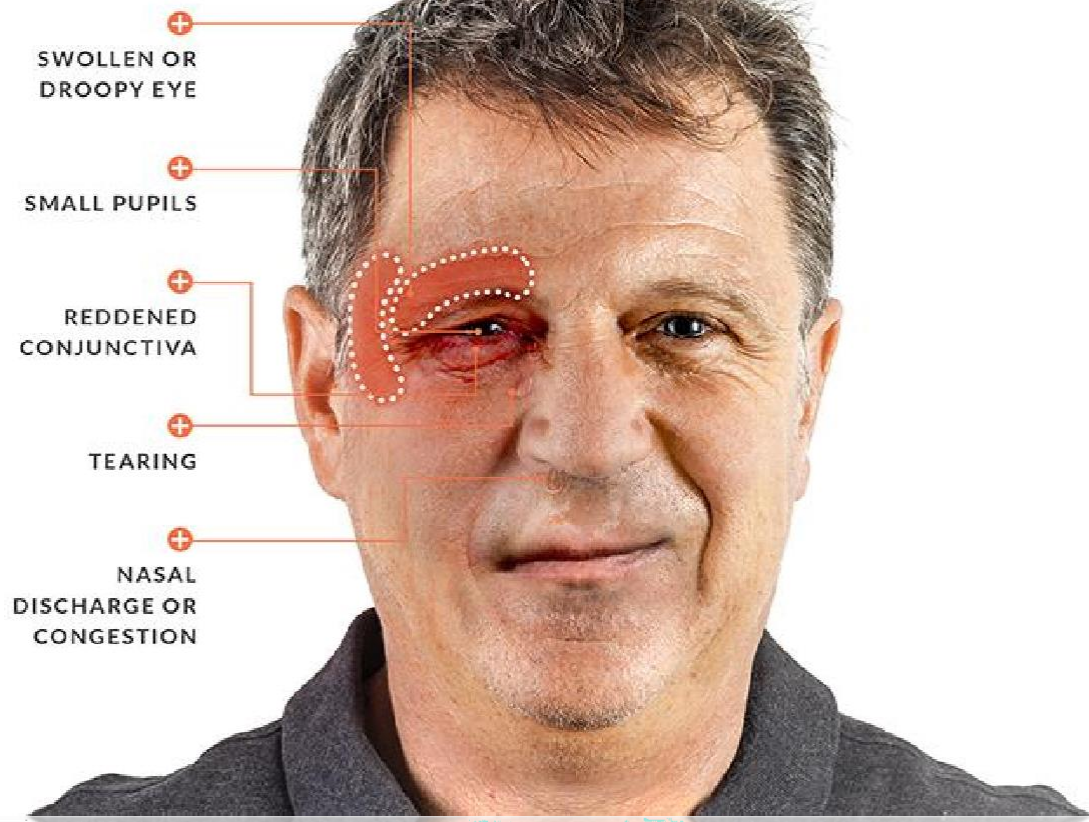
- Headaches occur during a short time period.
- A typical cluster of headaches may last 4-8 weeks with 1-2 headaches/day during the cluster.
- Patient may be free 6 months to 1 year before another cluster of headache occurs.
- Male to Female ratio 5:1



Symptoms & Signs

- Sudden onset of headache originating in the eye and spreading over the temporal area.
- Pain extremely severe and last 20-60minutes
- The headache associated with
 - ✓ Rhinorrhea
 - ✓ Nasal congestion
 - ✓ Redness of the Eye
 - ✓ Swelling around the eye on the affected side





Management

➤ Acute:

- Oxygen inhalation 100%
- Triptans/ergots
- Indomethacin



Management

➤ Chronic/Preventive:

- Verapamil, lithium
- Valproate, topiramate
- Prednisone burst
- Melatonin
- Ergots



Medication Overuse Headache

- Recurring headache in the setting of regular analgesic use
- Continues until medication is stopped
- Often responsible for “transformation” of episodic into chronic headache



Primary Headaches

Band-like
Pressure



Tension-type
headache

Half head
Throbbing



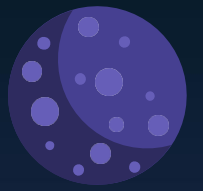
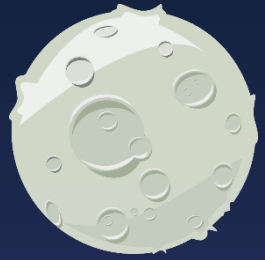
Migraine

Periorbital
Sharp



Cluster
headache





Thanks
for Coming

