



**Pediatric-Adolescent Headache Special Interest Section
Conference Call
Tuesday, September 16, 2008**

Present: Jack Gladstein, MD, Chair; Ken Mack, MD; Scott Powers, PhD, ABPP; Alma Bicknese, MD; Paul Winner, DO, FAAN; Andrew Hershey, MD, PhD; Fereidoon Behin, MD; Chaouki Khoury, MD, MS; Don Lewis, MD; Elza Vasconcellos, MD; Marielle Kabbouche, MD

Staff: Andrea Taylor

I. Research

A. Chronic Daily Headache Study – Ken Mack, MD

Dr. Mack recommended suspending the study. Before the study can begin, it was known that about 500 patients in each group was needed to demonstrate a 10% difference in efficacy. A statistician who is an advisor to this study suggested first doing a smaller preliminary study, and then re-evaluate the current study design. Data collected to date has not shown significant changes between Topiramate and Amitriptyline. Dr. Mack reviewed the results of the test study. Any data below a certain level was not reliable. Dr. Mack reviewed a study article by Richard Lipton, MD, and Marcelo Bigal, MD, PhD, which also would support the idea that the efficacy differences between these drugs may be small. There are additional concerns regarding the current design that many patients may not be getting effective doses. So now we need to ask if the original study be modified? Dr. Mack is going to speak with the statistician again to get feedback for the study. Dr. Mack will bring his suggested revisions back to the group in one or two months.

B. Referral Pattern Study – Elza Vasconcellos, MD

Dr. Vasconcellos has collected data from a few hundred patients for her site. Two other sites are currently participating. IRB approval was granted for the study. By the next meeting she should have more information to report. If any sites are interested in participating they can email her at evasconcellos@nnpmd.com.

C. ED Study – Marielle Kabbouche, MD

This study strategizes the way to handle treatment in the ED. It looks at the medications being used. Dr. Kabbouche gave an overview of the order of medication. She asked the group for ideas. They have to limit the dhs for patients who are diagnosed with migraine. This study should be done as a guideline and studied at one point. It should be submitted to *Headache*. Dr. Winner explained the guideline process. They will need to compare the efficacy of each one before putting guidelines together. There are currently no guidelines for the treatment of adults migraine in EDs. Dr. Kabbouche will do the study as a review article with the help of Drs. Bicknese, Gladstein, Lewis and Vasconcellos.

II. Education

- A. AHS – The section's pre-course application was not accepted for the upcoming Scottsdale meeting.
- B. CNS – This meeting coincides with Scottsdale.
- C. IHC – The sections have not yet been informed of the IHS' decision to offer them the opportunity to submit for pre-courses or section symposia.

III. Clinical Case Discussions

Dr. Mack shared the case of a 5 year old patient with a history of left eye pain. The child experiences intermittent episodes of stabbing left eye pain. The child is pacing, the eyes are tearing and red. The episodes last for 10-15 minutes at a time. The child gets better with oxygen, but hasn't responded to Topiramate. Dr. Mack hasn't tried Verapamil, but steroids do help. These episodes occur 3 – 7 times a day. Melatonin is given at night and helps the first couple of hours of sleep. Dr. Mack explained the results of his general exam: results were normal, the child lives in a non-smoking household, isn't exposed to alcohol and their neuroimaging studies were normal. It was suggested to him by a colleague that the condition may be hemicrania continua. Dr. Mack is going to try other methods to see if they work. Dr. Hershey explained that he has a two year old with the same history.

IV. Administrative

Andrea to remind group to meet informally in Scottsdale.

The call was adjourned at 9:45 pm Eastern.

Respectfully submitted by,

Andrea Taylor