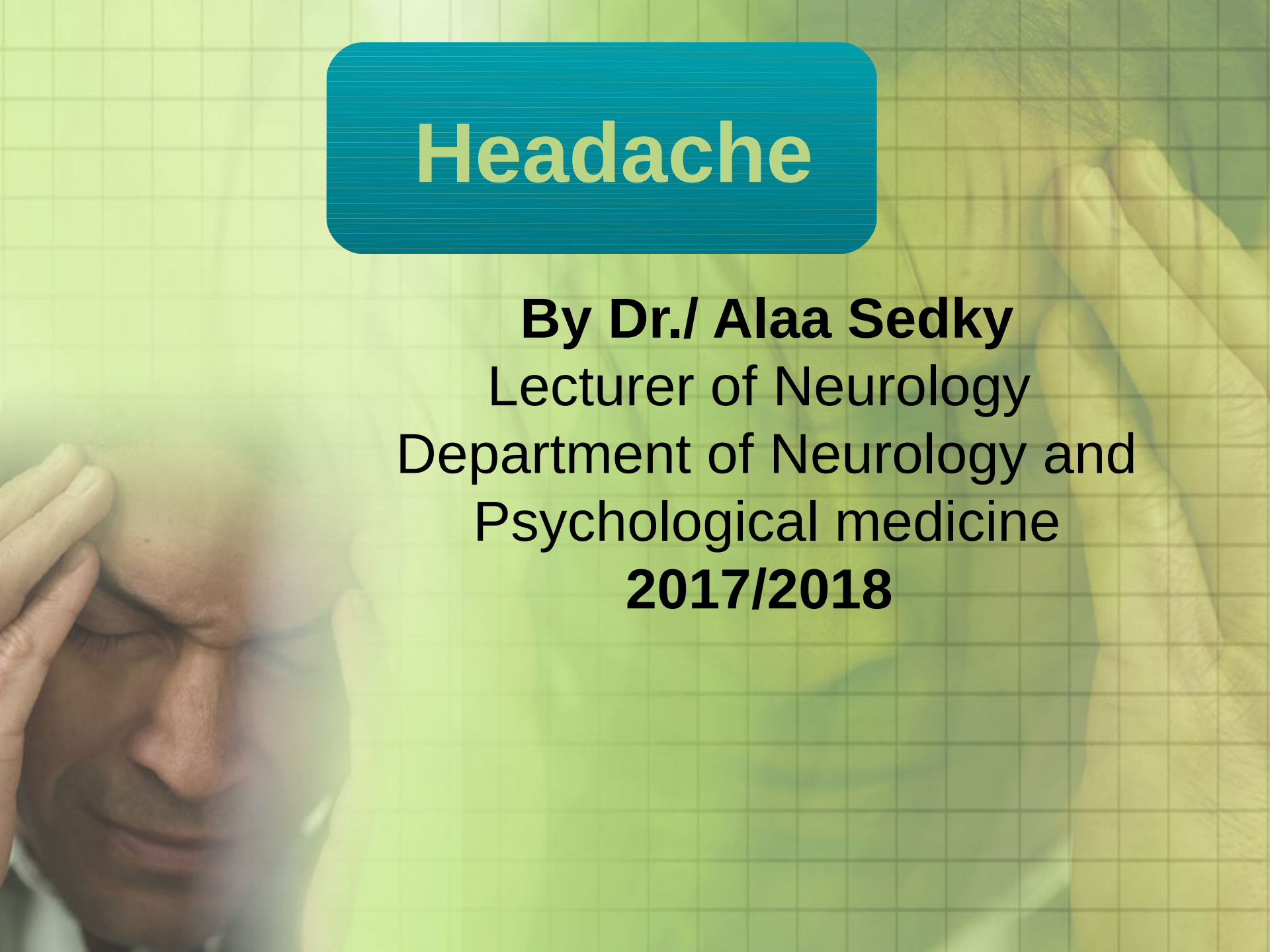


Headache

By Dr./ Alaa Sedky
Lecturer of Neurology
Department of Neurology and
Psychological medicine
2017/2018



Definition

- Headache means pain in the head, It is a common symptom in clinical practice in 93% of males & 99% of females.
- It is a symptom of a disease not a disease



Headache classification

Primary

- Migraine
- Tension-type
- Cluster
- Paroxysmal hemicrania
- SUNCT
- Chronic daily headache

Secondary

head trauma

vascular disorders
(CVS, AVM, arteritis)

non vascular disorders
(neoplasm)

Infection
(CNS-systemic)

Craniofacial

Cranial neuralgia
(TN- GN)

Referred
Eyes Nose and
sinuses Teeth, TMJ

Pathogenesis of headaches.

1. Traction or dilatation of intracranial or extracranial arteries.
2. Traction of large extracranial veins
3. Compression, traction or inflammation of cranial and spinal nerves
4. Spasm and trauma to cranial and cervical muscles.
5. Meningeal irritation and raised intracranial pressure



History

- Headache – quality, severity, location, laterality, onset, **time course – episodic and similar or progressive/changing**
- Associated symptoms – systemic symptoms, fever, personality changes, seizures
- Preceding symptoms – aura, gradual/rapid onset
- Exacerbating features – (migraines worse with activity) (worse with laying or nocturnal or with cough/straining – signs of elevated ICP) (worse with standing – signs of low ICP).
- Medical history – NF1, Sturge-weber, connective tissue disorder, Sickle cell, immunocompromised.



Examination

- Vitals – fever, ICP signs
- Good neurologic exam
 - ? Altered mental status
 - Abnormal eye movements
 - Visual field testing
 - Fundoscopic exam
 - Focal weakness
 - UMN signs
 - Abnormal gait



Work-up

• Imaging

- Trauma
- Associated seizures
- Abnormal neurologic exam
- Historical features – thunderclap headache, persistently lateralized, progressive course, shunt, change in pattern/type, occipital headache
- Signs of elevated ICP
- Prior to LP

• CSF analysis

- Pseudotumor (IIH)
 - Accurate recording of pressure.
 - CNS infection
 - immunocompromised
- SAH
 - Thunderclap headache

Migraine

- common in ♀ (15-20%) than ♂ (5-10%)
- Strong family history is present
- Onset: at /or shortly after puberty
 - Less common before puberty
- Frequency; - may occur 2-3 times/week
 - or 1-2 attacks in lifetime
 - frequency decrease with age
 - ↑ menstruation and ↓ with pregnancy.
- Precipitating factors
 - Excitation or excessive work-Extra sleep
 - Menses-Bright light
 - Strong smells-Minor trauma
 - Certain diets e.g.; cheese, chocolate, caffeine, alcohol, nuts, milk or missing meals.



Pathophysiology of Migraine

- Cortical spreading depression activates the trigeminal and parasympathetic systems which causes vasodilatation and release of neuropeptides that cause inflammation.
- Serotonin 5 HT receptors modulate the release of neurogenic peptides.



Diagnostic criteria of migraine

I- Migraine without aura.

- A. At least 5 attacks fulfilling B – D criteria
- B. Headache attacks lasting 4-72 Hs.
- C. Headache has at least two of the following:
 - Unilateral
 - Pulsating
 - Moderate / severe
 - Aggravated by walking or any routine physical stress
- D. During headache at least one of the following:
 - Nausea &/ or vomiting
 - Photophobia and phonophobia





II- Migraine with aura.

- Usually headache attacks as migraine above beside an aura symptoms indicating focal cortical or brain stem dysfunction
 - Aura symptoms develops gradually over more than 4 minutes- lasting not more than 60 minutes.
 - Headache follows aura with free interval of less than 60 minutes.
-

9.17
JOHN CRAIG MD
C. Machado
MD

Scintillating Scotoma and Fortification Phenomena

Early phase: isolated para-central scintillating scotoma



Scintillating edge



Spread of scotoma to involve entire unilateral visual field

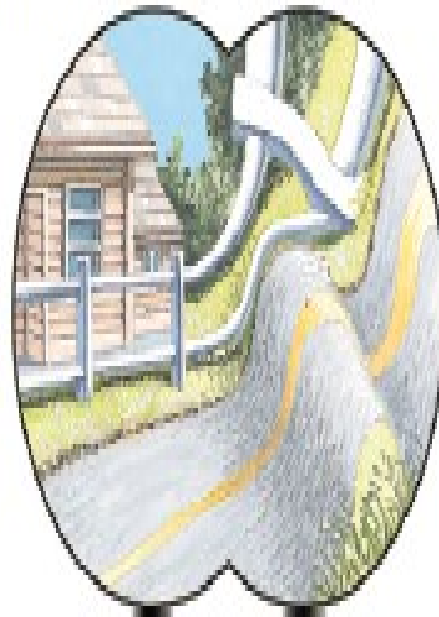
Wavy lines (heat shimmers)

Wavy line distortions in part of visual field similar to shimmers above hot pavement

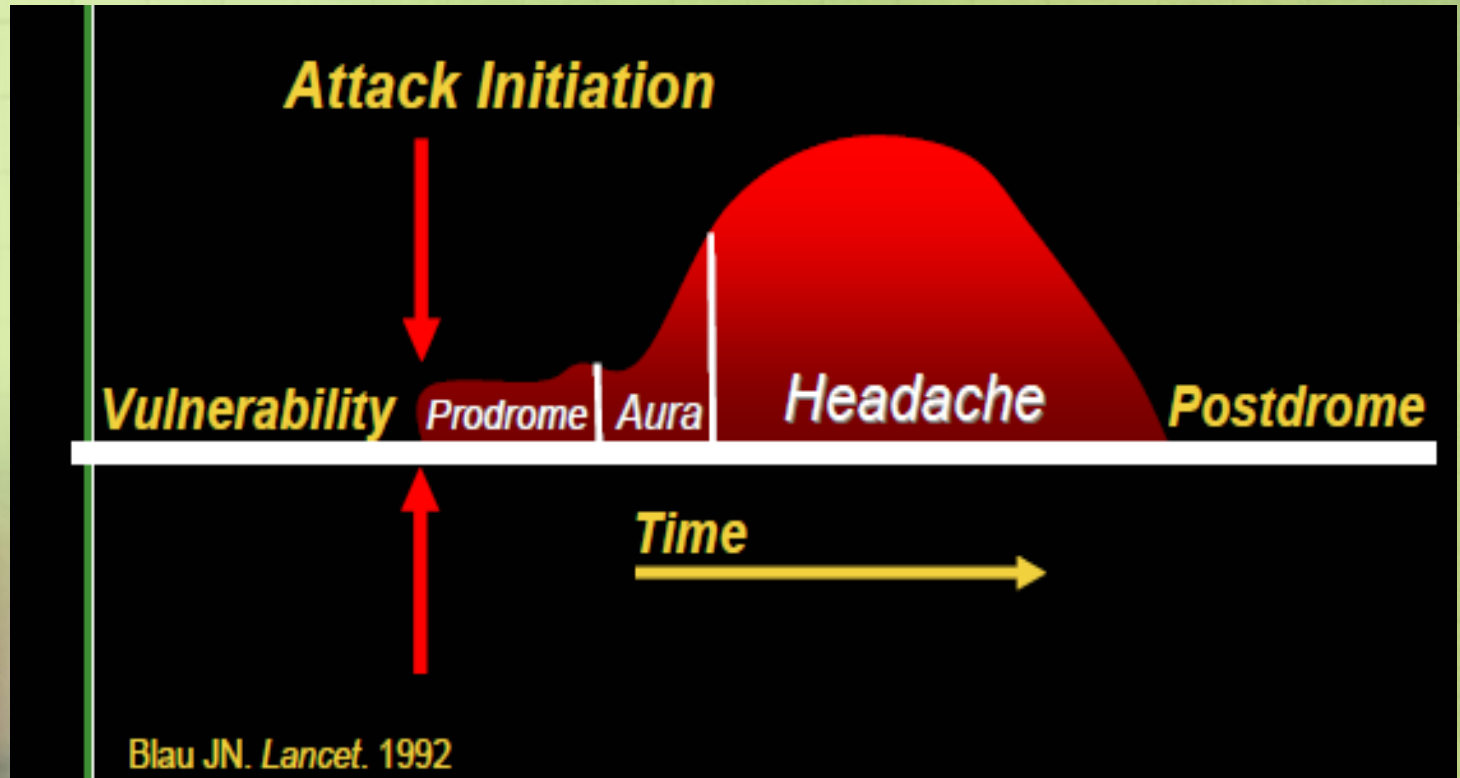


Metamorphopsia

Distortions of form, size, or position of objects or environment in part of visual field



II- Tempo of Migraine with aura.



Management of Migraine

Acute attack

I- General measures

Strong analgesics

5HT- receptor antagonist

Ergot preparation

Prophylactic measures

AED
Topiramate-valproate

B-blockers

Ca⁺ channel blockers

Tri-cyclic antidepressants

Tension type Headache

- Frequently associated with anxiety, depressive disorders and insomnia
- The commonest in 68% of ♂ & 88% of ♀
- Each attack lasts from 30 minutes up to 7 days
- At least two of the following:
 - Pressing / tightening (non-pulsating) quality.
 - Mild or moderate.
 - Bilateral location
 - No aggravation as in migraine
- No nausea or vomiting
- No phonophobia or photophobia
- May be Associated with spasm of / or tender pericranial muscles.



Tension type Headache ; continue

- Usually precipitated by stressful situations, associated with insomnia, lost appetite.
- **Considered chronic if persists for**
 - more than 15 days / month or
 - More than 6 months / year.

Treatment

Treatment of tension headache

1. Analgesics
2. Muscle relaxants
3. Antidepressants
4. Anxiolytics

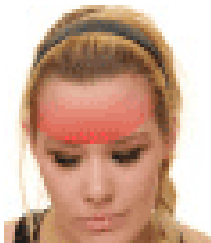
Cluster Headache

- Severe unilateral periorbital, supra-orbital and / or temporal pain.
- Lasting 15-180 minutes
- Recurrent attacks over the day and may awaken the patient from sleep
- Headache is associated with at least one of the following on the pain side
 - Conjunctival injection–Lacrimation
 - Nasal congestion- Rhinorrhhea
 - Miosis – Ptosis- Eyelid edema
 - Forehead and facial sweating.

Treatment:

- Strong analgesics e.g “endomethacine’
- Ergot preparations -Antihistaminics

Headaches



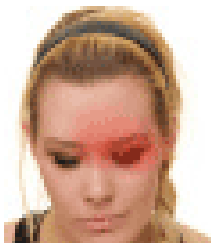
Tension

Pain experienced as a squeezing band around the head



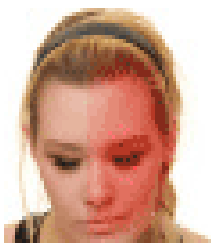
Sinus

Pain behind browbone and/or cheekbones



Cluster

Pain localized in one eye



Migraine

Typical signs are pain, nausea and altered vision

Chronic Daily Headache

- Affects 4-5% of the population.
- **Definiton**: head pain for at least 4 hours for more than 15 days/month.
- Often develops from an episodic headache disorder either migraine or episodic tension type headache
- Includes chronic tension type headache(CTTH) and chronic daily migraine.
- Familial tendency.
- Medication overuse headache may be a factor in the transformation of episodic headache to CDH.

Medication overuse headache. IHS criteria.

1. Headache for 15 days/month with at least one of the following characteristics and 2,3 and 4.
 - **Bilateral**
 - **Pressing/tight non pulsating quality**
 - **Mild/moderate intensity**
2. Simple analgesic use >15 days at month for 3 months
3. Headache has increased during analgesic use
4. Headache resolves or reverts to previous pattern within 2 months after discontinuation of analgesia.

Secondary headaches

Red flags ; history

headache



- Sudden onset severe headache
- Marked change in pain character or timing.
- Headaches not responding to treatment.
- Headache that awakes the patient from sleep.
- Headache with exertion or sexual activity.
- New headaches in patients who have cancer.
- New headaches after age 50.
- Headache after trauma after age 40.

Secondary headaches

Red flags; examination

headache



- ▶ Focal neurological signs or symptoms
- ▶ Associated with higher cerebral complaints.
- ▶ Vomiting
- ▶ Meningeal signs.
- ▶ Personality or behaviour changes
- ▶ Loss of consciousness
- ▶ Unusually pulsatile temporal arteries, jaw claudication, scalp tenderness

