

# **Pediatric Migraine: An Update**

## **PROJECT ECHO**

### **October 27, 2023**

Dr. Rebecca Barmherzig, MD, FRCPC  
Dr. Marissa Lagman-Bartolome, MD, FRCPC, FAHS

# DECLARATION OF DISCLOSURE

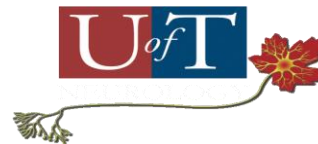
## Dr. Barmherzig

- *Speakers Bureau/honoraria:* Miravo, TEVA

## Dr. Lagman

- *Advisory Board:* TEVA, Pfizer, Lundbeck, Miravo
- *Research/Unrestricted Educational Grant:* Amgen, Lundbeck, TEVA, Abbvie (submitted to WCH Centre for Headache & HSC)
- *Royalties as author:* Canadian Pharmacists Association

- We will only present the published data on any medications from these companies
- None of these companies contributed to the content of this presentation
- The off-label use of some therapies in the management of pediatric migraine will be discussed



# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Recognize the scope, distribution, and burden of diagnosed and undiagnosed headache disorders and migraine in children and youth
2. Review updates on acute and preventive therapies in the treatment of pediatric migraine
3. Apply evidence-based strategies for managing and preventing disability related to migraine in children and adolescents

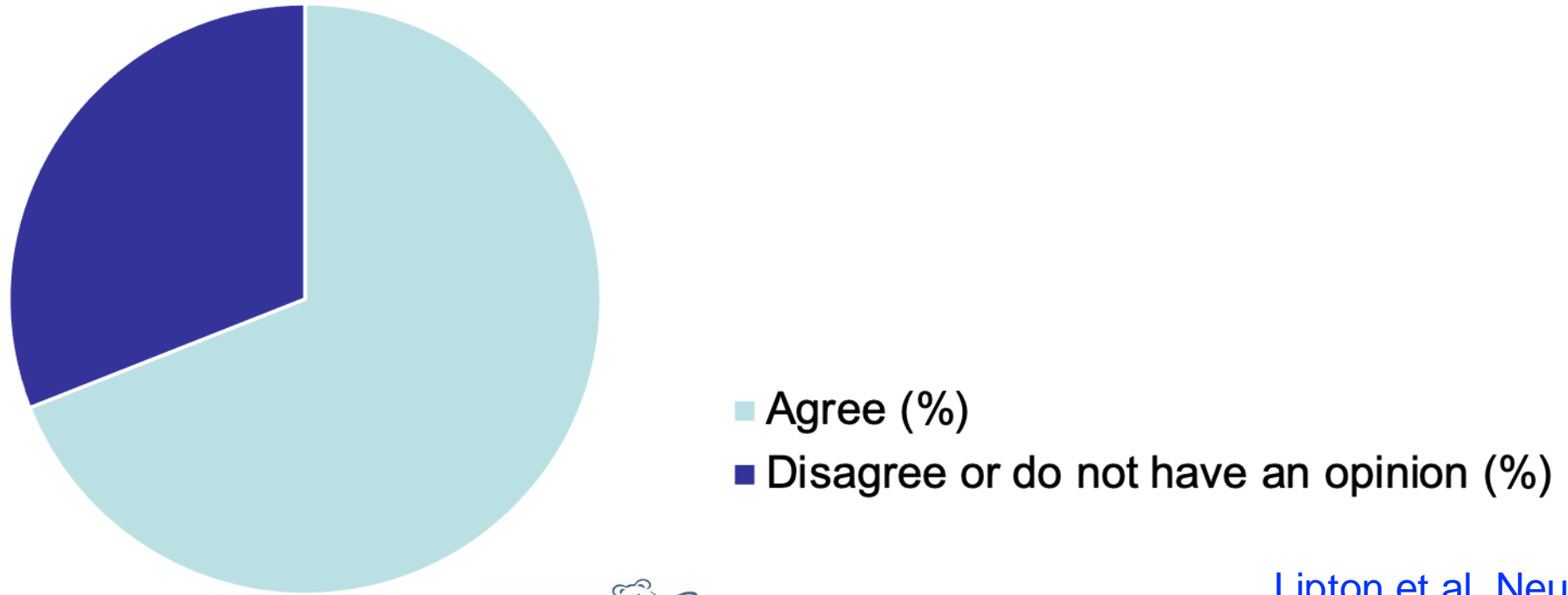
# I am comfortable managing children and youth with headache.

- A. Yes, I usually feel confident managing these patients
- B. No, I usually feel uncomfortable managing these patients
- C. I often feel uncertain as to how to manage these patients



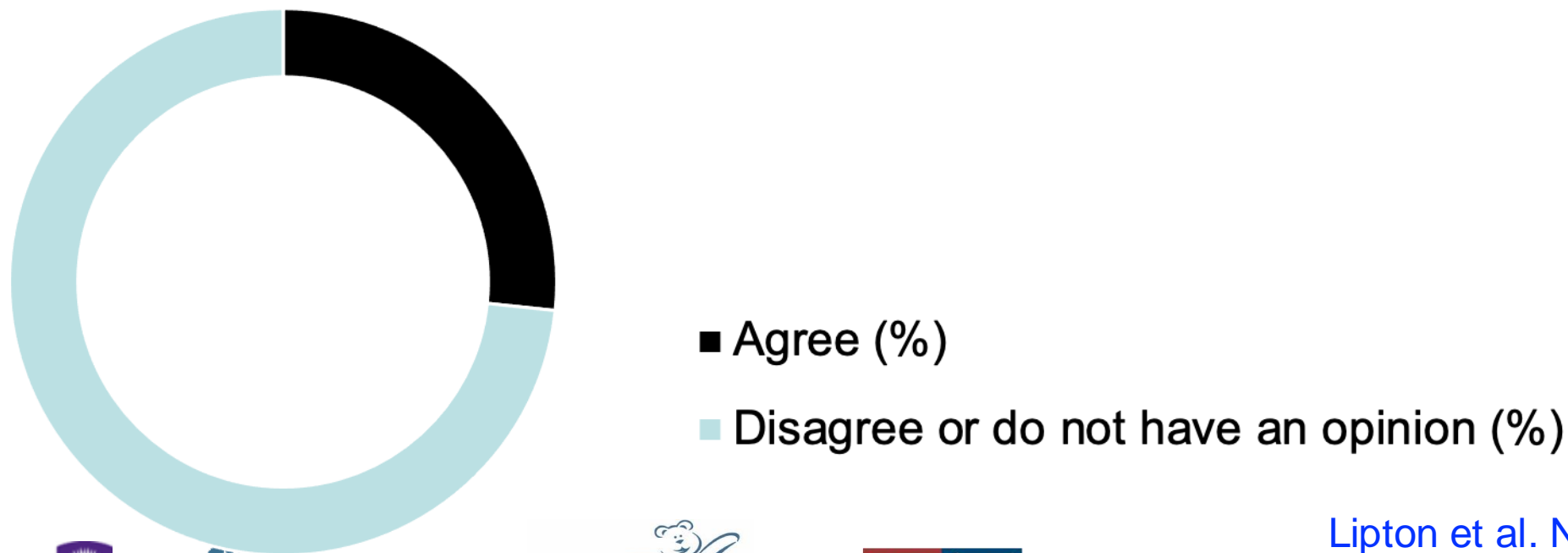
# Migraine Attitudes, Knowledge, and Practice Patterns (MKAPP) Survey

*Migraine is a legitimate brain disease*



# Migraine Attitudes, Knowledge, and Practice Patterns (MKAPP) Survey

*Patients with headache are motivated to maintain their disability*





# WHO Global Burden of Disease

Hello  
my name is

MIGRAINE



1<sup>st</sup>

Most expensive  
brain disorder



2<sup>nd</sup>

Leading cause of  
medical disability  
worldwide



3<sup>rd</sup>

Most common  
medical condition  
worldwide



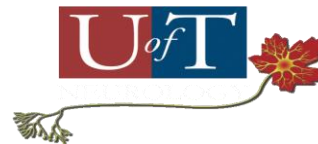
# Prevalence

- **Pediatric migraine: 7.7%**
- **Chronic migraine: 0.8% -1.8% among children (12 -17)**

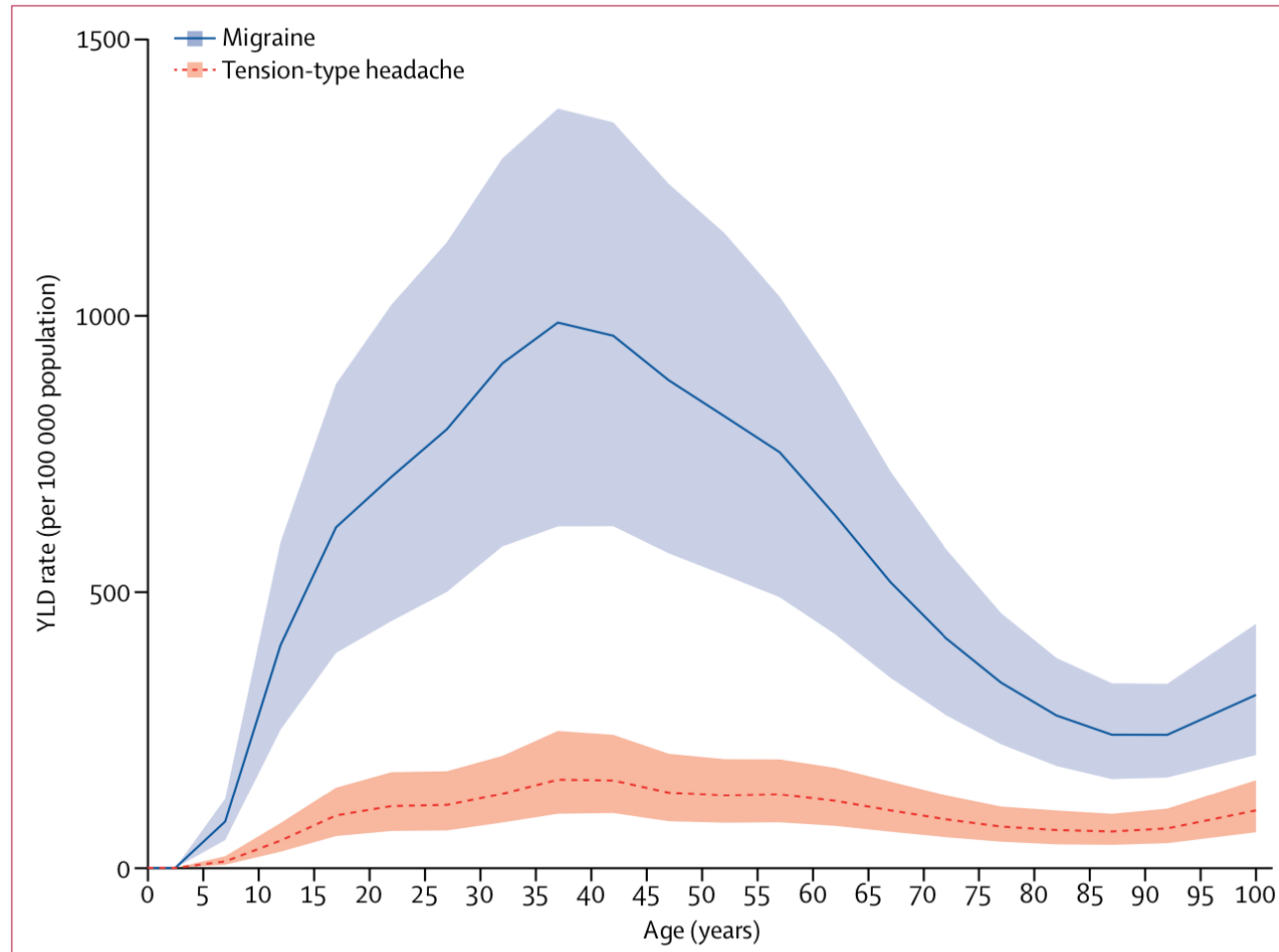
# Impact

- Quality of life (QoL) measure studies have likened the impact of QoL in children with migraine to that in children with **diabetes, arthritis, and cancer**

Antonaci F, et al, The Journal of Headache and Pain (2014)

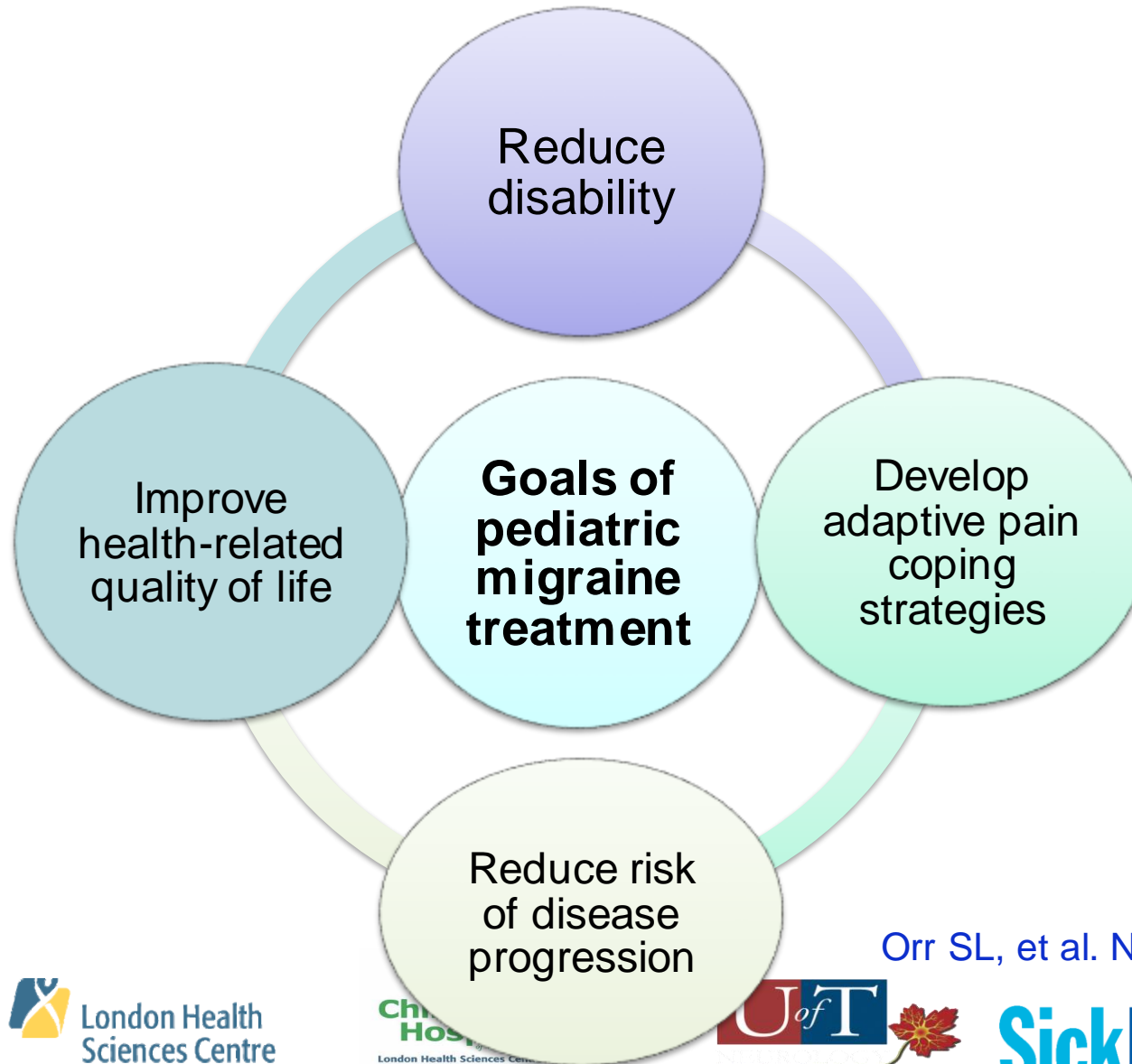


# Disability of migraine and TTH by age



**Figure 4: Global years of life lived with disability (YLD) rate per 100 000 population due to migraine and tension-type headache by age, 2016**  
Shaded areas show 95% uncertainty intervals. Values are plotted at the midpoint of 5-year age categories.

# Goals for pediatric migraine treatment



Orr SL, et al. Nature Reviews Neurology (2018)

# CASE 1: Ethan

*15y M with episodic migraine without aura since age 10*

- Migraine attacks: moderate to severe, bilateral frontal pressure headache
- Frequency/duration: 2-3 days a month/ lasting 7-10 hours
- Associated features:
  - light and sound bothersome
  - prefers to rest during attacks when severe
  - nausea within 10-15 mins from headache onset
- Medications: acetaminophen and ibuprofen (no longer working)
- Past medical history: asthma, motion sickness, infant colic
- Exam: unremarkable

# What would you offer him for acute therapy?

- A. Sumatriptan nasal spray
- B. Almotriptan tablet
- C. Rizatriptan tablet
- D. Zolmitriptan nasal spray
- E. None of the above (*I am not comfortable trying any of these options*)



# What are acute therapies?



# Why are they important?

Modifiable risk factors for progression:

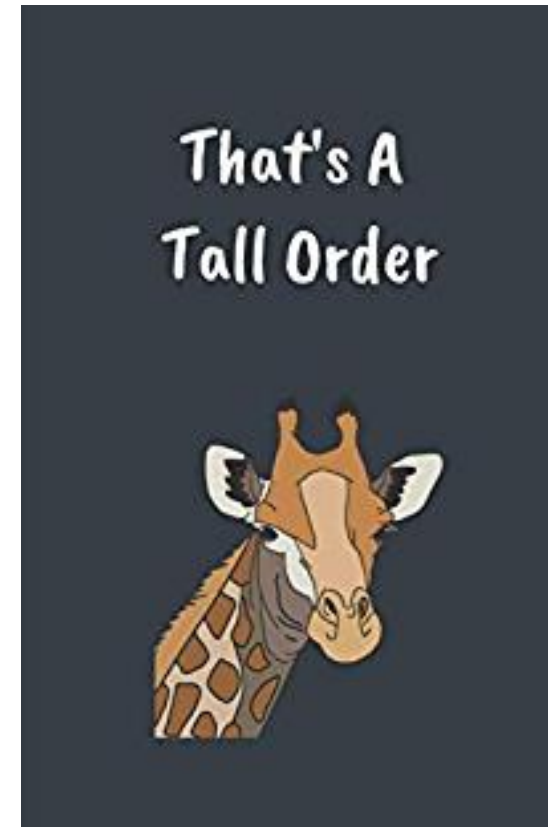
- Headache frequency
- Headache-related disability
- **Ineffective acute treatment**
- Opioids/barbituates
  - » *Excessive opioid use is a risk factor for migraine progression to chronic migraine*





# Effective acute treatment

1. Rapid and consistent freedom from pain and most bothersome symptoms (MBS) without recurrence
2. Restored ability to function
3. Minimal need for repeat dosing or rescue medications
4. Optimal self-care and reduced subsequent use of resources (e.g. ED visits)
5. Minimal or no adverse effects



# Challenges

- Heterogeneous population
- Difficulty with case definitions
- Outcome measures
- Confounders, confounders, confounders
- Placebo/ nocebo effects

# Challenges in children

- Heterogeneous population
- Difficulty with case definitions
- Outcome measures
- Confounders, confounders, confounders
- Placebo/ nocebo effects – **as high as 65%**



# Where to start?

## Stratified care

- Severity
- Onset
- Associated symptoms/ MBS
- Duration of attacks



**RED: I have to STOP**

**YELLOW: I have to SLOW down**

**GREEN: I can GO**

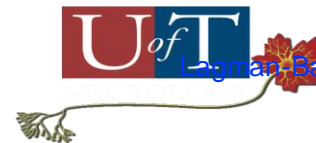
Headache  
© 2018 American Headache Society

ISSN 0017-8748  
doi: 10.1111/head.13428  
Published by Wiley Periodicals, Inc.

## Views and Perspectives

**The Traffic Light of Headache: Simplifying Acute Migraine Management for Physicians and Patients Using the Canadian Headache Society Guidelines**

Ana Marissa Lagman-Bartolome, MD, FRCPC; Christine Lay, MD, FRCPC



Lagman-Bartolome AM, Lay C. Headache (2019)

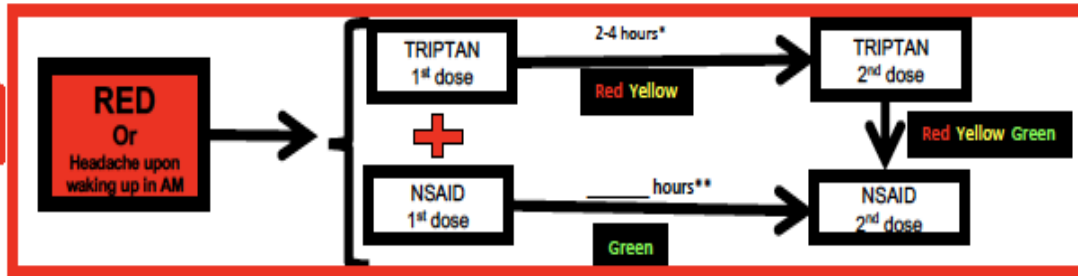


## Acute Treatment in Pediatric Migraine: Stratified Approach

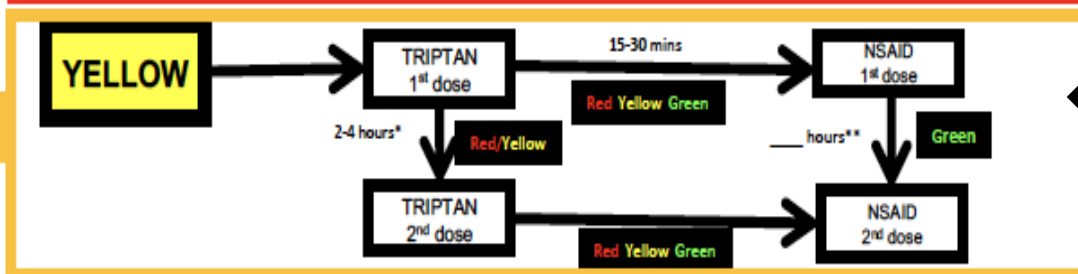
### Traffic Light of Migraine Action Plan (TRALI-MAP)

How to choose your acute/rescue medication?

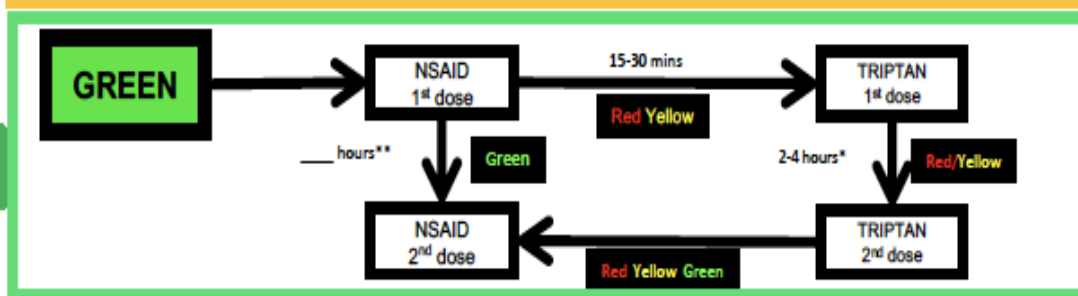
I have to **STOP**



I have to **SLOW** down



I can **GO**



Lagman-Bartolome AM, Lay C. Headache. 2019;59(2):250-252. doi: 10.1111/head.13428. Epub 2018 Oct 27. PMID: 30367814.

## 2019 AAN/AHS Pediatric Migraine Treatment

### TRIPTANS: (level B)

For  $\geq 6$  yo

- Rizatriptan ODT

For  $\geq 12$  yo

- Almotriptan tablet
- Rizatriptan
- Sumatriptan-Naproxen tablet
- Sumatriptan nasal spray
- Zolmitriptan nasal spray

### NSAIDs

- Ibuprofen

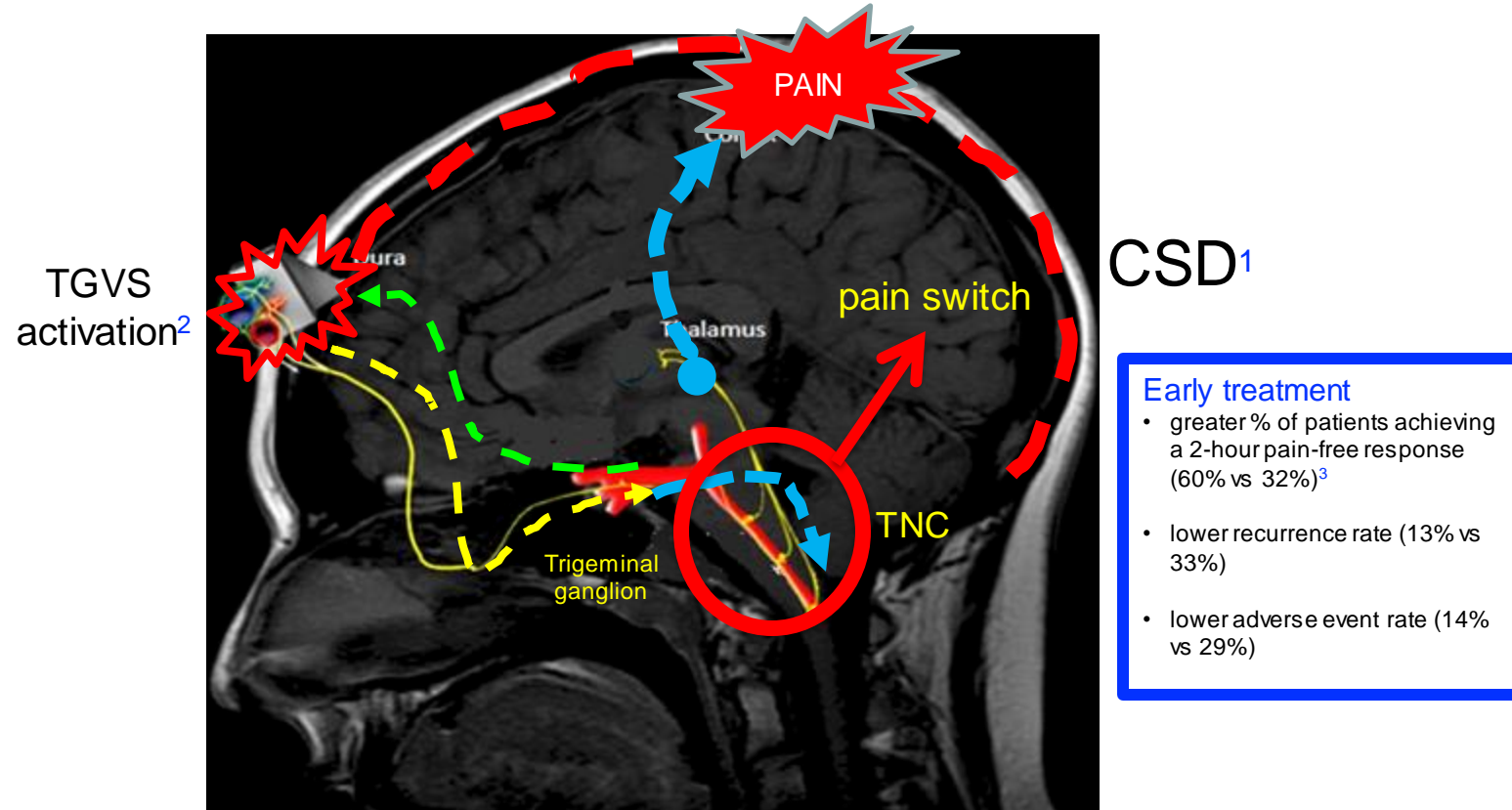
### Anti-emetics

1. Lagman-Bartolome AM, Lay C. Headache (2019).
2. Oskoui M, et al. AAN/AHS Guideline. Neurology (2019)



# It is important to treat early!!:

Treatment success drops from 80% to 50% as central sensitization occurs within 30-60 minutes from attack onset



TGVS: Trigemino-vascular system  
CSD: cortical spreading depression  
TNC: trigeminal nucleus caudalis




1. Pietrobon D et al. *Nat Rev Neuro*. 2003;4:386–398.

2. Goadsby, *Headache*. 2005; 45:S24–44.

3. Cady RK. *Diagnosis and treatment of migraine*. *Clinical Cornerstone*. 1999;1:21–32.

# Resource

Pediatric Migraine Action Plan -  
[headachejournal.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/head.13681](http://headachejournal.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/head.13681)

Green Zone – Prevent more headaches		
<p>Do or take this every day to help prevent YOUR headaches:</p>     <p>It may take 4-6 weeks to see a big change, so stick with it!            Visit <a href="http://www.headachereliefguide.com">www.headachereliefguide.com</a> to manage your headaches</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get enough sleep; keep a regular schedule</li> <li>• Eat healthy foods; don't skip meals</li> <li>• Drink enough water; avoid caffeine</li> <li>• Get regular exercise; manage your weight</li> <li>• Learn ways to relax; manage your stress</li> </ul> <p><i>Directions to provider:</i> Set 1-2 healthy lifestyle goals. Consider a daily medicine or vitamin/supplement if &gt; 1 headache per week. Consider Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT) if PedMIDAS &gt; 10. To download PedMIDAS, visit <a href="https://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/service/hy/headache-center/pedmidas">https://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/service/hy/headache-center/pedmidas</a></p>
Yellow Zone – Don't wait. Act fast to treat your headaches		
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Go to school nurse or health office right away. Take your quick-relief medicine as soon as your headache starts:</p> <p>Take _____ Dose _____            Route _____ May repeat after _____ hours.</p> <p>Take _____ Dose _____            Route _____ May repeat after _____ hours.</p> <p>Let your provider know if you need to take your quick relief medicines 3 or more days a week or if this plan isn't working.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink some water or sports drink if you can</li> <li>• Rest in a dark, quiet place for 30 minutes and practice your relaxation exercises (e.g., deep breathing, guided imagery), if you can</li> <li>• You may need a different PE activity, dark glasses, or a quiet place to work for a while</li> </ul> <p><i>Directions to provider:</i> Goal is pain-free within 1-2 hours for intermittent headaches and back to baseline for constant headaches. Consider NSAID +/- antiemetic, a triptan or a combination of medications.</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Directions to provider:</i> Optional section for other scenarios, step 2 or a "backup" plan. Home "backup" plan: Consider dopamine blocker +/- diphenhydramine +/- NSAID.</p>		
Red Zone – Time to get more help		
<p>Contact your provider's office if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your headache is much worse, lasting much longer than usual</li> </ul> <p>Go to the Emergency Room if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You have new and very different symptoms like loss of vision, unable to move one side of your face or body, trouble walking or talking, very confused or unable to respond</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call 9-1-1 if child loses consciousness or has stroke-like symptoms</li> </ul> <p><i>Directions to provider:</i> Avoid giving aspirin to children &lt; 16 years old. Avoid giving opioids or butalbital for pain.</p>
<p>I authorize the quick-relief medication(s) listed in the Yellow Zone:</p> <p>Provider's Signature _____ Date _____</p> <p>Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to be administered by school personnel  <input type="checkbox"/> to be self-administered by student  <input type="checkbox"/> to be administered only by parent</p>		

## Pediatric Migraine Action Plan (PedMAP): Headache Toolbox

Tools for life	
<p>Children and adolescents with headaches need to learn how to manage life with headaches at home, at school and with friends.</p>	
<p>Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT)</p>	<p>CBT teaches you new ways of thinking about pain and new ways of responding to it by setting goals, pacing activity, and using your brain to turn down your body's pain response. Visit <a href="http://www.findcbt.org/FAT/">http://www.findcbt.org/FAT/</a> to learn more about CBT and find a therapist.</p>



# Resource

## Therapeutic Management of Acute Migraine in Pediatrics (PeCaHN) - <https://migrainecanada.org/medication-dosing-advice/>

### Therapeutic Management of an Acute Migraine Attack in Pediatrics (6-17 years)

#### International Classification of Headache Disorders diagnostic criteria for migraine

- Must have had at least 5 headaches
- The headache must last 2-72 hours long

The headache must have **ONE** of the following:

- Nausea **AND/OR** vomiting
- Light **AND** noise sensitivity

The headache must have **TWO** out of the 4 criteria:

- Pain that is unilateral or bilateral (typically frontotemporal)
- Pulsating quality
- Moderate or severe pain
- Worsened by, or causes avoidance of routine physical activity

#### Rules of treatment

1. Treat early, as soon as the attack starts.
2. Repeat 1 dose prn within 24h if attack persists after 1st dose in appropriate interval.
3. Maximum doses: 2 days/week for triptans; 3 days/week for NSAIDs.
4. For patients with a lot of emesis/early emesis, consider nasal spray or ODT format.
5. Medications from different classes may be used in combination.

#### Recommendations

##### Non-specific treatment of migraine attacks

TREATMENT	DOSAGE	INTERVAL	MAXIMUM
Ibuprofen	10 mg/kg/dose	q6-8h prn	600 mg/dose, 40 mg/kg/day or 2400 mg/day
Naproxen	5-7 mg/kg/dose	q8-12h prn	500 mg/dose, 10 mg/kg/day or 1000 mg/day
Acetaminophen	15 mg/kg/dose	q4-6h prn	1000 mg/dose, 75 mg/kg/day or 4000 mg/day

##### Specific treatment of migraine attacks for patients

TREATMENT	DOSAGE	INTERVAL	MAXIMUM	
Rizatriptan Tablets & ODT	< 40 kg: 5 mg ≥ 40 kg: 10 mg	Can repeat in 2 hours, max 2 doses/24 hours	< 40 kg: 10 mg ≥ 40 kg: 20 mg	5 mg ODT approved by FDA for ≥ 6 yo
Zolmitriptan Tablets, ODT & nasal spray	< 40 kg: 2.5 mg PO ≥ 40 kg: 5 mg PO	Can repeat in 2 hours, max 2 doses/24 hours	< 40 kg: 5 mg ≥ 40 kg: 10 mg	2.5 mg nasal spray approved by FDA for ≥ 12 yo
Sumatriptan nasal spray	< 40 kg: 5 mg ≥ 40 kg: 20 mg	Can repeat in 2 hours, max 2 doses/24 hours	< 40 kg: 10 mg ≥ 40 kg: 40 mg	10 mg nasal spray approved by European Medicines Agency for ≥ 12 yo
Almotriptan	< 40 kg: 6.25 mg PO ≥ 40 kg: 12.5 mg PO	Can repeat in 2 hours, max 2 doses/24 hours	< 40 kg: 12.5 mg ≥ 40 kg: 25 mg	6.25 mg and 12.5 mg tablets approved by Health Canada and FDA for ≥ 12 yo
Sumatriptan/Naproxen combined tablet	< 40 kg: Do not use due to the 500mg naproxen dose which is too high ≥ 40 kg: 85mg Sumatriptan/500 mg Naproxen once per day			85/500 mg tablets approved by FDA for ≥ 12 yo

##### Anti-nausea medication

TREATMENT	DOSAGE	INTERVAL	MAXIMUM
Ondansetron liquid, tablets and ODT	0.15-0.2 mg/kg/dose PO	q8h prn	8 mg/dose
Metoclopramide liquid, tablets	0.1-0.3 mg/kg/dose PO	q6h prn	10 mg/dose
Prochlorperazine tablets and suppositories	0.1 mg/kg/dose PO/PR	q6-8h prn	10 mg/dose



CHEO



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# Back to our case.... 6 months later

- Migraine attacks: no change over the past 6 months, persist at frequency of 2-3 days a month and can last up to a full day
- +++ severe and nausea within 10-15 mins from headache onset
- Medications: sumatriptan and zolmitriptan NS, almotriptan, rizatriptan, naproxen (no response, persistent vomiting with attacks)
- Exam: unremarkable

# Which of the following off-label treatments would you recommend next?

- A. Lidocaine nasal spray
- B. CGRP antagonists (oral gepants)
- C. Neuromodulation device
- D. Nerve block
- E. None of the above (*I am not comfortable trying any of these options*)



# The landscape is changing



## Original Article

# A randomized controlled pilot study of intranasal lidocaine in acute management of paediatric migraine and migraine-like headache

Kate Maki MD<sup>1</sup>, Quynh Doan MDCM<sup>1,2</sup>, Kendra Sih PharmD<sup>1</sup>, Karly Stillwell BSc<sup>2</sup>,  
Alaina Chun BSc<sup>2</sup>, Garth Meckler MDS<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pediatrics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

<sup>2</sup>BC Children's Hospital Research Institute, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada



# SPG blockade

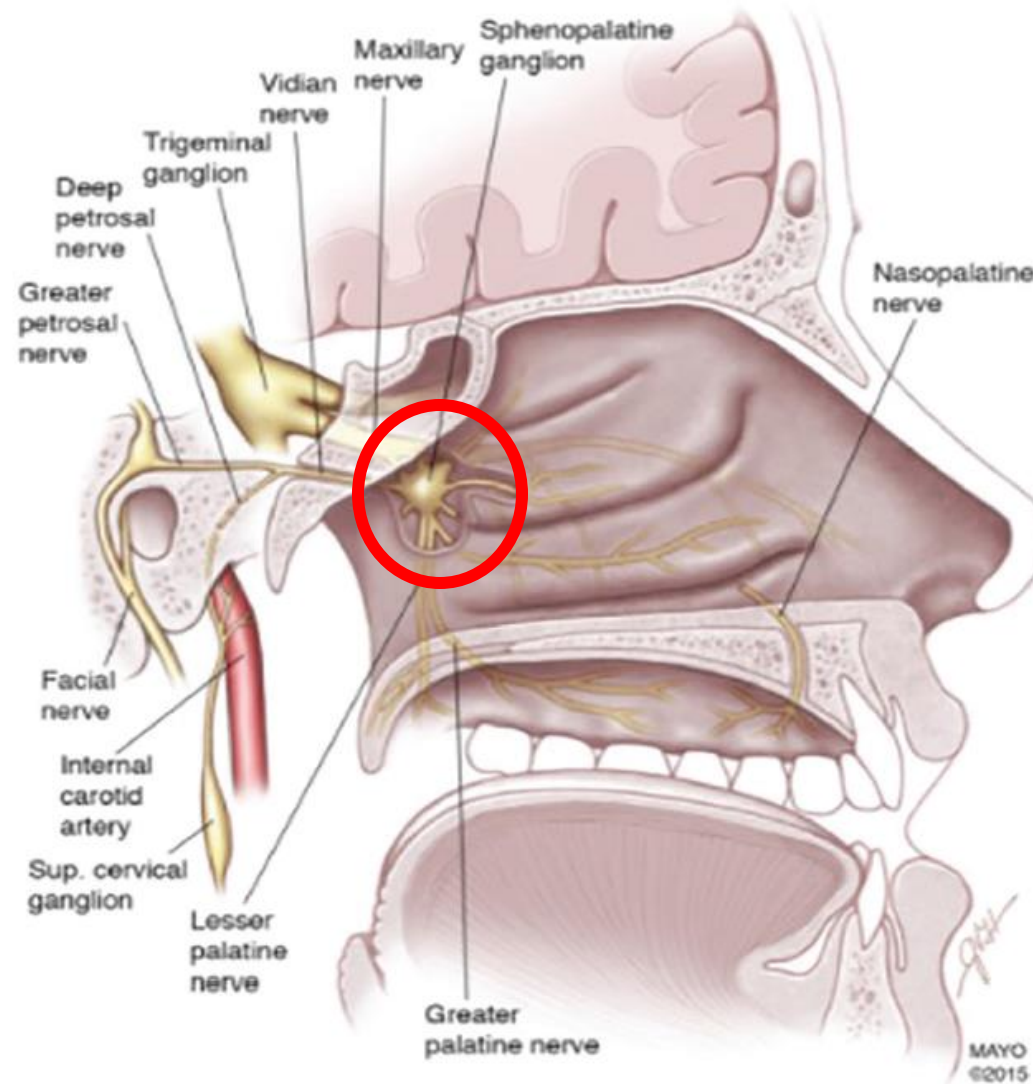


Barre Method

<https://practicalneurology.com/articles/2021-may/sphenopalatine-blocks-without-catheter/pdf>



# SPG



# Triptan/ NSAID Combination

## Sumatriptan + naproxen 85/500 mg

- Approved by FDA in 2008
- Approved by Health Canada in September 2020
- For acute migraine treatment in adults and adolescents (ages 12-17)
  - Pain free at 2h: 24% vs 10% (37 % vs 18%, adolescents)
  - Significant improvement of nausea, photophobia, phonophobia at 2h

# New 5-HT<sub>1</sub> target

**Lasmiditan**- selective 5-HT<sub>1F</sub> agonist

- FDA approved October 2019 in adults

## **Systematic review and meta-analysis in adults<sup>1</sup>**

- 79.2%  $\geq 1$  cardiovascular risk factor at baseline
- Significant pain and most bothersome symptom freedom at 2h (200 mg superior efficacy >100 mg)

## **Safety and tolerability in pediatric migraine patients<sup>2</sup>**

- 100 mg (<40 kg) and 200 mg (>40-55kg): no safety or tolerability issues
- Peak at 1.5h and T<sub>1/2</sub> is 4h

*Precautions:* risk of driving impairment, CNS depression (sedation, dizziness)

➤ **Pediatric phase 3 RCT in progress: ~completion January 2025**

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04396236>



1. Bang Y, et al. CNS Drugs (2020)

2. Tsai M, et al. Clin Pharmacokinet (2021)



# CASE 2: Penny

16y F athlete with infrequent migraine without aura since age 13

- Jan 2023: gradual increase in headache frequency to 4-5 days a week (duration: 4-12 hours)
- Headache **RED** flags: none
- Recent diagnosis of severe depression
- **Previous failed headache medications:** ibuprofen, naproxen, almotriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, rizatriptan
- **Current medications:** sumatriptan-naproxen
- Exam: unremarkable

# When do you start migraine preventive treatment?

## Consider and discuss preventive treatment in pediatric migraine patients with the following:

- frequent headache (>4 headache days a month or 3-4 migraine attacks a month for  $\geq 3$  months) and migraine-related disability (PedMIDAS score  $\geq 30$ ) or both **(Level B)**
- medication overuse (taking triptans, ergot, opioids and combination analgesics > 9 days/months or taking OTC analgesics >14 days/month for  $\geq 3$  months **(Level B)**)

*Oskoui M, et al, Neurology, 2019*

# How do we counsel parents about preventive medications?

- Inform patients and caregivers: Majority of preventive meds are NOT superior to placebo **(Level B)<sup>1</sup>**
- Shared decision making → use of short-term treatment trials for a minimum of 2 months **(Level B)<sup>1</sup>**

1. Oskoui M, et al. AAN/AHS Guideline, *Neurology*, 2019

## Her mother is asking if we can start with non-prescription therapies?

Nutraceutical	Recommendation	Strength	Level of evidence
Coenzyme Q10	Use	Weak	Low
Magnesium	Use	Weak	Low
Butterbur	<p>Since 2014: Two more reviews, conclusions basically the same – insufficient evidence all around, most promise for prevention is for Coenzyme Q10 and magnesium</p>		
Other products			
Polyunsaturated fatty acids			
Ginkgolide B	Do not use	Weak	Low
Riboflavin (Vitamin B2)	Do not use	Weak	Low

Orr SL, Venkateswaran S. *Cephalalgia* 2014;34(8):568-83; Orr SL. *Cephalalgia* 2016;36(12):1112-33  
Orr SL. *Curr Pain Headache Rep* 2018;22(5):37.

# Back to our case...

- She took Magnesium citrate and Coenzyme Q10 for 3 months.
- Partial response: 15 days a month (less disabling)
- **What is your next step?**

# Goals for preventive treatment

$\geq 50\%$  ↓ in frequency

AND/OR

$\leq 4$  days/month

## 2019 AAN/AHS Pediatric Migraine Treatment <sup>1</sup>

### Level B recommendation

Propranolol  
Topiramate  
Amitriptyline + CBT

### Off label treatment<sup>2</sup>:

Onabotulinum toxin A  
Venlafaxine  
Duloxetine  
Candesartan  
Cinnarizine  
Valproic acid  
Gabapentin  
Flunarizine  
Cyproheptadine  
Nadolol/Metoprolol

1. Oskoui M, et al. AAN/AHS Guideline, Neurology (2019)
2. Szperka C. Headache. Continuum (2021)

# QUESTION:

Which prevention therapy would you recommend for Penny?

- A. Amitriptyline
- B. Propranolol
- C. Topiramate
- D. Onabotulinum toxin A
- E. None of the above (*I am not comfortable starting any of the above medications for this patient*)

Penny is 16 yo

- Jan 2023: 4-5 days a week 4-12 hours
- Recent diagnosis of severe depression
- **Previous failed headache medications:** ibuprofen, naproxen, almotriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, rizatriptan
- **Current medications:** sumatriptan-naproxen

# Tips on how to choose the preventative treatment for your patient

Disorder + Migraine	Consider	Avoid or Caution
Depression	Venlafaxine*, Sertraline*, Duloxetine*	B-blocker, Topiramate, Amitriptyline (increase suicidal risk in adolescents)
Anxiety	Amitriptyline, Venlafaxine*, Propranolol, Gabapentin*	Sertraline (lower doses may worsen anxiety)
Sleep disturbance	Amitriptyline, Gabapentin*, Melatonin	Topiramate
Obesity	Topiramate, Candesartan*	Amitriptyline, Valproate
Epilepsy	Topiramate, Valproate*, Gabapentin*	

\*Off-label treatment

1. D'Amico D, Tepper SJ. *Neuropsychiatr Dis Treat*. 2008;4(6):1155-67 2. Pary R, et al. Managing bipolar depression. *Psychiatry* (Edgmont). 2006;3(2):30-41 3. Engmann B. Case Rep Med. 2012;2012:389851. 4. Cascade E, et al. *Psychiatry* (Edgmont). 2008;5(10):20-2 5. UpToDate. Headache, migraine, and stroke. Available at: <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/headache-migraine-and-stroke>. Accessed August 28, 2017. 6. National Headache Foundation. Aspirin and Migraine. Available at: <http://www.headaches.org/2007/10/25/aspirin-and-migraine/>. Accessed August 28, 2017. 7. Antonaci F, et al. Springerplus. 2016;5:637 8. Evans RW, et al. Headache. 2012;52(4):663-71 9. Bigal ME, et al. *Epilepsy Behav*. 2003;4 Suppl 2:S13-24

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# Penny is asking how long she has to take her preventive medication?

- A. 1-2 months
- B. 3 months
- C. 4 months
- D. 6-12 months
- E. I am not comfortable answering her question

1. Oskoui M, et al. AAN/AHS Guideline, *Neurology*, 2019
2. Powers SW. *JAMA Netw Open* 2021;4(7):e2114712



# When do you taper off her preventive medication?

- Monitor for medication effectiveness and side effects → stop once good migraine control is established for 6-12 months<sup>2</sup> **(Level B)**<sup>1</sup>

1. Oskoui M, et al. AAN/AHS Guideline, *Neurology*, 2019

2. Powers SW. *JAMA Netw Open* 2021;4(7):e2114712

# Back to our case.... 1 year later

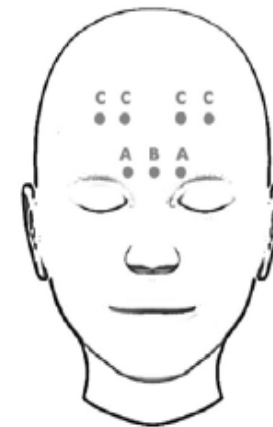
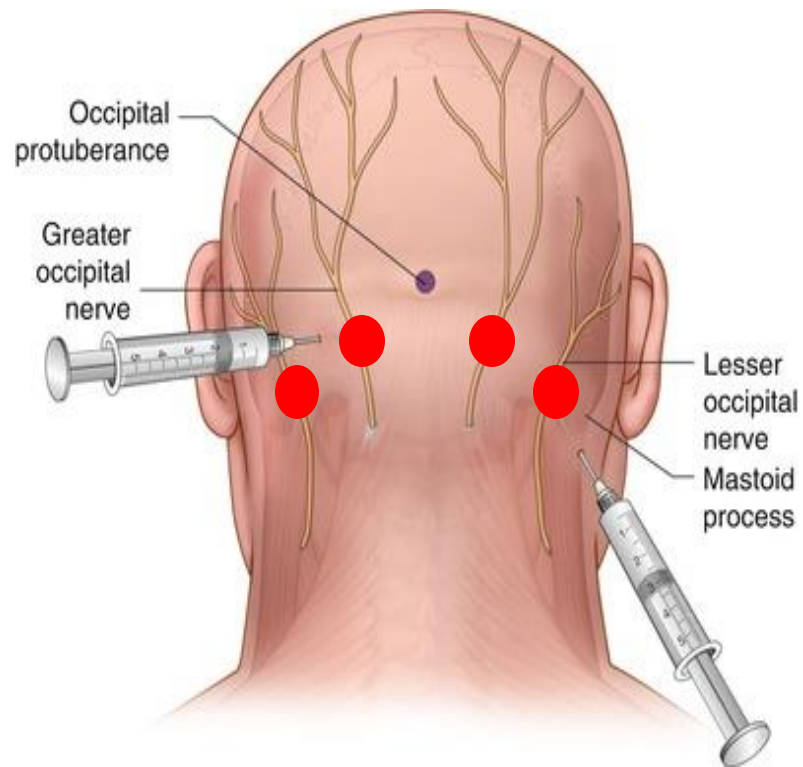
- Headache frequency: daily and constant
- 70% ++ migraine features
- No headache RED flags
- **Previous failed headache medications:**
  - **ACUTE:** ibuprofen, naproxen, diclofenac, almotriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, rizatriptan
  - **PREVENTIVE:** topiramate and amitriptyline (worsened depression), gabapentin, nadolol, flunarizine
- **Current medications:**
  - **ACUTE:** sumatriptan-naproxen, lidocaine NS, Cefaly (partial response)
  - **PREVENTIVE:** venlafaxine 150 mg/day
- Exam: unremarkable

# What preventive therapy option would you recommend for this patient next?

- A. CGRP targeted therapy
- B. Neuromodulation therapy
- C. Onabotulinum toxin A
- D. Weekly pericranial nerve blocks
- E. None of the above (*I am not comfortable starting this patient with any of the above options*)



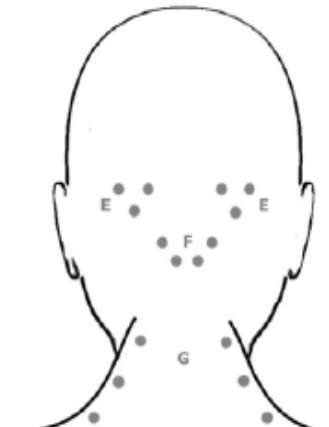
# What is the role of interventional headache procedures in pediatric migraine treatment?



A - Corrugator 10-15 units  
B - Procerus 5-10 units  
C - Frontalis 10-30 units



D - Temporalis 40-50 units



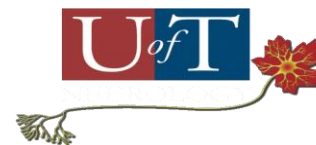
E - Occipitalis 20-50 units  
F - Cervical Paraspinal 20-40 units  
G - Trapezius 20-40 units

# Interventional Procedures



Intervention	Pediatric data	Level of pediatric evidence	Approvals
Onabotulinum toxin A (chronic migraine) <sup>1,2,3</sup>	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open-label case series</li> <li>Parallel-group RCT of one injection series (N=125) *<i>Negative trial</i></li> <li>Cross-over RCT of one injection series (N=15)</li> <li>Several retrospective review/case series: decrease in pain intensity, cumulative benefit, 50% decrease HA frequency</li> </ul>	X
Nerve blocks <sup>4,5,6</sup>  <small>             1. Winner P et al. Headache 2020;60(3):564-575;              2. Shah S et al. Reg Anesth Pain Med 2021;46(1):41-48;              3. Marcelo R, Freund B. J Child Neurol.2020;35(1):844-851              4. Dubrovsky AS. Curr Opin Pediatr 2018;30(6):780-5;              5. Esparham et al. J Child Neurol. 2021;36(1):54-9.              6. Mousa MA, et al.Pain Physician. 2021.23: E111-116           </small>	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chronic migraine, status migrainosus, chronic refractory migraine, NDPH using Lidocaine</li> <li>Open-label case series (4 with ONB; 1 with SPG)</li> <li>53-70% improvement (partial to complete)</li> <li>Reduction in pain scores by 2.4</li> </ul>	X


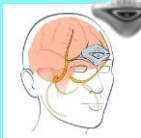
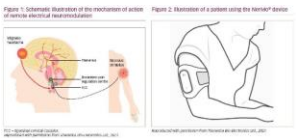

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**What is the role of emerging therapies in pediatric migraine management?**



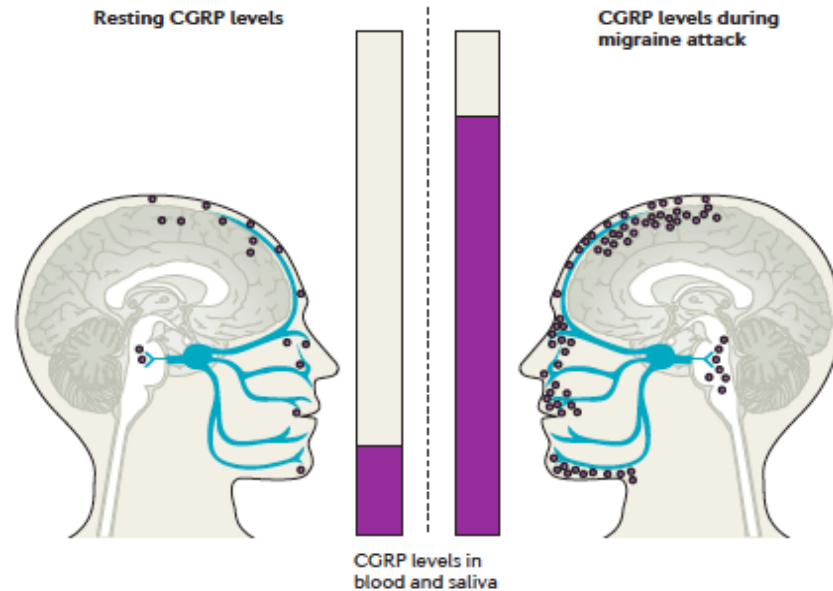
# Emerging Pediatric Migraine Therapies

Neuromodulation devices	Pediatric Data	Level of evidence	Approvals/clearances
Non-invasive vagal nerve stimulation (GammaCore)* 	✓ (acute)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prospective observational open-label acute study (N=9)</li> </ul>	US + CA ≥12yo
Electrical trigeminal nerve stimulation (Cefaly)* 	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retrospective study (N=154 visits): reduce intensity</li> </ul>	✗
Remote electrical neuromodulation (Nerivio) 	✓ (acute)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prospective open-label acute study (N=71)</li> </ul>	us ≥12yo
Single pulse transcranial magnetic stimulation (sTMS mini) 	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prospective open-label study (N=21)</li> </ul> <p><i>Marshall et al. Current Neurol Neurosci Rep. 2022</i>  <i>Zorrilla et al. Headache 2023;63(1):177-82; epub; clinicaltrials.gov.</i>  <i>Esparham A, et al. J Child Neurology. 2022; 36(1):54-59</i></p>	us ≥12yo

\* Available in Canada

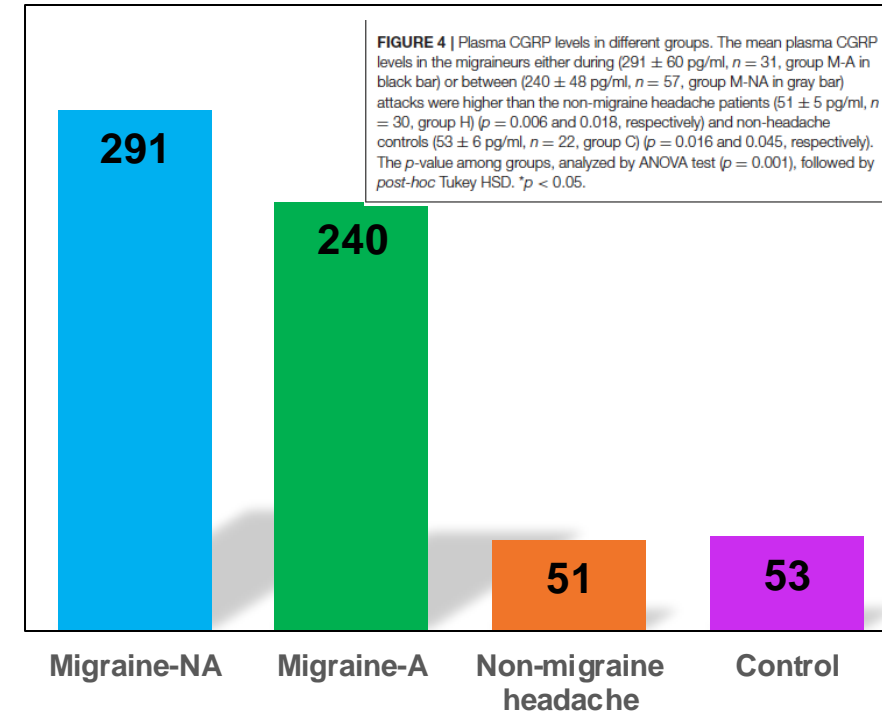
# Why target CGRP for pediatric migraine treatment?

**CGRP levels are elevated in pediatric migraine patients**



1. Edvinsson L et al. Nature.2018;14:338- 350
2. Fan PC, et al. Frontiers of Neurology.2019; 10:1-9

## Plasma CGRP levels (pg/ml) in pediatric patients



# Emerging Pediatric Migraine Therapies

Intervention	Pediatric Data	Level of evidence	Approvals/ clearances
<b>CGRP targeted therapies</b>			
Gepants	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase III trials underway for ubrogepant, rimegepant &amp; atogepant</li> </ul>	✗
CGRP mAbs	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retrospective observational studies (N=112 with mixed mAb and N=9 with eptinezumab)</li> <li>Phase III trials underway for all 4 antibodies</li> </ul>	✗

*Marshall et al. Current Neurol Neurosci Rep. 2022; Zorrilla et al. Headache 2023;63(1):177-82; epub; clinicaltrials.gov.*

# CGRP targeted migraine therapies

Gepants

mAbs

Medications	Mechanism	Indication	Route	Adult Dose	Pediatric Trial
Zavegepant	receptor antagonist	acute	nasal	prn	✗
Rimegepant	receptor antagonist	acute and preventive	po	50-100 mg prn/EOD	✓
Ubrogepant*	receptor antagonist	acute	po	50-100 mg prn	✓
Atogepant*	receptor antagonist	preventive	po	daily	** ✓
Erenumab*	mAb (receptor)	preventive	SC	70-140 mg monthly	*** ✓
Galcanezumab*	mAb (ligand)	preventive	SC	240, 120 mg monthly	✓
Fremanezumab*	mAb (ligand)	preventive	SC	225/675 mg monthly/quarterly	✓
Eptinezumab*	mAb (ligand)	preventive	IV	100-300 mg quarterly	** ✓

\* Available in Canada

\*\* Pediatric trials in Children's Hospital, LHSC

\*\* Pediatric trial in Sickkids and Children's Hospital, LHSC



## Suggested indications, contraindications and monitoring for use of CGRP monoclonal antibodies in children and adolescents with migraine

Indications	Contraindications	Monitoring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <math>\geq 8</math> HA days/month</li> <li>• PedMIDAS score <math>\geq 30</math></li> <li>• Failure <math>&gt;2</math> preventive meds</li> <li>• Post-pubertal adolescent, or pre-pubertal child in carefully selected cases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbed BBB</li> <li>• Severe cardiovascular disease, recent stroke</li> <li>• Pregnancy, planned pregnancy or breast feeding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP and HR</li> <li>• Pubertal status</li> <li>• Bone health</li> <li>• Linear growth</li> <li>• Weight/BMI</li> <li>• Infections</li> <li>• Pregnancy status</li> </ul>

Szperka C, et al.. Headache (2018)

# Future/Ongoing pediatric migraine trials<sup>1,2</sup>

## ACUTE treatment:

- Intranasal sphenopalatine ganglion block 2% Lidocaine: phase 3 recruiting
- Propofol infusion: open label, recruiting
- Sumatriptan nasal powder: phase 3, recruiting
- Dexamethasone IV: phase 1
- Nitrous oxide
- Occipital nerve blocks
- Prochlorperazine vs Prochlor +Ketorolac
- Intranasal lidocaine
- VPA and DHE
- IV fluids
- IV Ketorolac and Metoclopramide
- Oral Dexamethasone for acute migraine recurrence in ED

## Preventive treatment:

Alpha lipoic acid (ALA) 300 mg VS Flunarizine 5 mg: phase IV, open label, recruiting

1. Iannone LF et al, Life. (2022)
2. [clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov)



# Natural history of pediatric migraine

## Factors with favorable outcome

- Age of onset after 6 years old
  - Earlier onset < 6y: 4.2 times >> risk of unfavorable outcome
  - Onset 6-10y: 82% good outcome, 12% + prophylaxis

Male gender is associated with remission

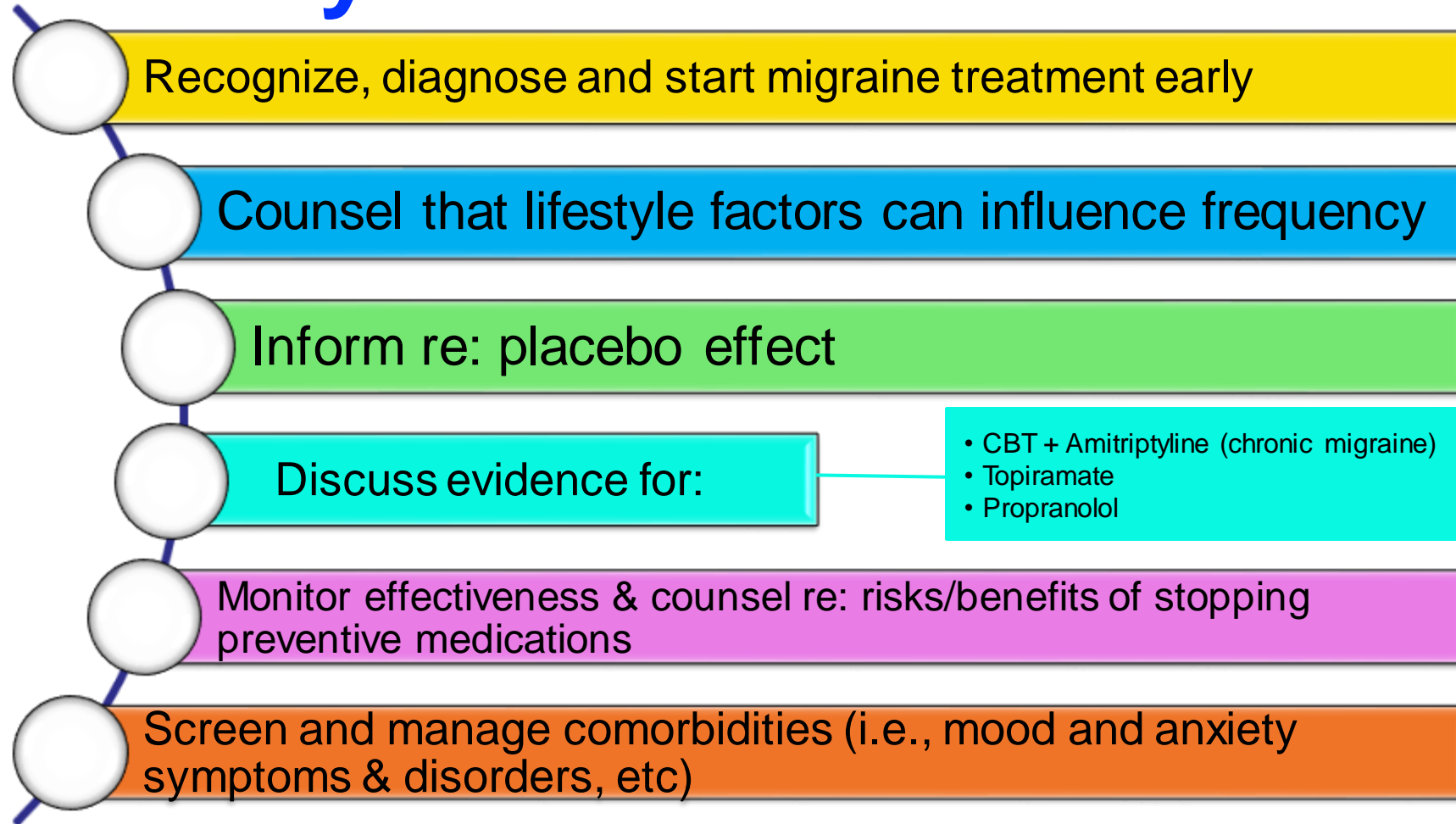
## Early developmental disorders

Associated with persistence of migraine

Antonacci F, et al. Journal Headache and pain.2014;15:11  
Kienbacher, et al. Cephalalgia.2006;26:820-830



# Key Recommendations



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*Oskoui et al. Neurology 2019. 59(8);1144-1157.*

# Key Takeaways



- The  in migraine management in children of adolescents
  - *Education*
  - *Shared-decision making*
  - *Individualized treatment*
- Always review 4 key aspects of treatment
  - *Acute treatment*
  - *Preventive treatment*
  - *Education and Self-management*
  - *Comorbidity management*

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# Bottom line

*“We are now in an era where we understand what is happening in migraine inside of the brain. Based on our understanding, we’re designing treatment options.”*

- Pediatric RCTs and novel trial designs needed (*crossover design, single-blind placebo lead-in*)
- When in doubt: be guided by clinical characteristics, stratify approach

# A child's brain is no place for migraine



<https://headaches.org/pediatric-migraine-studies/> (modified)



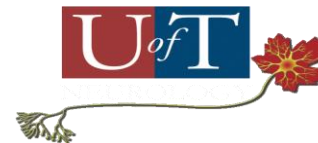
[info@headachesociety.ca](mailto:info@headachesociety.ca)  
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TORONTO, CANADA

October 2024

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# Any questions?



# Appendix



# SHARED: Lifestyle changes to promote headache health

Headaches in Kids and Teens: SHARED Model of Care	
<b>S</b> upplements	Magnesium citrate (9 mg/kg/day): 150-450 mg/day Coenzyme Q10 (1-3 mg/kg/day): 100-200 mg/day
<b>S</b> creen time	Screen exposure (high level >4 hours/day): may trigger migraine, negatively impacts sleep Screen overuse >2 hours/day: linked to mood and anxiety symptoms, decreases activity level
<b>H</b> ydration	Increase water, limit caffeinated drinks, no energy drinks, avoid sugary drinks
<b>H</b> eadache diary	Use headache diary to identify triggers, headache pattern, response to treatment (Level C)
<b>A</b> ctivity and <b>A</b> void triggers	Out everyday, socialize (face to face)/school, physiotherapy, limit screen/computer use act Ac Id
<b>R</b> outine sleep	Re 3-5 6-1 13-
<b>E</b> ating	NO food aspartame) <small>Madineh, Monsour D, Lay C, Ansari T, Lagman-Bartolome AM, Curr Neurol Neuroscie Rep, 2020; 20:53</small>
<b>D</b> owntime	Stress management and relaxation (CBT, mindfulness, biofeedback therapy)

Focus on function >> ~~pain~~