

Approach to Headache in Children

Zahra Rezaei,

Assistant Professor of Pediatric Neurology, Department of Pediatric Neurology, Children's Medical Center, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran



Headache is a common presentation in children in both in-patient and ambulatory neurologic clinics. Headaches could be classified as acute, acute recurrent, chronic non-progressive and chronic progressive types, although migraine, tension type and medication overuse headaches are the most common types respectively. A part from the majority of children suffer from acute recurrent and chronic non-progressive form, the two other types of headache (acute and chronic progressive) might be a manifestation of a significant underlying etiology that need emergent evaluation and treatment. Given that secondary underlying etiology should be diagnosed and treated promptly, neuroimaging as well as other ancillary evaluations should be applied in the correct scenario. There are some “Red Flags” as meaningful tools to make a comprehensive evaluation leads to finding a secondary etiology. On account of “children are not just small adults”, there are some differences in etiology as well as management of headache in children that should be considered carefully.

Keywords: Children, Headache, Migraine, Red flags, Secondary headaches.

7th Iranian International Headache & 2nd joint Headache-Pain Congress