



Spezialbereich Kopfschmerz
Univ.-Klinik für Neurologie
Medizinische Universität Wien



Kopfschmerzforschung – Headache research

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

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The global burden of headache in children and adolescents – developing a questionnaire and methodology for a global study

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Objectives. To develop a questionnaire and methodology for the global estimation of burden of headache in children and adolescents, to test these in use and to present preliminary data.

Conclusion. These pilot studies demonstrate the usefulness of the questionnaires and feasibility of the methodology for assessing the global burden of headache in children and adolescents, and predict substantial impact of headache in these age groups.

Update April 2016. Die weltweite Studie wird in Assoziation mit der Weltgesundheitsorganisation durchgeführt und von der Internationalen Kopfschmerzgesellschaft finanziell unterstützt. Nach der Nutzen und Erfordernissen widersprechenden Schließung der Kopfschmerzeinheit für Kinder und Jugendliche liegt das Studienzentrum außerhalb der MedUni Wien.

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

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Impact of depression and anxiety on burden and management of episodic and chronic headaches – a cross-sectional multicentre study in eight Austrian headache centres

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Background. Recurrent and especially chronic headaches are associated with psychiatric comorbidities such as depression and anxiety. Only few studies examined the impact of depression and anxiety on episodic (EH) and chronic headache (CH), and data for Austria are missing at all. Therefore, the aim of the present study was to assess the impact of depression and anxiety on burden and management of EH and CH in patients from eight Austrian headache centres.

Conclusion. Depression and anxiety have a significant impact on quality of life and increase the burden in patients with EH and CH. Improved multidimensional treatment approaches are necessary to decrease disability on the personal, social and occupational level in these patients.

Update April 2016. Ergebnisse dieser Studie wurden in einer Presseaus-sendung der Österreichischen Schmerzgesellschaft zusammengefasst und in Zeit im Bild I berichtet.

EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF NEUROLOGY

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Reliability of assessing lifestyle and trigger factors in patients with migraine – findings from the PAMINA study

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Background and purpose. Numerous lifestyle factors are blamed for triggering migraine attacks. The reliability of assessing these factors retrospectively is unknown. Therefore, retrospective and prospective assessments of lifestyle in general and of migraine triggers in particular were compared in patients with migraine.

Conclusion. Comparing questionnaire and diary assessments of lifestyle and trigger factors in patients with migraine shows that questionnaire assessment of lifestyle is reliable, whereas trigger factors are overestimated and/or underestimated in retrospective questionnaires.

Update April 2016. Das Ergebnis, dass die rückblickende Erhebung von möglichen Migräneauslösern unzuverlässlich ist unterstützt die Notwendigkeit der Entwicklung bessere Instrumente, wie sie nachfolgend beschrieben ist.

Cephalalgia

2016, in press

Towards improved migraine management: determining potential trigger factors in individual patients

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Background. Certain chronic diseases such as migraine result in episodic, debilitating attacks where neither cause nor timing is well understood. Historically, possible triggers were identified through analysis of aggregated data from populations of patients. However triggers common in populations may not be wholly responsible for an individual's attacks. To explore this we developed a method to identify *individual* potential trigger profiles and applied N=1 statistical analysis to a 326 migraine patient database.

Results. We generated *individual* factor-attack association profiles for 87% of the patients. The average number of factors associated with attacks was four per patient: factor profiles were highly *individual* and were unique in 85% of the patients with at least one identified association.