

Challenges and Advances In the Diagnosis and Treatment of Migraine

**50th Annual OAPA CME Conference
Tulsa, OK
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HEADACHE SPECIALISTS
— OF OKLAHOMA —

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Disclosures

Speakers Bureau:
Abbvie/Allergan,
Biohaven/Pfizer,
Biodelivery Sciences, Eli
Lilly, Impel, Lundbeck,
Teva

Consultant:
Abbvie/Allergan,
Biohaven/Pfizer,
Lundbeck, Teva



Learning Objectives

- Explain diagnostic criteria for episodic and chronic migraine
- Identify patients who require preventive treatment
- Summarize efficacy, safety and mechanisms of new treatments

Outline

Diagnosis

Pathophysiology

Preventive Treatments

Acute Treatments

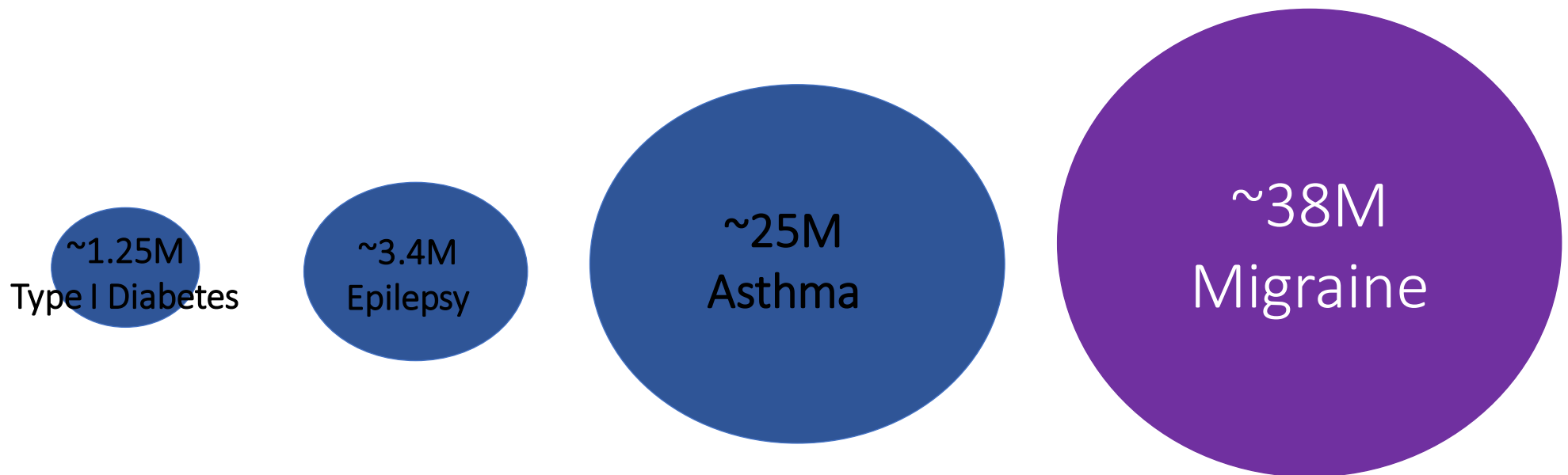
Non-pharmacologic treatments

Migraine

- #1 reason for referral to Neurologist

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Write This Down

<https://primarycare.americanheadachesociety.org>

The screenshot displays the website <https://primarycare.americanheadachesociety.org>. The browser address bar shows the URL and a search field. The page features a navigation menu with links for About, Education, Events, Resources, News & Awards, For Patients, and Contact. A prominent banner for "First Contact HEADACHE In Primary Care" is shown, featuring a doctor in a white coat talking to a patient. The banner includes the American Headache Society logo and the text "BY THE AMERICAN HEADACHE SOCIETY". Below the banner, a breadcrumb trail reads "Home / First Contact — Headache in Primary Care". A row of icons represents various content categories: Grand Rounds, Headache Topics, Video Library, News & Articles, Podcasts, Resources, and Contact Us. A small chat bubble in the bottom right corner says "Hi! Let us know if you need assistance."

Migraine

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- 12% of the US adult population (36-40 million migraine sufferers in the US)
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- Diagnosis is a critical step to optimal migraine management; however, ~50% go misdiagnosed or undiagnosed
- Effective preventive treatment can reduce migraine frequency, restore functioning, and reduce risk of progression to more severe disease

Approach To Diagnosis

Diagnosis of Migraine

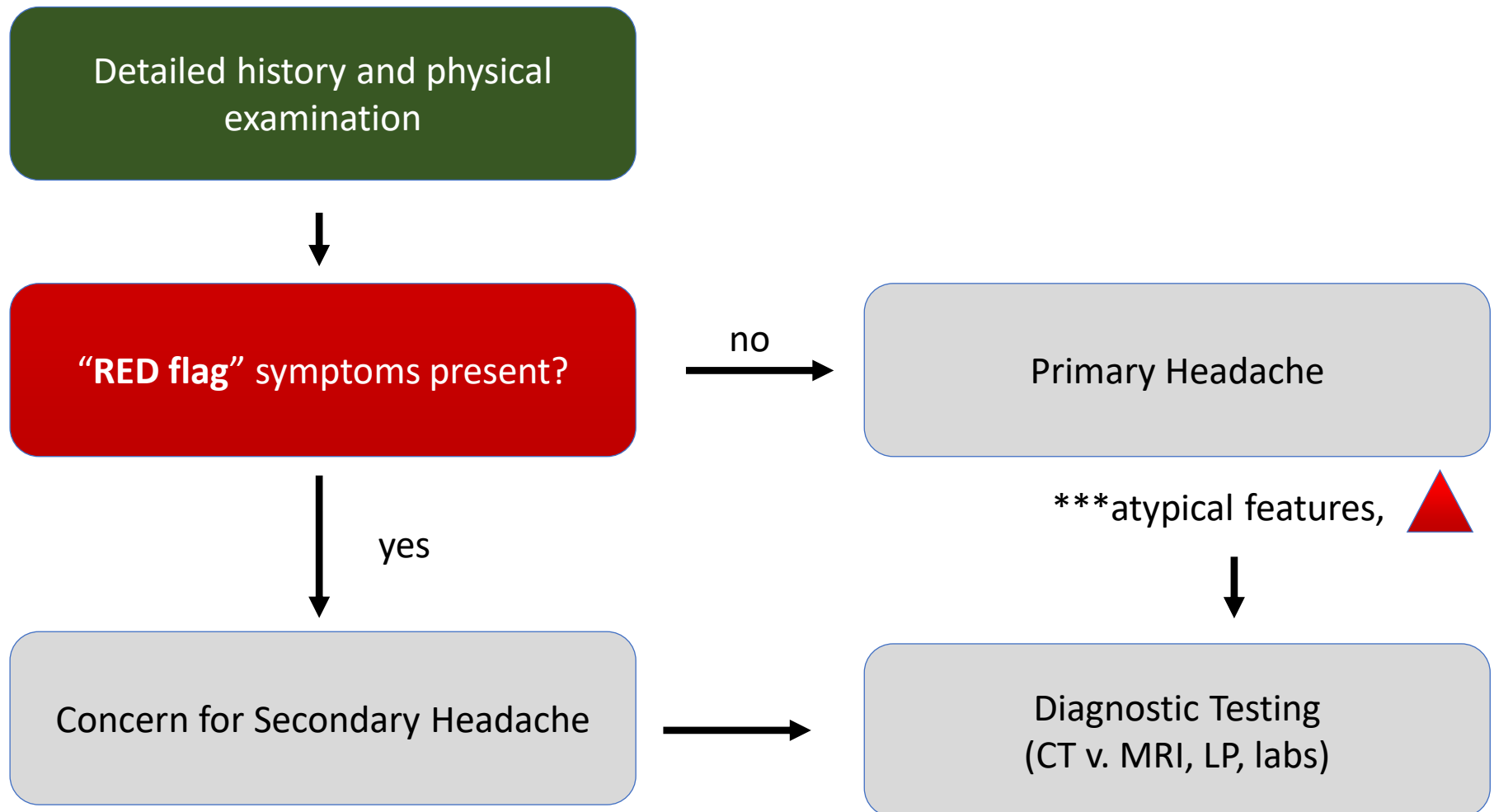


- Part 1: Primary Headaches (symptom-based: Headache itself is the disorder with no underlying causes identified)
 - Migraine, Tension type headache, Cluster/TACs
- Part 2: Secondary (etiology-based: Headache is a symptom of another disorder recognized as a potentially underlying cause)
- Part 3: Cranial neuralgias, facial pain, and other headaches
- Appendix

Find it at
www.ichd-3.org

Evaluation

Although the majority of headaches in clinical practice are primary headaches, clinicians need to be mindful of secondary headaches because the underlying conditions can be **life-threatening or disabling** and may require a completely different therapeutic approach.



SNOOP4: “Snoop for” Red Flags

| | | | |
|-----------|---|--|---|
| S | Systemic symptoms Secondary diseases | Fever Malignancy Weight loss Jaw claudication Night sweats | Metastases, giant cell arteritis, infection (CNS, systemic) |
| N | Neurologic symptoms/signs | Confusion Focal neurologic symptoms/signs Diplopia TVOs Pulsatile tinnitus | Mass lesion, structural lesion, stroke, hydrocephalus |
| O | Onset | Thunderclap | RCVS, stroke, subarachnoid hemorrhage, CVT, pituitary apoplexy, carotid dissection, IIH |
| O | Older age (>50 years) | New onset Persistent/progressive headache | Mass lesion, giant cell arteritis |
| P | Pattern Change (P1-P4) | | |
| P1 | Positional | Orthostatic, recumbent, worsens with change in position | Low intracranial pressure (CSF leak), mass lesion, CVT, sinus pathology |
| P2 | Prior history/Progressive | New onset or change to persistent/daily | Mass lesion, infection (CNS, systemic) |
| P3 | Pregnancy/post-partum | New onset during pregnancy | CVT, preeclampsia, RCVS, pituitary lesion, stroke |
| P4 | Precipitated by Valsalva | Cough, sneeze, bending, straining | Intracranial/posterior fossa mass, Chiari malformation |

Evaluation

CT head: blood/bone

MRI brain w/wo contrast

Angiogram, Venogram

Systemic Labs

CSF studies

BET on Migraine

MIGRAINE

At least 5 attacks

Headache attacks lasting 4-72 hr (untreated to unsuccessfully treated)

- Unilateral location
- Pulsating quality
- Moderate or severe pain intensity
- Aggravation by or causing avoidance of routine physical activity
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Photophobia and phonophobia

BET on Migraine

MIGRAINE

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Headache attacks lasting 4-72 hr (untreated to unsuccessfully treated)

- | | |
|--|--|
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|--|--|

↑
Just need 2 of these!

BET on Migraine

MIGRAINE

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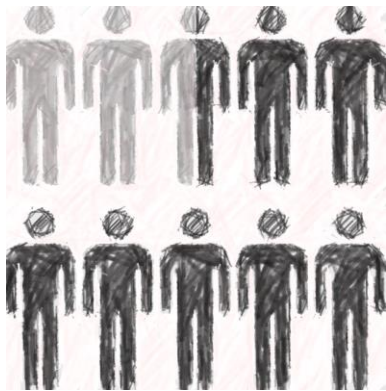
↑
Just need 2 of these!

- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Photophobia and phonophobia

↑
Just need 1 of these!

Episodic vs. Chronic Migraine

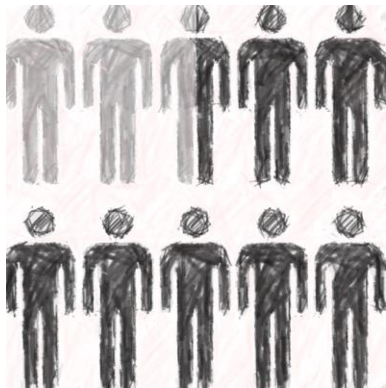
- *Frequency of headache days**
- ≥ 15 headache days, 8 migraine
- Many people who meet chronic migraine diagnosis are misdiagnosed.



Only **25%** of patients who see *any physician* received a Chronic Migraine diagnosis

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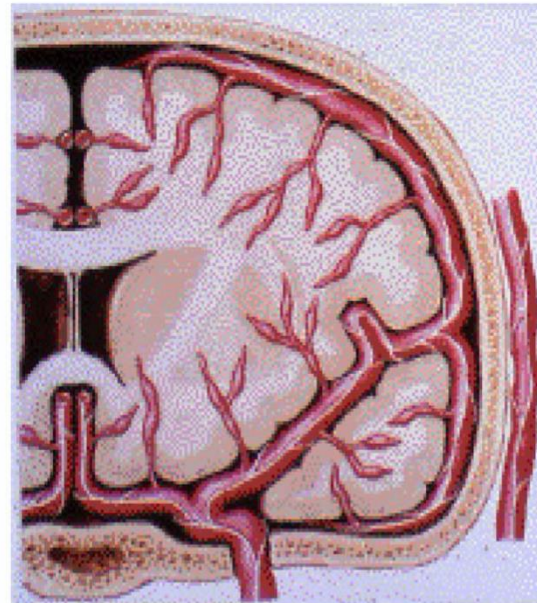
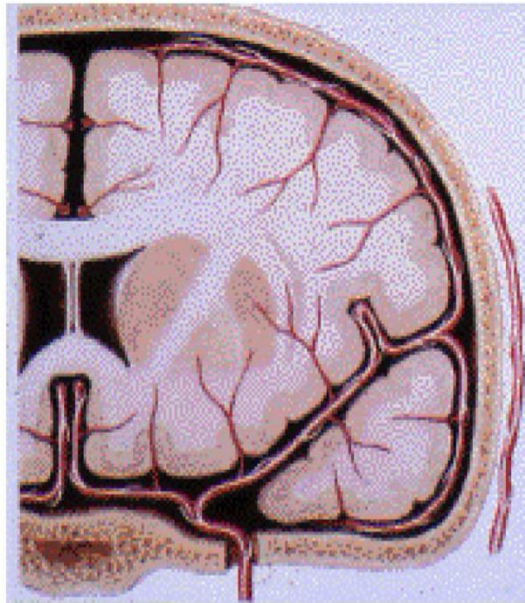
- Frequency of headache days*
- ≥ 15 headache days, 8 migraine
- Many people who meet chronic migraine diagnosis are misdiagnosed.

Only **36%** of patients who see a **specialist** received a Chronic Migraine diagnosis^{2,3}

Pathophysiology

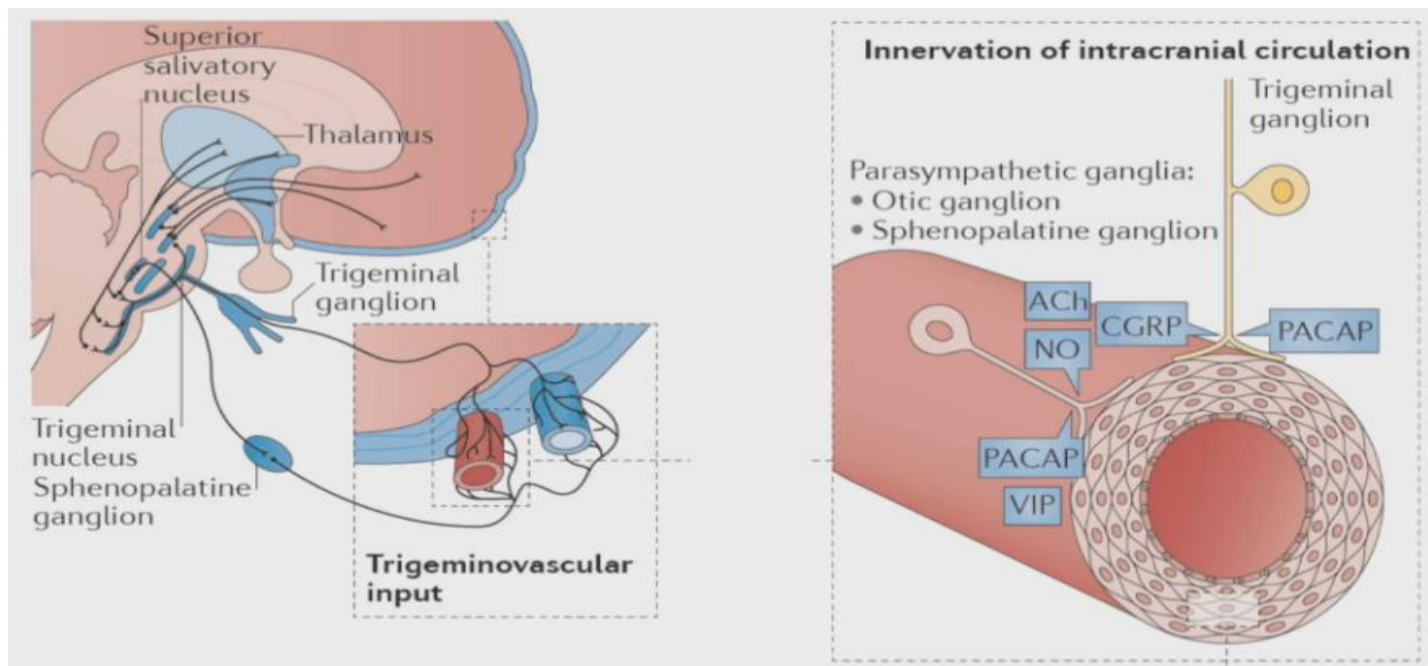
Vascular Theory of Migraine

- Wolf (1940s-1960s)
- Aura caused by vasoconstriction, pain caused by reactive vasodilation



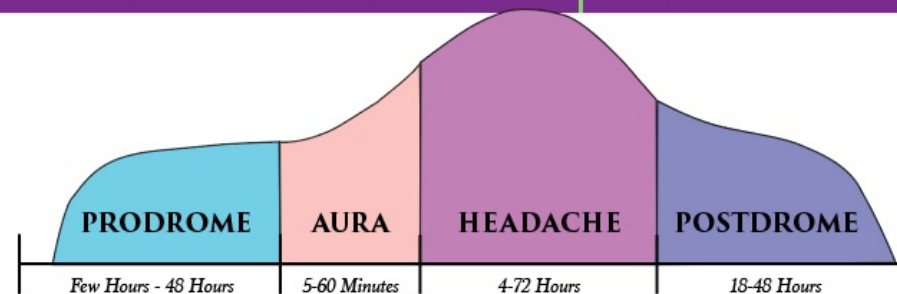
Trigeminovascular Theory of Migraine

- Migraine is primarily a disease of brain hyperexcitability
- Vasodilation may occur as part of the disorder, but is not required for migraine pain
- Migraine therapies do not work by constricting blood vessels
- Conclusion: Migraine is an inherited complex brain disorder, not a vascular headache



Phases of Migraine

THE 4 PHASES OF MIGRAINE



PRODROME - FEW HOURS - 48 HOURS

| | |
|---|---|
| Irritability, mood changes (euphoria, elation, increased energy) | Sensitivity to light, sound, smell |
| Anxiety, depression | Nausea |
| Fatigue, lethargy | Neck pain |
| Yawning | Muscle aching, stiffness |
| Food cravings | Difficulty speaking and/or reading |
| Anorexia | Difficulty concentrating, forgetfulness |
| Increased thirst | Sleep disturbances, insomnia |
| Autonomic changes (nasal/sinus congestion) | Increased need to urinate |
| | Diarrhea and/or constipation |

AURA - 5 MIN - 60 MIN (25% OF INDIVIDUALS)

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Visual disturbances (scintillations, distortion, scotomas) | Vertigo |
| Sensory changes (numbness, tingling) | Dysarthria |
| | Hemiparesis |
| | Ataxia |

HEADACHE - 4 HOURS - 72 HOURS

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Throbbing/pulsating | Sensitivity to light, sound, smell |
| Drilling | Neck pain, stiffness |
| Icepick in the head | Autonomic changes (nasal/sinus congestion) |
| Burning | Giddiness |
| Unilateral > Bilateral | Insomnia |
| Exacerbated by movement | |
| Anxiety, depression | |
| Nausea and/or vomiting | |

POSTDROME - 18 HOURS - 48 HOURS

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Fatigue | Difficulty concentrating, forgetfulness |
| Sore muscles | Autonomic changes (nasal/sinus congestion) |
| Depressed mood | |
| Euphoric mood | |
| Lack of comprehension | |
| Diarrhea or constipation | |

Preventive Treatment

Preventive Treatment

- Of the 38% of individuals that should be considered for preventive treatment of migraine, only 13% receive it.

****We are under-utilizing preventives****

When to Consider Prevention...

- Attacks that significantly interfere with a patient's quality of life and daily routine despite trigger management, appropriate use of acute medications, and lifestyle modification strategies.
- Frequent headaches (**four** or more attacks per month or eight or more headache days per month).
- Failure of, contraindication to, overuse of, or troublesome side effects from acute medications.
- Patient preference, that is, the desire to have as few attacks as possible.
- Presence of certain migraine conditions: hemiplegic migraine, migraine with brainstem aura, frequent, prolonged, or uncomfortable aura symptoms, or migrainous infarction.

When to Consider Prevention...

Episodic Migraine

4-7 monthly headache days

8-14 monthly headache days

Chronic Migraine

15+ Headache Days

Patient-
Reported
Disability

When to Consider Prevention...

Episodic Migraine

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8-14 monthly headache days

Chronic Migraine

15+ Headache Days

Patient-
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Moderate

Preventive Treatment

Nonspecific oral

OnabotulinumtoxinA

CGRP Monoclonal Antibodies

Gepants

Nerve blocks

Devices

Preventive Treatment

Established Efficacy⁺

Antiepileptic Drugs

Divalproex sodium^a

Valproate sodium^a

Topiramate^a

Anti-Hypertensives

Metoprolol

‘ Propranolol

Timolol

Candesartan

Triptans: Froivatriptan^b

OnabotulinumToxin A*

CGRP Antagonists

mAbs, Gepants

Probably Effective⁺⁺

Antidepressants

Amitriptyline

Venlafaxine

Beta-Blockers

Atenolol

Nadolol

NMDA antagonists

Memantine

Possibly Effective⁺⁺⁺

ACE inhibitors: Lisinopril

Alpha-agonists

Clonidine

Guanfacine

Antiepileptic drugs:

Carbamazepine

Beta-Blockers

Nebivolol

Pindolol

Antihistamines: Cyproheptadine

Angiotensin receptor blockers

+More than 2 Class I trials based on AAN Scheme for Classification of Evidence

++One Class I or 2 Class II studies based on AAN Scheme for Classification of Evidence

+++One Class II study based on AAN Scheme for Classification of Evidence

a Not for use in women of childbearing potential who are not using an appropriate method of birth control. b For short-term prophylaxis of menstrually-related migraine

*Chronic migraine only

General Principles for Instituting Preventive Therapy

- Start **low** and **titrate** (reach a therapeutic dose) Give an **adequate trial**
 - *A full trial may take 2 to 6 months before the maximal response to a treatment is evident.
- Establish **realistic expectations**
 - 50% reduction in frequency, duration, or severity of migraine attacks
- Optimize **drug selection**
- **Involve patients** in their care to maximize compliance.
- **Re-evaluate** therapy; migraine may improve or remit independent of treatment. *If headaches are well controlled for 6-12 months, *slowly* taper and, if possible, discontinue the drug.

Examples of Preventive Trials

Topiramate (Topamax)

Week 1: 25 mg HS

Week 2: 25 mg BID

Week 3: 25 mg in the morning,
50 mg HS

Week 4: 50 mg BID

Consider: overweight, mood
stabilization, severe migraine

Educate: paresthesias, kidney
stones (calcium phosphate),
weight loss, depression

Avoid: pregnancy, anorexia,
history of kidney stones,
glaucoma

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Amitriptyline (Elavil)

Week 1: 10 mg HS

Week 2: 20 mg HS

Week 3: 30 mg HS

Week 4: 40 mg HS

Week 5: 50 mg HS

Consider: insomnia, cervicalgia,
generalized body pain, diarrhea,
tension type headache, primary
stabbing headache

Educate: dry mouth,
constipation, sedation

Avoid: obesity, cardiac
arrhythmias, advanced age

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Propranolol (Inderal)

Week 1: 10 mg HS

Week 2: 10 mg BID

Week 3: 10 mg in the morning,
20 mg at bedtime

Week 4: 20 mg BID

Week 5: 60 mg LA daily vs. 40 mg
BID

Consider: tachycardia/HTN,
anxiety

Educate: lethargy, dizziness,
exercise intolerance, depression

Avoid: asthma, diabetes,
bradycardia, congestive heart
failure

Onabotulinumtoxin A

1989 – BTX FDA approved for strabismus

2010 PREEMPT Trials (Phase III REsearch Evaluating Migraine Prophylaxis Therapy)

Two large, parallel, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials for BOTOX in chronic migraine

Age 18-65 with chronic migraine (MOH, as long as not opiates)

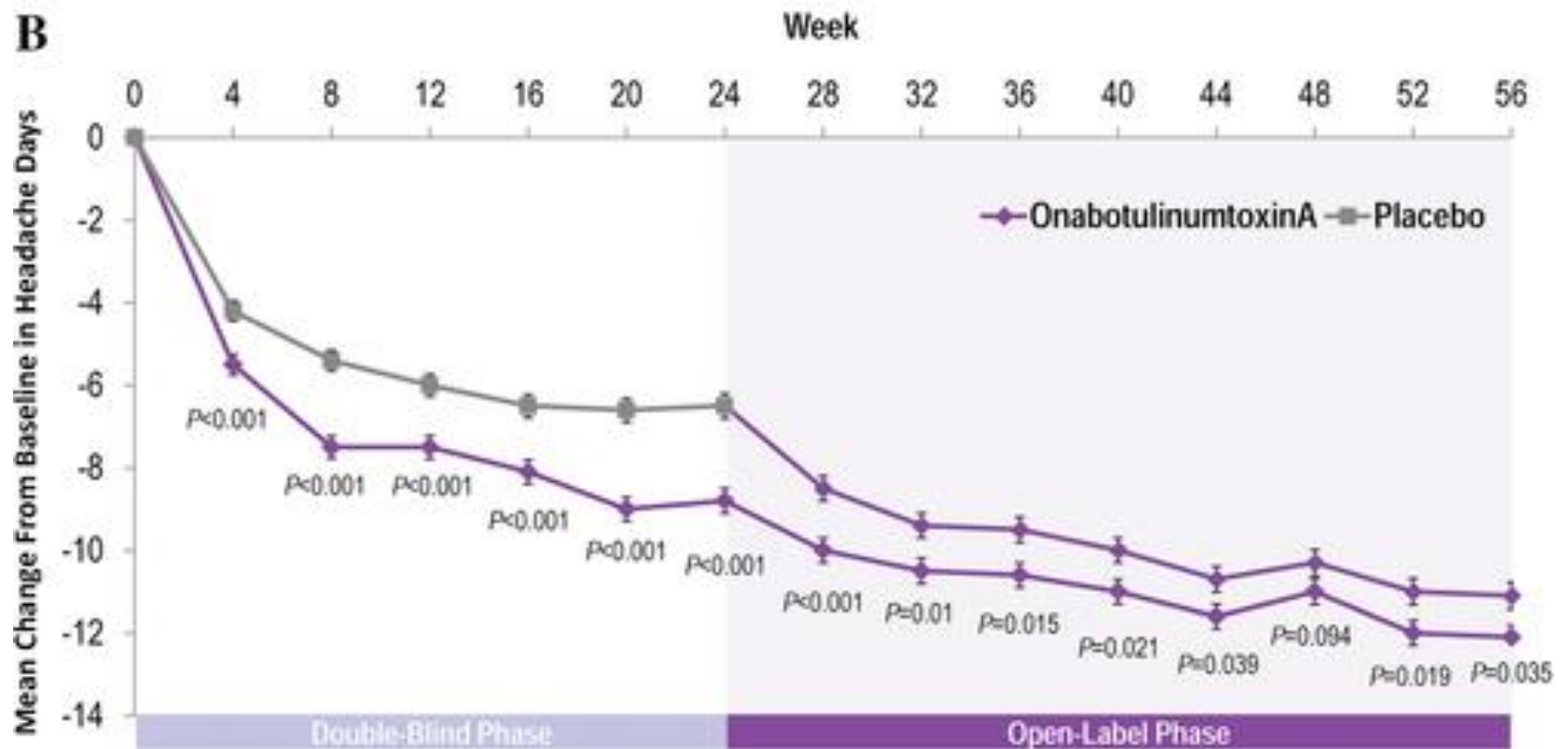
155 UN, 31 injection sites. Optional extra 40 units in painful areas at discretion of investigator.



Onabotulinumtoxin A

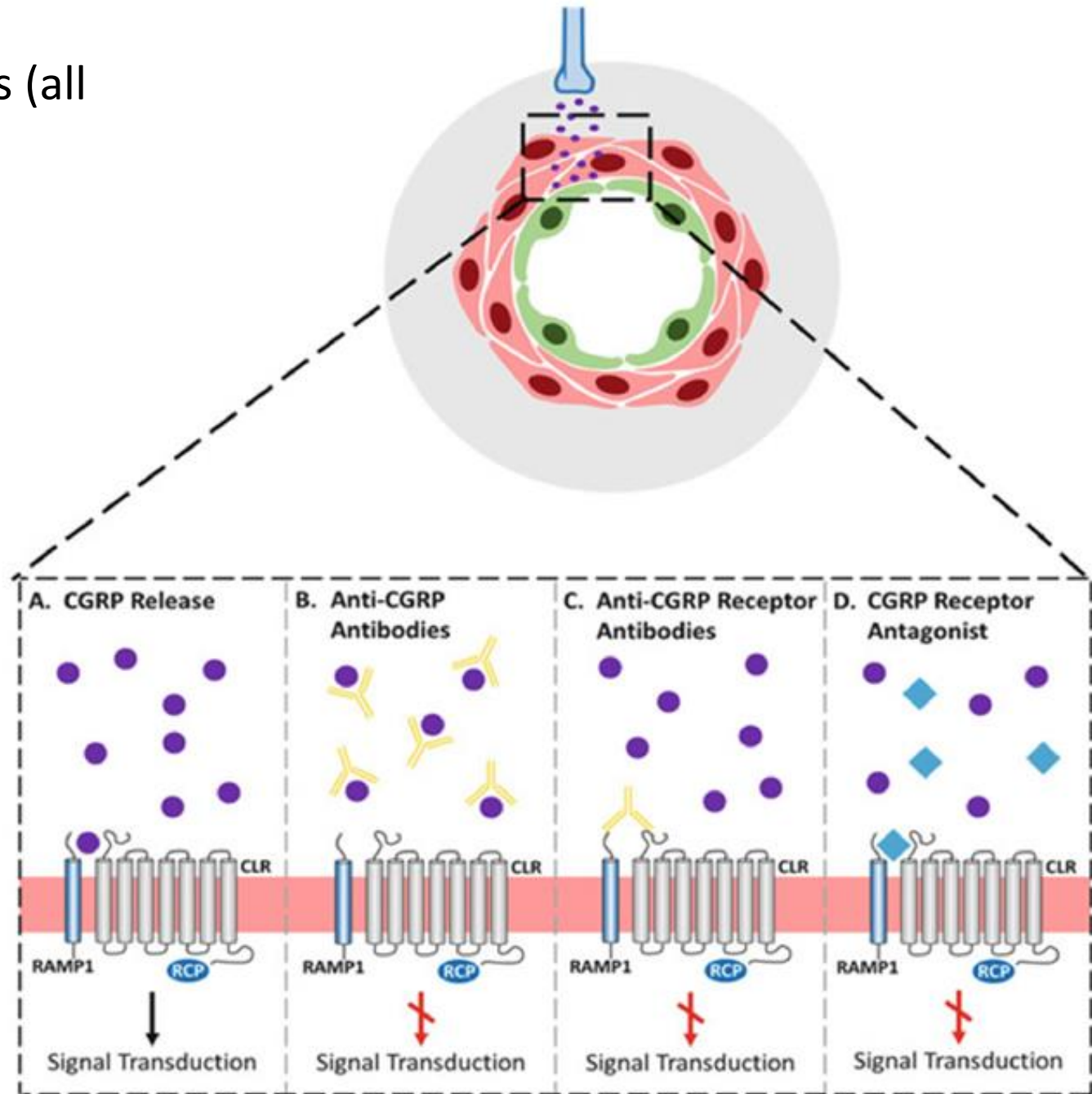
Baseline ~20d/mo; BTX 8.4 fewer days/mo ($p < 0.001$) vs. placebo
6.6 fewer days/mo (after 2 rounds of injections)

Recommendation 3 treatment cycles



Calcitonin Gene Related Peptide (CGRP) Antagonists

- Monoclonal Antibodies (all preventative):
 - Ligand
 - Receptor
- Gepants (acute and preventative):
 - Receptor

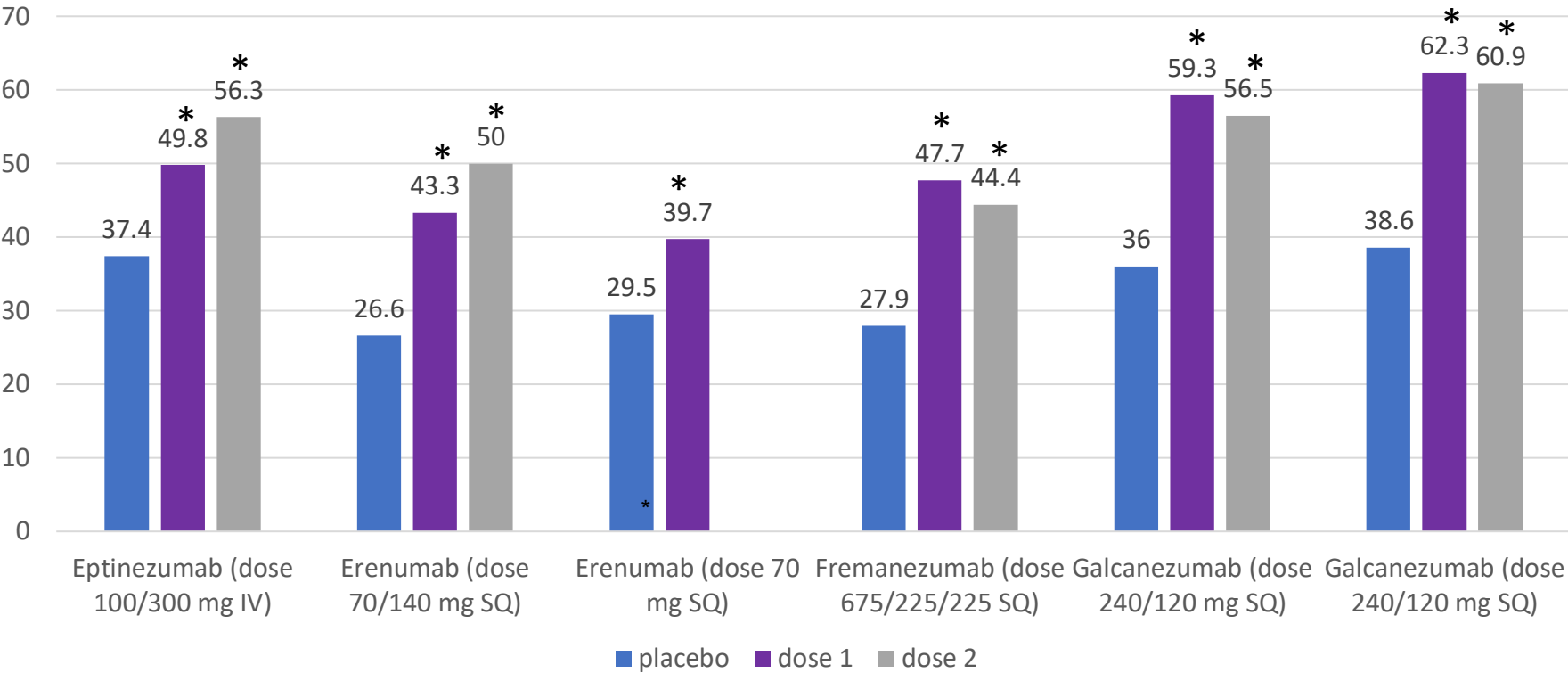


CGRP MAbs

| | Erenumab (Aimovig®) | Fremanezumab (Ajovy®) | Galcanezumab (Emgality®) | Eptinezumab (Vyepti®) |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Target | Receptor | Ligand | Ligand | Ligand |
| Subclass | Human ("-umab") | Fully humanized (>95% human) ("-zumab") | Humanized (>90% human) ("-zumab") | Humanized (>90% human) ("-zumab") |
| Half-life | ~ 28 days | ~31 days | ~27 days | ~27 days |
| Dose and schedule | 70 mg or 140 mg monthly SQ | 225 mg monthly or 675 mg quarterly SQ | 240 mg loading dose, then 120 mg monthly SQ | 100 mg or 300 mg Quarterly IV, 30 minute infusion |
| Status | FDA approved, May 2018 | FDA approved, September 2018 | FDA approved, September 2018 | FDA approved, February 2020 |
| IgG | IgG2 | IgG2Δa | IgG4 | IgG4 |
| Side Effects | Hypersensitivity reactions, Injection site reactions Constipation *New onset or worsening HTN | Hypersensitivity reactions, Injection site reactions | Hypersensitivity reactions, Injection site reactions | Hypersensitivity reactions, nasopharyngitis |

CGRP Mabs: Episodic Migraine Prevention

EM treated with CGRP Monoclonal Antibodies
50% Responder Rates

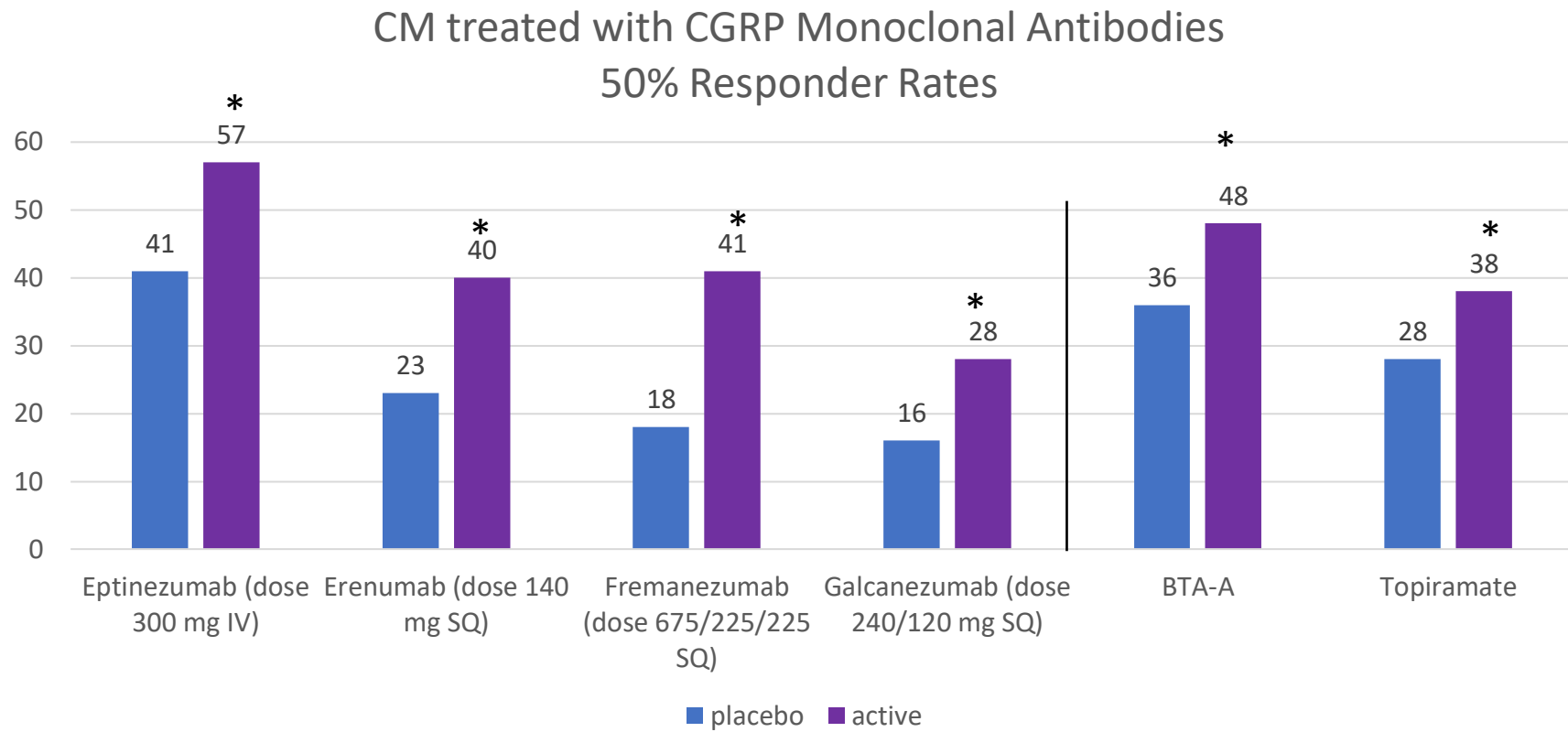


^a Statistically significant difference vs placebo.

Goadsby PJ et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2017.; Dodick DW et al. *Cephalalgia.* 2018.; Dodick DW et al. *JAMA.* 2018.; Stauffer VL et al. *JAMA Neurol.* 2018.; Skljarevski V et al. *Cephalalgia.* 2018. Saper R et al. *AAN* 2018. Abstract.

CGRP mAbs: Chronic Migraine Prevention

For comparison, the 50% response rate across all trials was 37%.



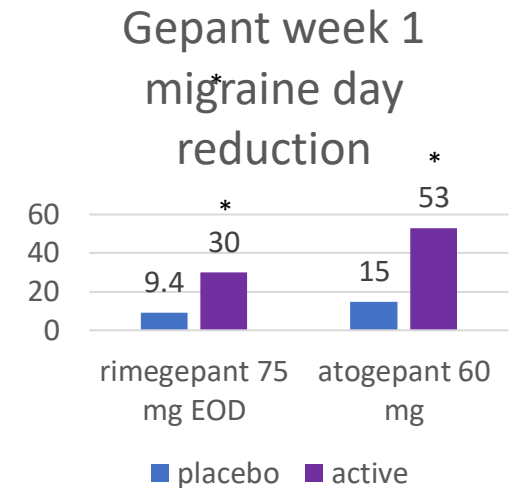
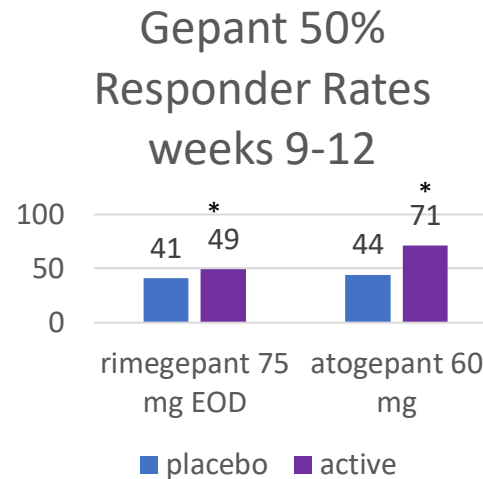
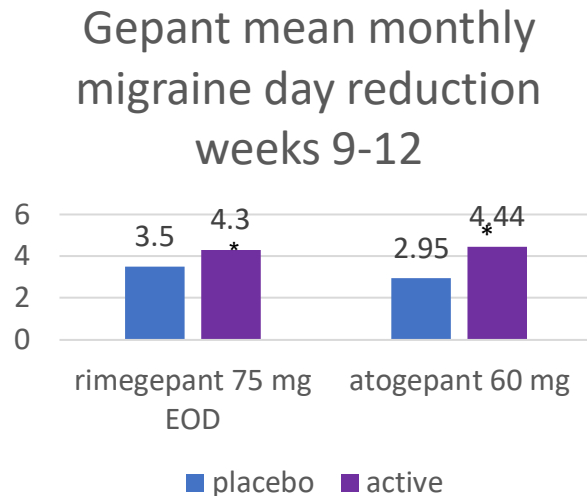
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Smith et al. Headache 2017; 57:130; Silberstein et al. New Engl J Med 2017; 377:2113; Aurora et al. Headache 2011; 51:1358; Tepper et al. Lancet Neurol 2017;16:425; Detke et al. Headache 2017;57:1336-1337; Silberstein et al. Headache 2006;46:838; Brandes et al. Headache 2017;57:197; Bigal et al. Lancet Neurol 2015;14:1091 (note: phase II data); Detke et al. Cephalalgia 2017;37(1S):338; Dodick et al. Cephalalgia 2011;31:87.

Gepants

- Small molecule CGRP receptor antagonists
- Initial studies (olcegepant, telcagepant, MK3207) with difficulty with poor oral bioavailability and hepatotoxicity.
- New FDA approved Gepants: Ubrogepant 50/100 mg (acute), Rimegepant 75 mg ODT (dual), Atogepant 10/30/60 mg (preventive), Zavegepant 10 mg NS (acute)

CGRP Antagonists: Gepant EM Preventive Treatment



^a Statistically significant difference vs placebo.

- Side effects: Rimegepant 75 mg EOD (nausea, abdominal pain/dyspepsia), Atogepant 10/30/60 mg (nausea, constipation, fatigue/somnolence, decreased appetite)

Acute Treatment

Medication Overuse Headache

- Headache >15 days per month
- Regular overuse for >3 month
- Examples:
 - **15+** days of simple analgesia
 - **10+** days of triptans, opioids, butalbital, or combo meds
 - Likely less for opioids and butalbital*

Acute Treatments

NSAIDs

Triptans

Gepants

Ditans

Devices

Triptans

~40-75% 2h pain relief

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Sumatriptan | PO= 25mg, 50mg,100mg IN= 10mg (<i>Tosymra</i>);11mg (<i>Onzetra</i>); 5 & 20mg SC = 3mg (<i>Zembrace</i>); 4 & 6mg | Oldest High A/E rate |
| Almotriptan | 6.25 - 12.5mg po | Fast, low A/E |
| Eletriptan | 20 - 40mg po | Fast, mod A/E |
| Frovatriptan | 2.5mg po | Long, low A/E |
| Naratriptan | 1 – 2.5mg po | Long, low A/E |
| Rizatriptan | 5 – 10mg po/ODT | Fast, mod A/E |
| Zolmitriptan | 2.5 – 5mg po/OD/IN Pending = Qtrypta patch (<i>microneedles</i>) | Fast, mod A/E |
| Suma + Naproxen | Sumatriptan 85mg + Naproxen 500mg | Combo med |
| Riza + Meloxicam | Pending = AXS-07 | New & Faster |

NSAIDS

Combo with triptans =
60-80% 2h headache relief

Naproxen

- 500mg prn

Indomethacin

- 25-75mg prn

Diclofenac po or Cambia (powdered diclofenac)

- 50mg prn

Ketorolac

- 10mg po; 15.75mg IN; 30-60mg IM

Dihydroergotamine (DHE)

~40% 2h Pain freedom*

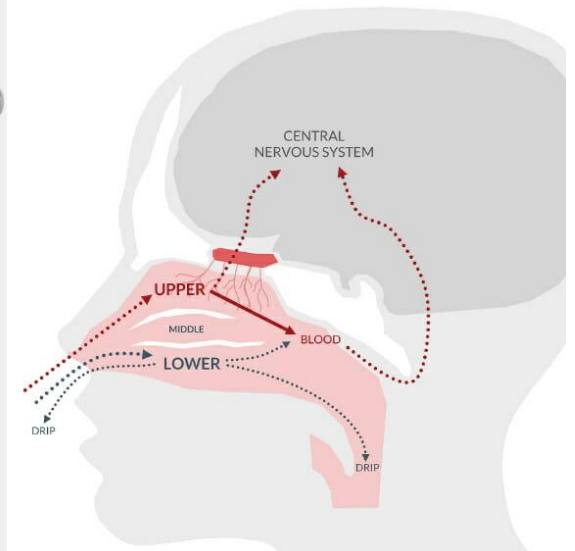
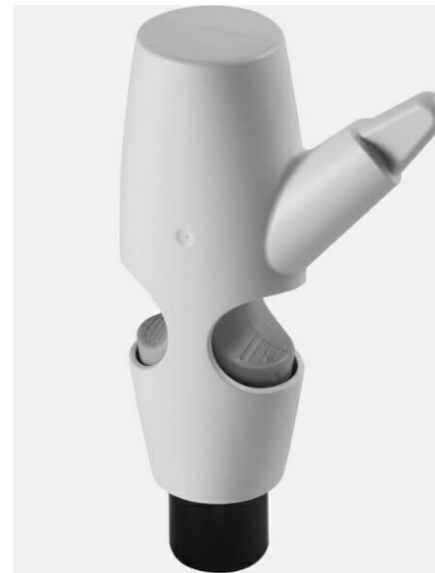
- **Nasal**

- Old = Migranal
- New POD device = TRUDHESA
 - Drug levels similar to IV
 - AE: nasally-related

- **Parenteral**

- 1mg SC/IM
- 1mg IV q8h or continuous IV
- AE: Nausea

- NOT within 24h of a triptan



<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03557333>

Gepants

- Ubrogepant
 - 50, 100 mg po
 - Repeat after 2h (max 200 mg/24h)
- Rimegepant
 - 75mg ODT (max 75 mg/24 h)
 - Acute and preventive
- Zavegapent NS
 - 10 mg NS (max 10 mg/24h)
- Pipeline: FE 205030 sc

~20% 2h Pain freedom*



*Placebo was about 11-14%

Ditans

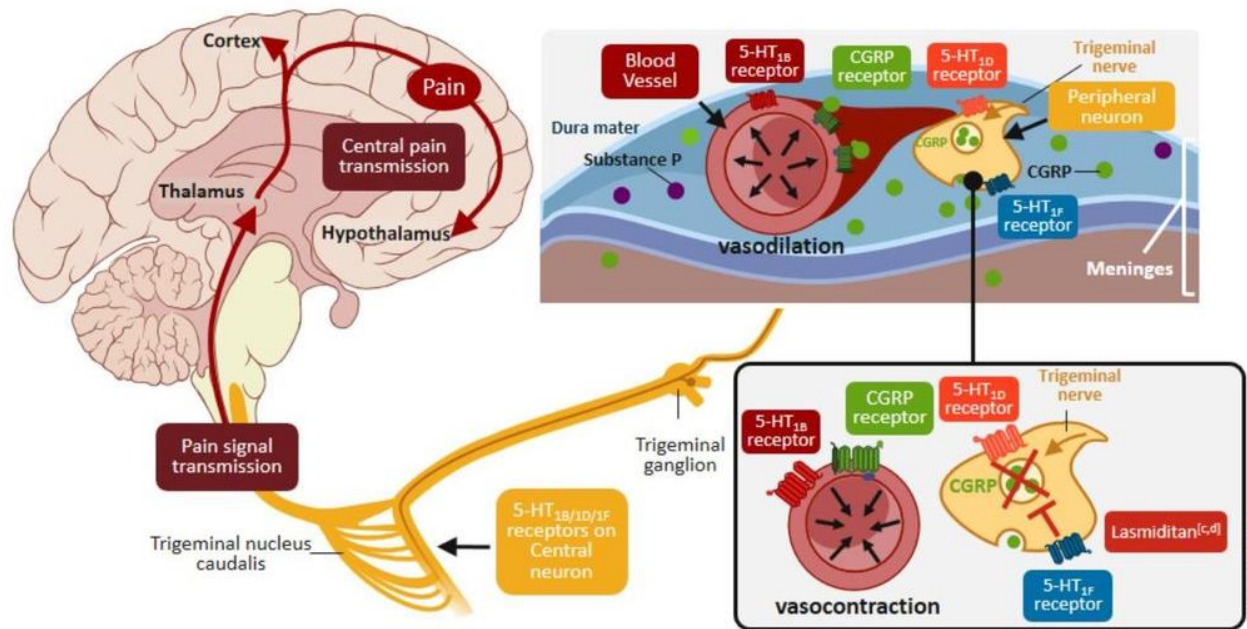
- Triptans = 5HT-1B/1D agonist
 - Vasoconstriction due to 1B

~30-40% 2h pain freedom

- Ditans = 5HT-1F agonist
 - No vasoconstriction

• Lasmiditan

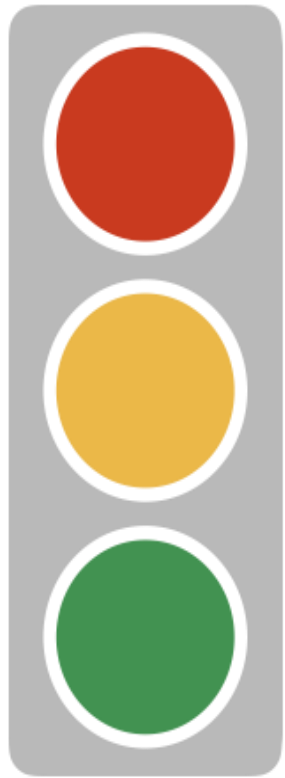
- Once daily PRN
- Can repeat after 24h
- 8h driving restriction
- Schedule 5 med



○ 50 mg
 ○ 100 mg
 ○ ○ 200 mg
 (100 mg x2)

a. Dussor G. *Curr Opin Support Palliat Care*. 2014; 8(2):137-142; b. Vila-Pueyo M. *Neurotherapeutics*. 2018; 15(2):291-303; c. Oswald JC, et al. *J Pain Res*. 2018;11:2221-2227; d. Eli Lilly & Company (2018). [Press release].

*Placebo was about 20%



NOT Recommended:
OPIOIDS & BULTALBITAL

↓ Treatment
Response

Risk of Chronic
Daily Headache

Tolerance, Withdraw,
Abuse, Overdose

Increased
sensitization

When an Acute Treatment Fails...

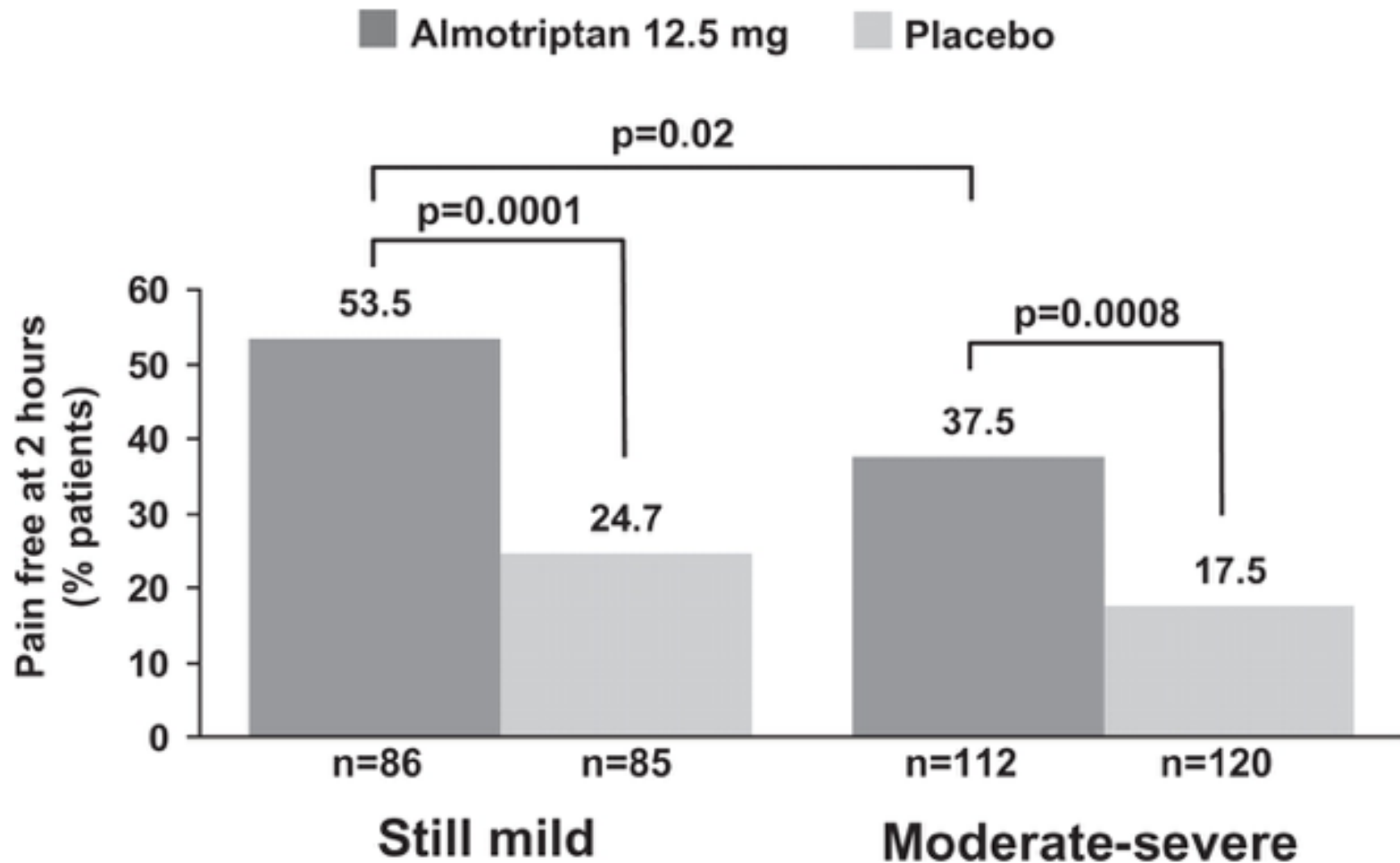
- Treat at least **three** different attacks

When an Acute Treatment Fails...

- Treat at least **three** different attacks
- If treatment is ineffective
 - **Treat early**

When an Acute Treatment Fails...

Figure 2 Pain-free data at 2 h in the Act when Mild (AwM) analysis demonstrating a significant benefit for treatment with almotriptan 12.5 mg when taken early, within 1 h, and when pain is still mild compared with when pain is moderate or severe.

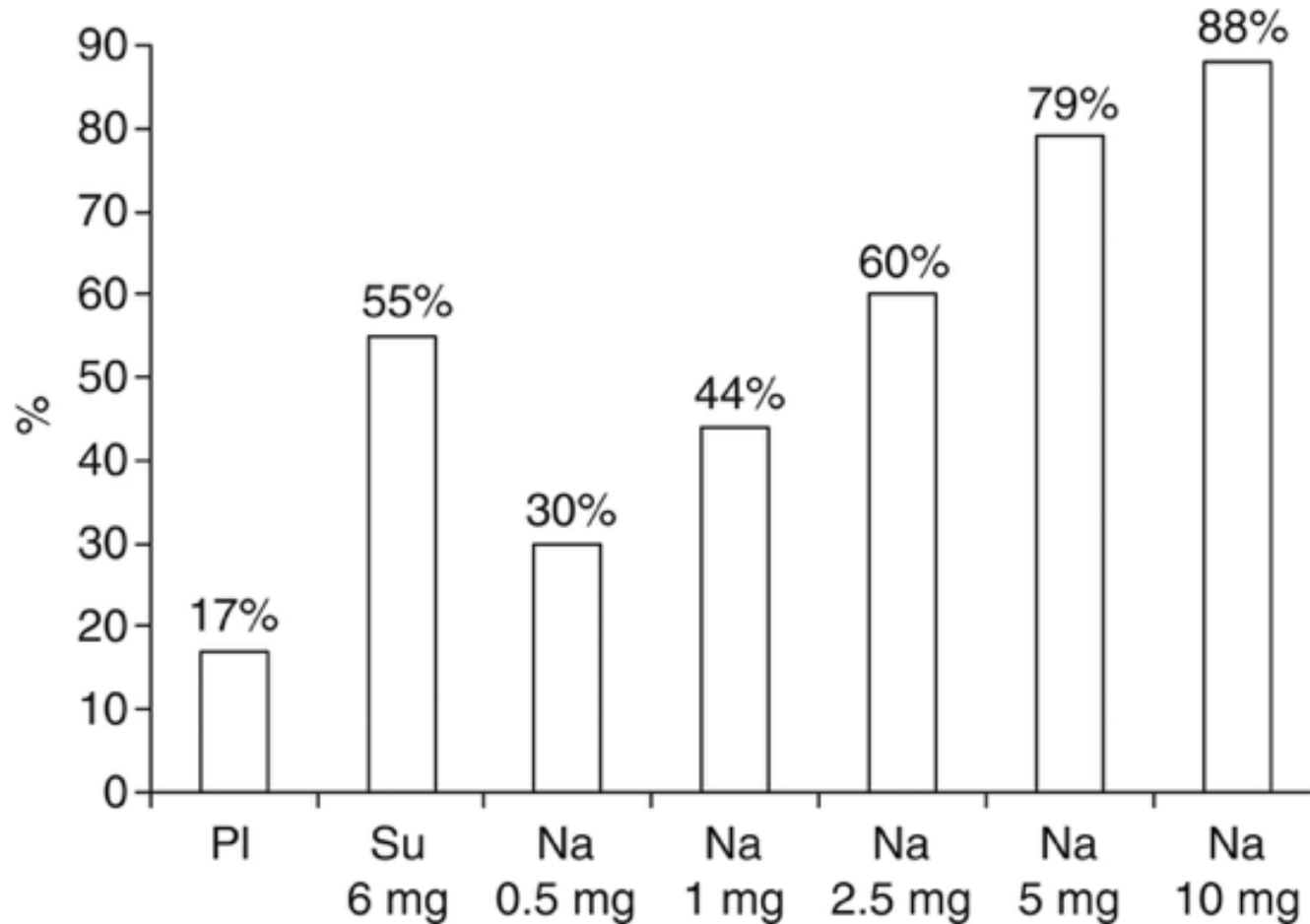


When an Acute Treatment Fails...

- Treat at least **three** different attacks
- If treatment is ineffective
 - Treat early
 - **Increase dose**

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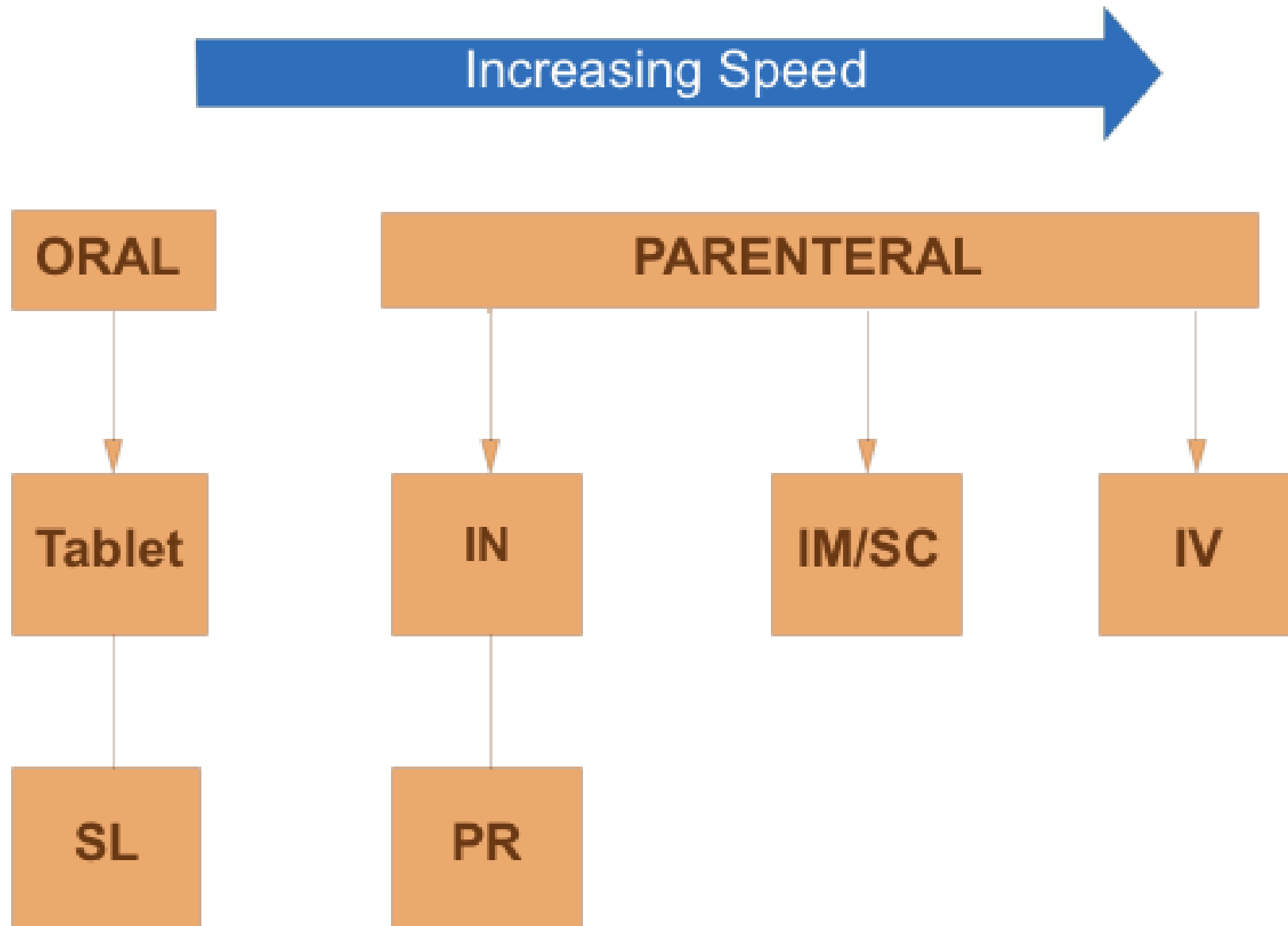
Figure 1 Pain-free response after 2 h for placebo, subcutaneous sumatriptan (Su) 6 mg and subcutaneous naratriptan (Na) 0.5–10 mg (6).



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 - **Change drug**

Is There Such a Thing as a Triptan Non-Responder?

- Five clinical studies provide evidence that switching from a triptan that is ineffective to a second triptan can result in positive treatment.
- Strongly suggests triptan non-response may not be consistent.

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 - Change formulation/route of administration
 - Change drug
 - **Add adjunct**

Quadruple Therapy

| Triple Therapy | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Triptans/Ergots | NSAIDS | Neuroleptics | Gepants/Ditans |
| Almotriptan 12.5 mg PO | Ibuprofen 600-800 mg PO | Prochlorperazine 10 mg PO/IM | Rimegepant 75 mg ODT |
| Eletriptan 40 mg PO | Naproxen 500 mg PO | Metoclopramide 10 mg PO/IM | Ubrogepant 50/100 mg PO |
| Frovatriptan 2.5 mg PO | Ketoprofen 75 mg PO | Promethazine 25 mg PO/IM/IV | Lasmitidan**50/100/200 mg PO |
| Naratriptan 2.5 mg PO | Piroxicam 20 mg PO | Chlorpromazine* 25 mg | |
| Rizatriptan 10 mg PO/ODT | Indomethacin 50 mg PO | Olanzapine* 10 mg PO | |
| Sumatriptan -3/4/6 mg Inj -100 mg PO -20 mg NS | Diclofenac 50 mg PO | Haloperidol* 2.5/5 mg PO | |
| Zolmitriptan 5 mg PO/NS/ODT | | | |
| DHE/Ergotamine -1 mg SC/IM -1.45 mg NS | | | |

*caution with use, high risk of extrapyramidal side effects; EKG recommended to exclude QT prolongation

**caution for serotonin syndrome when used with triptan, studies separated these medications by 24 hours

By mouth (PO), nasal spray (NS), oral disintegrating tab (ODT), subcutaneous (SC), intramuscular (IM)

Summary



The most important tools you have in evaluation of primary versus secondary headaches is a good history and physical examination. In absence of red flag symptoms, bet on migraine!



Migraine is an inherited complex brain disorder that is primarily a disease of brain hyperexcitability.



Preventive migraine treatment is under-utilized and may have a significant positive impact on a patient's quality of life.



There are many ways to optimize acute treatment of migraine and new medications available with different mechanism of action that may be better tolerated.



Photo editing and design by Mekala Raman McWilliams, PhD

Thank You!