

Imaging of Headache

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Headache is one of the most common complaints in any neurologic clinic and in emergency departments. Most of the headaches have a benign cause and a great number of them are primary headaches. Diagnosis of primary headaches is clinical and there is no need for any imaging routinely. Imaging for all the patients with headache isn't cost-effective according to many studies. A detailed history and physical examination are the best guide for selecting the patients who need more diagnostic studies such as brain imaging.

In this lecture, at first the criteria for selecting of headache patients for imaging is discussed. Then imaging findings of some disorders which could be presented mainly with headache are explained. Some examples of these disorders are Cerebral Venous Thrombosis (CVT), Subarachnoid Hemorrhage (SAH), Dissection, Benign intracranial hypertension (BIH) and Spontaneous intracranial hypotension (SIH)

Headache in a pregnant woman is one of the challenging topics in management of headache. Neuroimaging has an important role in workup of these patients. At the end there is a short speak about indications and risk of imaging in pregnant women with headache.