

Neck Pain Associated with Migraine Attacks Investigated in the Interictal State

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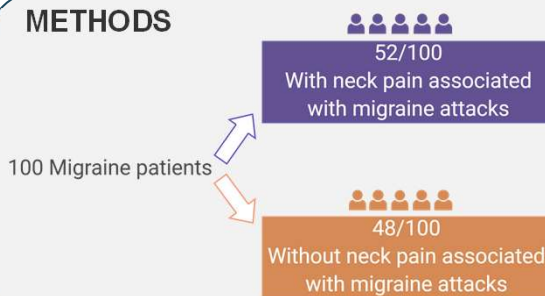
BACKGROUND

- Neck pain during migraine attacks is reported in more than half of patients
- General neck pain is associated with tender muscles
- Nociception from pericranial muscles might be important in migraine

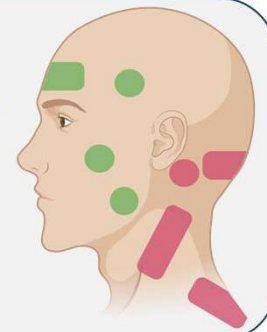
AIMS

1. To investigate muscle tenderness in migraine patients with neck pain associated with migraine attacks compared to patients without
2. To examine the association with pericranial muscle tenderness and the next migraine attack

METHODS



- Semi-structured interview
- Cephalic tenderness score (Green)
- Neck tenderness score (Red)
- Local tenderness score
- Prospective headache diary (covering 7 days)



RESULTS

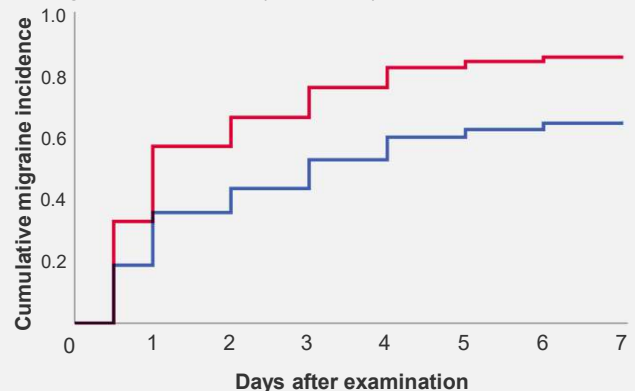
Primary outcome:

- 52/100 migraine patients reported neck pain associated with migraine attacks.
- Patients with neck pain associated with migraine attacks compared to migraine patients without neck pain.

	Difference (95% CI)	P
Cephalic Tenderness Score	0.8 (-0.6–2.5)	0.242
Neck Tenderness Score	2.0 (0.3–3.8)	0.023
Proximal trapezius Local tenderness score	0.7 (0.8–1.3)	0.027
Distal trapezius Local tenderness score	0.8 (-0.0–1.6)	0.050

Secondary outcome:

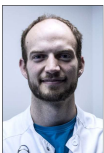
84 patients returned diaries. Cephalic tenderness score was associated with increased migraine attack rate ($P = 0.035$)



Cox proportional hazard model. Estimated incidences with a cephalic tenderness score of 13 (red) and 3 (blue)

CONCLUSIONS

- Patients with neck pain associated with migraine attacks have increased neck muscle tenderness interictally, which could indicate a subgroup of migraine patients, who might benefit from specialized treatment
- Cephalic muscle tenderness score is a risk factor for an impending migraine attack. This could be useful in starting attack treatment earlier.



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