

A microscopic image of neurons, with a central neuron highlighted in a vibrant blue color. The neuron has a large, rounded cell body and several long, branching processes extending outwards. The background is dark, and other neurons are visible in a lighter, less distinct blue.

Headache Update

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Disclosures

I have received funding from the following companies for providing educational sessions, attending advisory and editorial boards and received travel grants to attend conferences:

- Teva
- Allergan
- Continuum journal
- Novartis

CASE 1

35 year old female

Presents to neurologist with headache

Patient has googled her disorder

Neurologist disagrees with Google

Symptoms

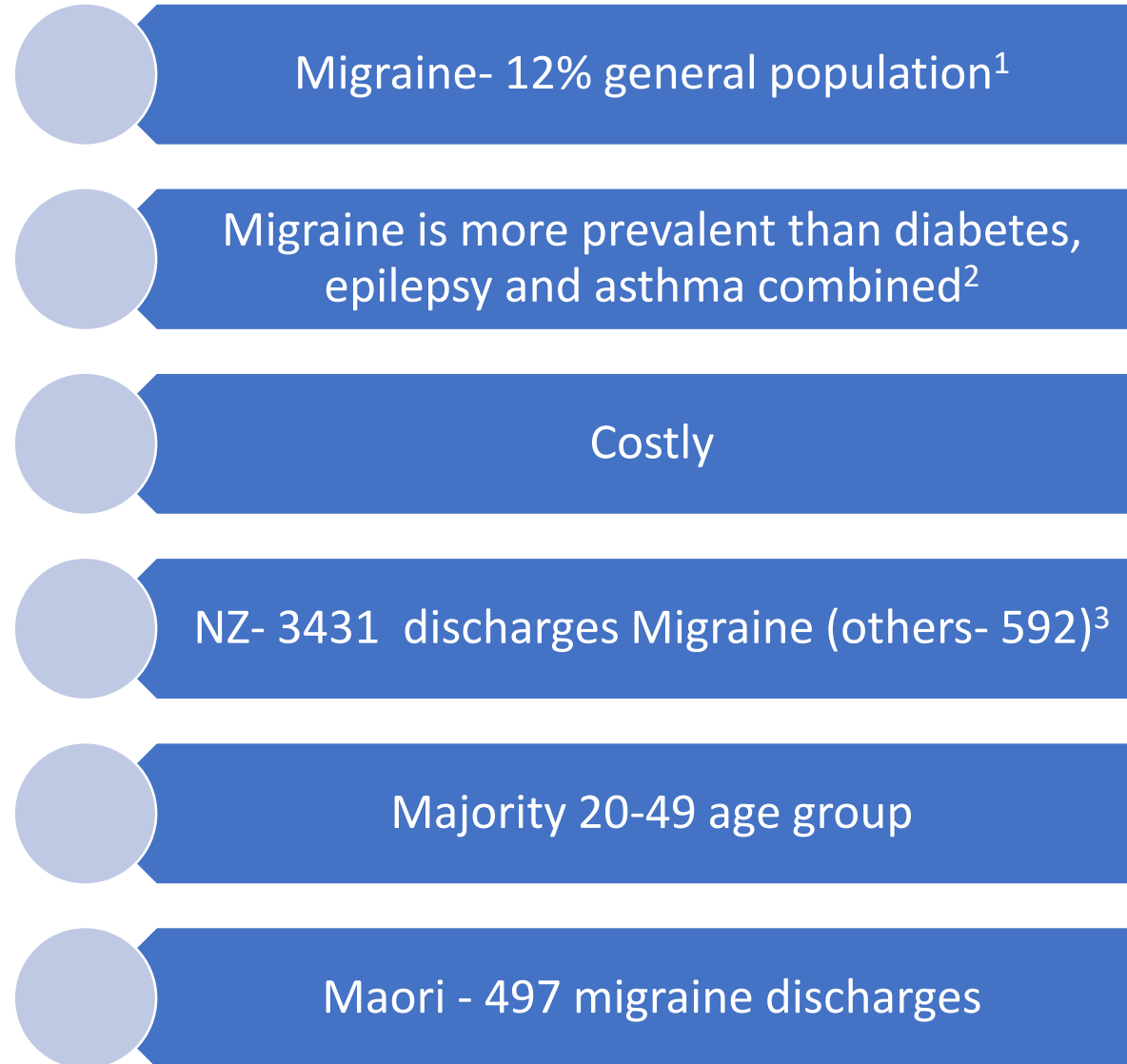
2 year history

Headache

Photophobia

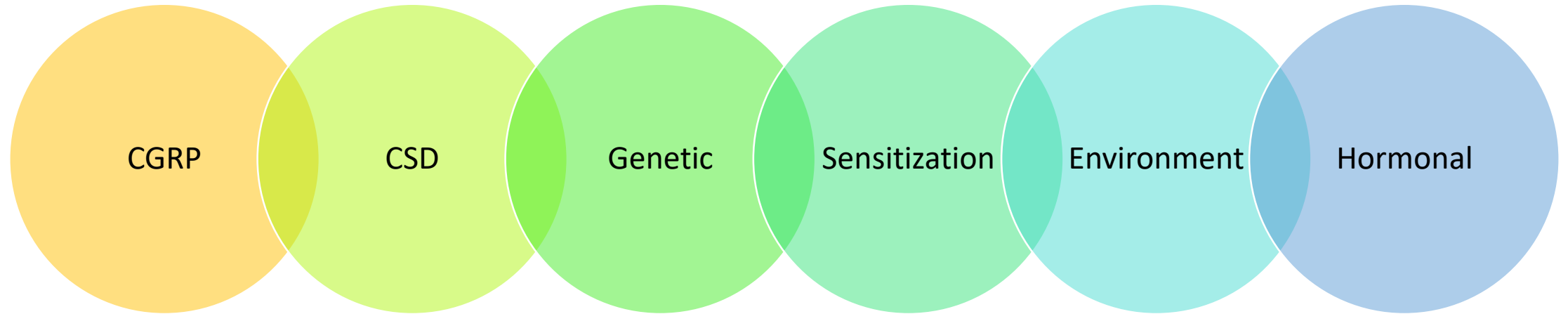
Phonophobia

Neurologist- Migraine

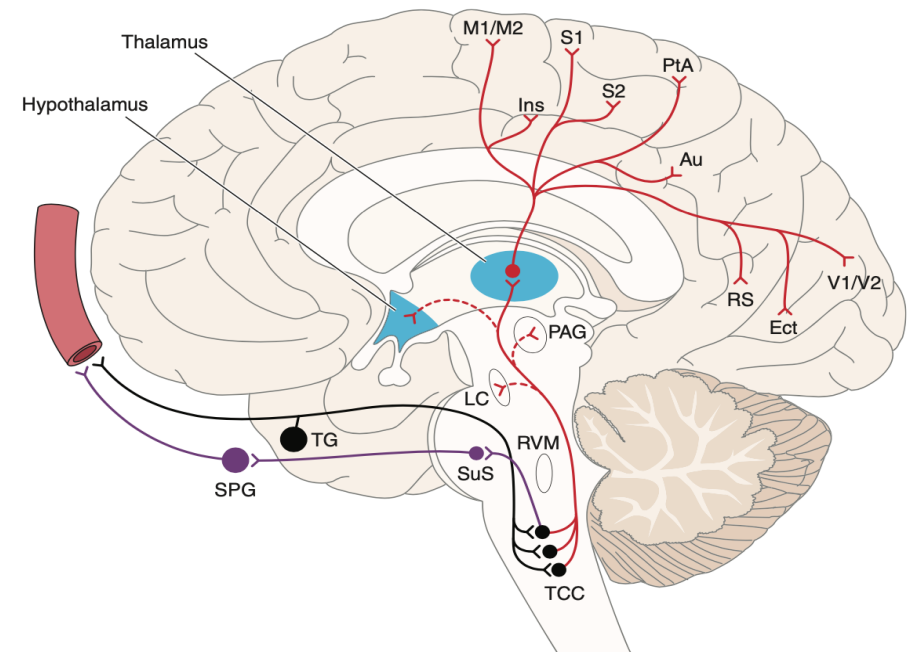


- ¹Lipton *et al.*, Headache. 2001
- ²Natoli JL *et al.*, Cephalalgia. 2010
- ³Ministry of Health NZ data 2016/17

Primary neuronal dysfunction



CGRP- Calcitonin gene related peptide
CSD- Cortical spreading depression
Genetic- FHM1,2,3, TRESK
Hormonal- Serotonin, Oestrogen



Burden

Second most disabling¹

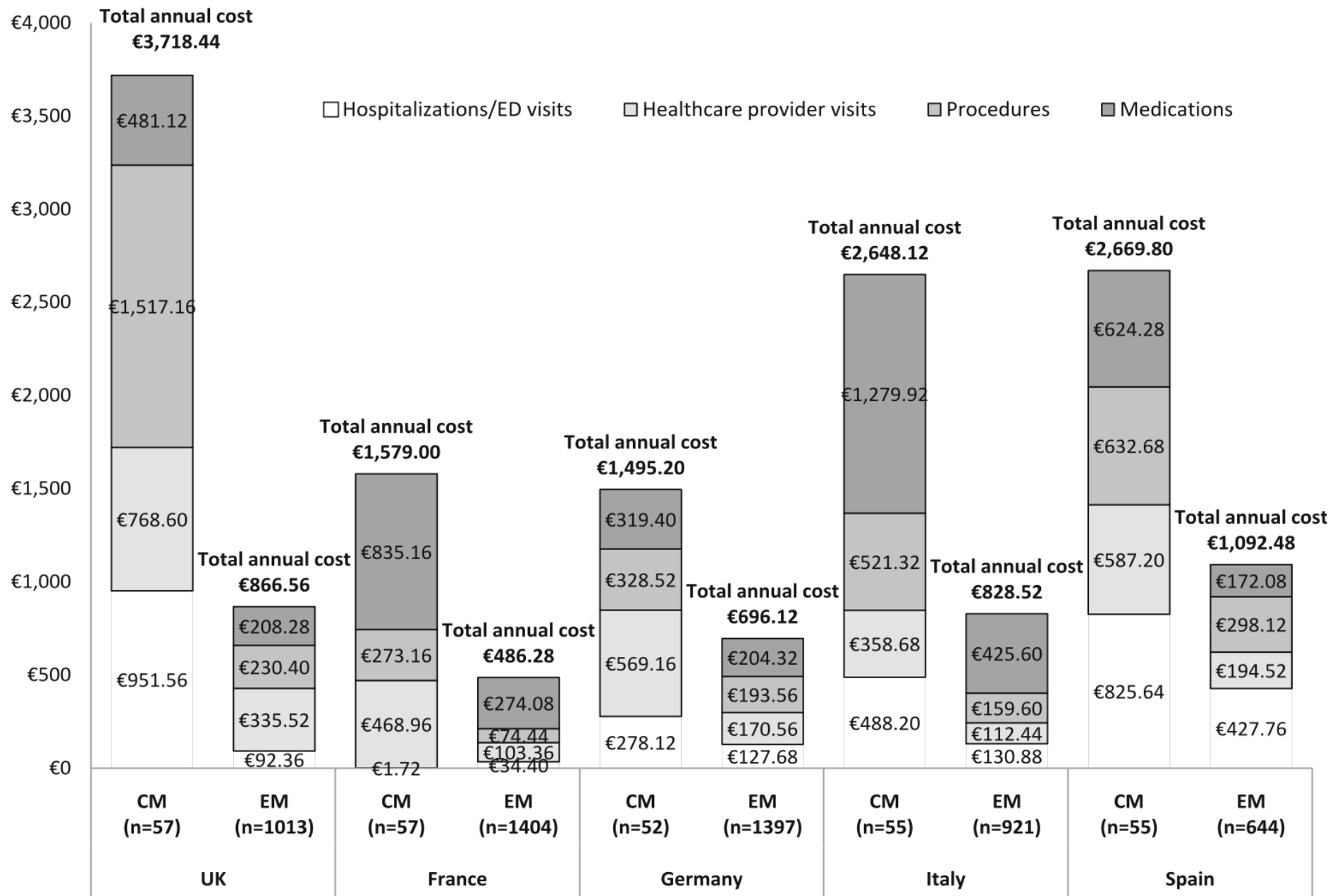
Substantial negative impact on patients' lives and their familial, social, and professional environment²

Cost- US 17 Billion \$ per year³

¹Global burden of disease Lancet 2017

²Patient perceptions of the impact and burden of migraine: an international survey of 12,545 patients across 16 countries- MTIS 2020

³Goldberg. The cost of migraine and its treatment. Am J Manag Care. 2005



Presenting symptoms

Number of headache days out of 30 per month

Crystal clear days¹

Site/Character/Duration

Circadian/Circannual periodicity²

Thunderclap?

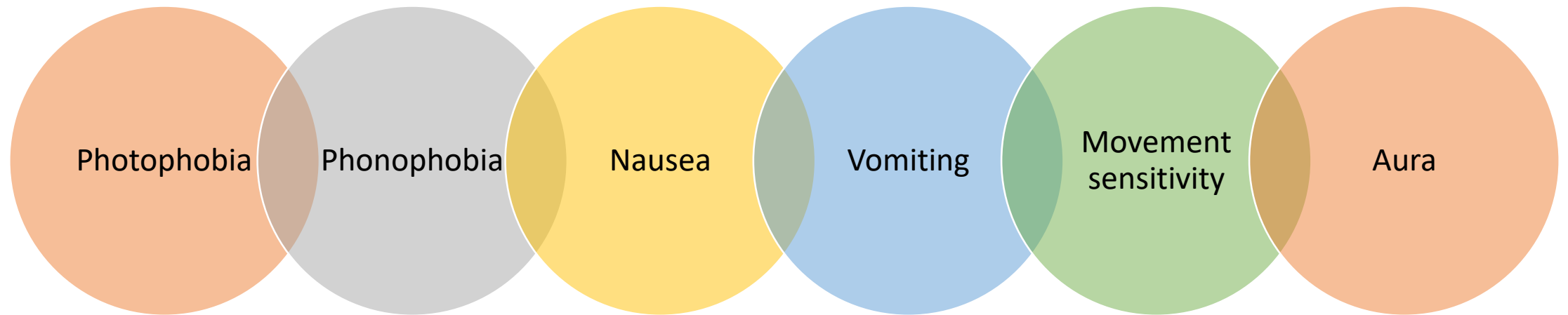
Valsalva

Postural variation

¹Khalil *et al.*, Prospective analysis of the use of Onabotulinumtoxin A (BOTOX) in the treatment of chronic migraine J Headache Pain. 2014

²May A. Cluster headache: pathogenesis, diagnosis, and management. Lancet. 2005

Associated features



Unilateral photophobia or phonophobia in migraine compared with trigeminal autonomic cephalalgias

206

Episodic migraine - 4%

Chronic Migraine - 13%

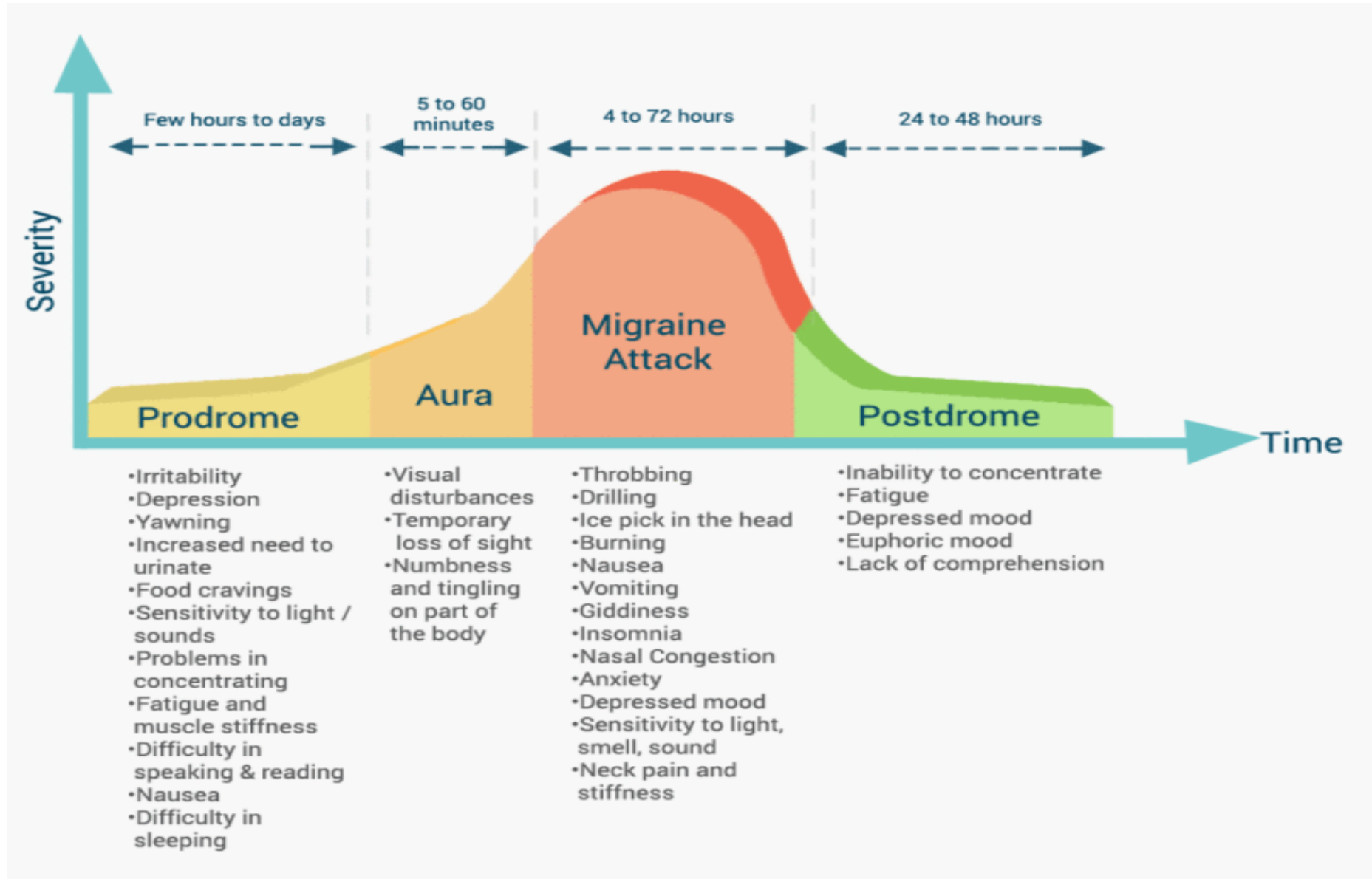
Chronic Cluster headache - 48%

Episodic cluster headache - 80%

Hemicrania Continua- 56%, SUNCT- 56%

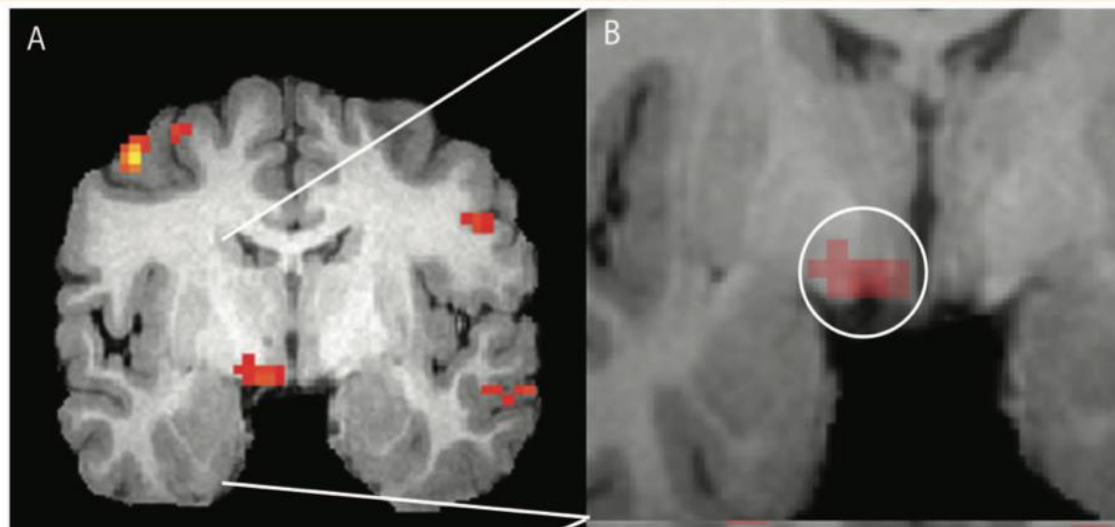
Lateralization > in TACs than migraine ($\chi^2 = 84.9$, $P < 0.0001$)

Migraine phases



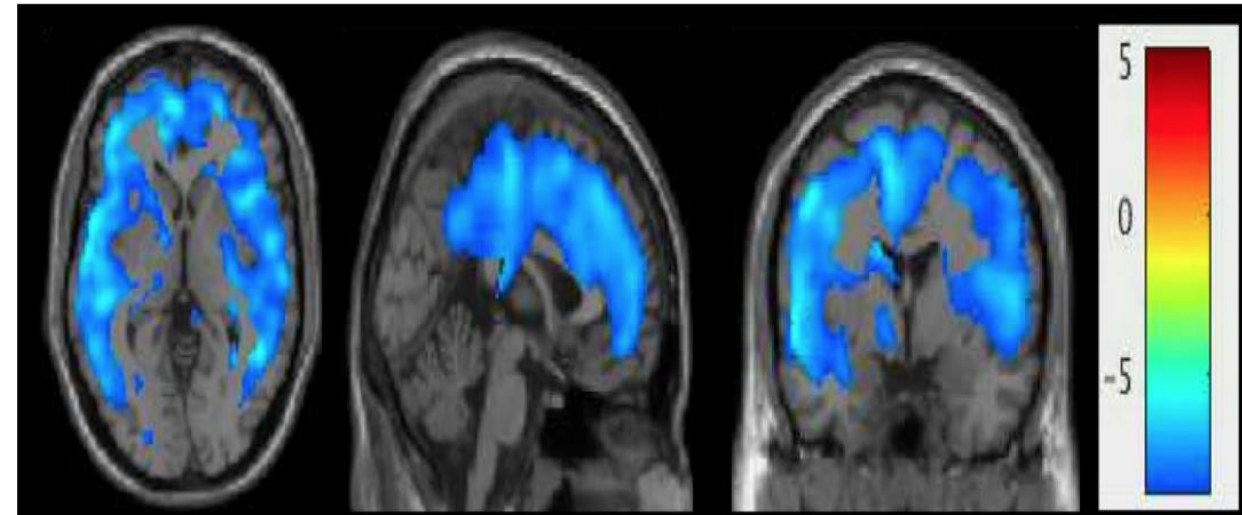
FUNCTIONAL IMAGING

- Premonitory (Prodrome)



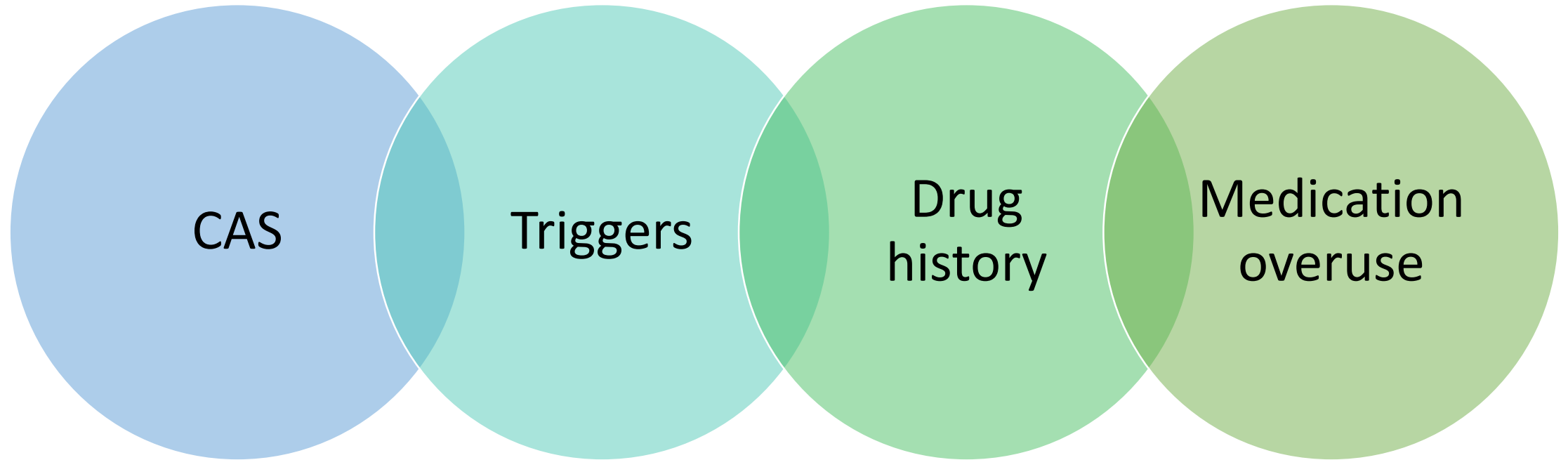
Maniyar *et al.*, Brain. 2014

- Postdrome



Bose *et al.*, JNNP 2017

OTHERS

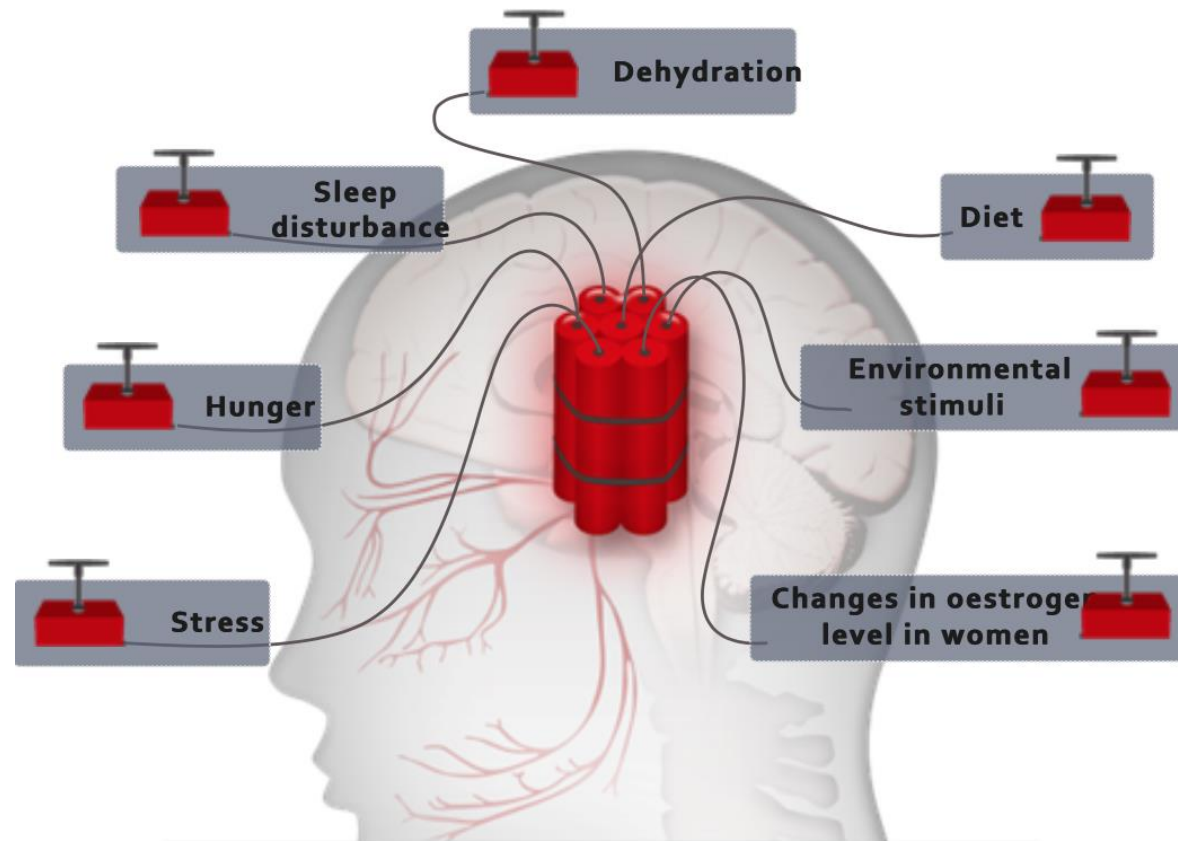


CAS (Cranial autonomic symptoms - ptosis/red eyes/watering/rhinorrhea)

Drug History- ? Max dose of preventives/ ? Side-effects

Medication overuse– Paracetamol/NSAIDS 15/30, Opiates- 10/30, Triptans 10/30

TRIGGERS



Examination

Changes to behavior/personality

Confusion

Papilledema

Ophthalmoplegia

Focal neurological deficits

RED FLAGS- SNOOP



Systemic symptoms including fever

Neoplasm history/Neurological deficit

Onset sudden, Older age (onset after age 50 years)

Pattern change, Precipitated by sneezing, coughing, or exercise

Progressive headache, Pregnancy or puerperium

Painful eye with autonomic features

Pathology of the immune system such as HIV

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Symptoms

2 year history

Headache

Photophobia

Phonophobia

Neurologist- Migraine

Symptoms

- ▶ 2 year history
- ▶ Headache- Right sided retro-orbital

Sharp/piercing pain

Lasts around 1 hour

Usually at 2 am

With unilateral cranial autonomic symptoms

Lasts 6-8 weeks

Completely symptom free in between.

- ▶ Photophobia- Right sided
- ▶ Phonophobia- Right sided

MIGRAINE

>5 attacks

4-72 hours

2 of (unilateral, pulsating, moderate to severe, aggravation with activity)

Nausea/Vomiting

Photophobia/Phonophobia

Cluster Headache

'Suicide headaches'

>5 attacks

Very severe unilateral orbital/supraorbital/temporal pain

15-180 mins

Ipsilateral cranial autonomic symptoms

Restlessness or agitation during attacks

ICHD-3 Criteria

*Migraine Management – Acute (Non-triptan)

Drug	Dose	Max dose 24 hours
Paracetamol	1000 mg	4000 mg
Ibuprofen	400-600mg	2400 mg
Aspirin	600-1000 mg	4000 mg
Naproxen	250-500 mg	1000 mg

* Based on RCT data / At least 2 international treatment guidelines

*Migraine Management – Acute (Triptans)

Drug	Dose	Max dose 24 hours
Sumatriptan oral	50-100 mg	300 mg
Sumatriptan injection	6mg	12 mg
Rizatriptan**	10 mg	20 mg
Zolmitriptan nasal spray	5 mg	10 mg

* Based on RCT data / At least 2 international treatment guidelines

**Drug interaction Rizatriptan/Propranolol- use 5 mg instead

Preventives- Episodic and Chronic Migraine

Drug	Dose	Titration	Trial Study dose
Amitriptyline	10-25 mg	10-25 mg	25-150 mg
Propranolol	10 mg BD	10-20 mg	120-240 mg
Topiramate	25 mg	25 mg	25-200 mg
Candesartan	2 mg	2 mg	8-16 mg
Botox*	155 u every 3/12		

Based on RCT data / At least 2 international treatment guidelines

Sodium valproate/Pizotifen- weight gain

*Chronic migraine

CGRP Monoclonal Antibodies

Commercial Name	Eptinezumab ALD403	Erenumab AMG334	Galcanezumab LY2951745	Fremenezumab TEV-48125
Type	Humanised Yeast	Human Murine	Humanised Murine	Humanised Murine
Trials	Promise 1 (E) Promise 2 (C) Prevail (OL LT)	Arise & Strive (E)	Evolve 1 & 2 (E) Regain (C) Conquer ©	Halo (E) Halo (C) Focus (OL LT)
Against	CGRP	Receptor	CGRP	CGRP
Route/Dose	IV every 12 weeks	SC every 4 weeks	SC every 4 weeks	SC every 4 weeks
Studies	Migraine	Migraine	Migraine Cluster	Migraine Cluster

Cluster headache – Acute Treatment

High Flow oxygen 15L/min- nonrebreathing facial mask

Sumatriptan injection

Avoid oral triptans

Cluster Headache - Preventives

Drug	Dose	Titration	Max dose
Verapamil	80 mg TDS	80 mg	960 mg
Topiramate	25 mg OD	25 mg	200 mg
Prednisolone	60mg OD- 5 days	Reduce by 10mg/day	10-day course
Greater occipital nerve block	Methylpred-80mg Lignocaine 2%		

Based on RCT data / At least 2 international treatment guidelines

Sodium valproate/Pizotifen- Limited evidence

Lithium – narrow therapeutic window

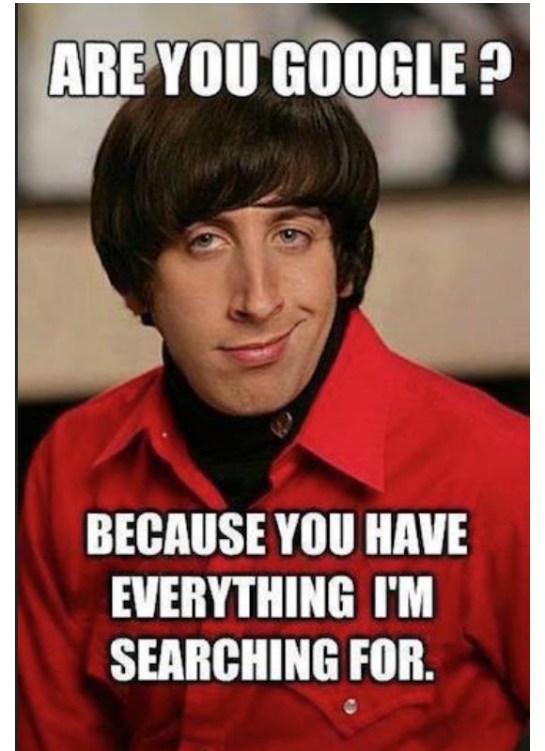
Galcanzumab – CGRP monoclonal antibody

KEY POINTS FROM THIS CASE

Cluster headache is still commonly missed¹

Unilateral photo/phonophobia can be helpful

Artificial intelligence is getting smarter



¹Cluster headache. Nesbitt AD, Goadsby PJ.BMJ. 2012

CASE 2

68 yr old female

On holiday in Spain

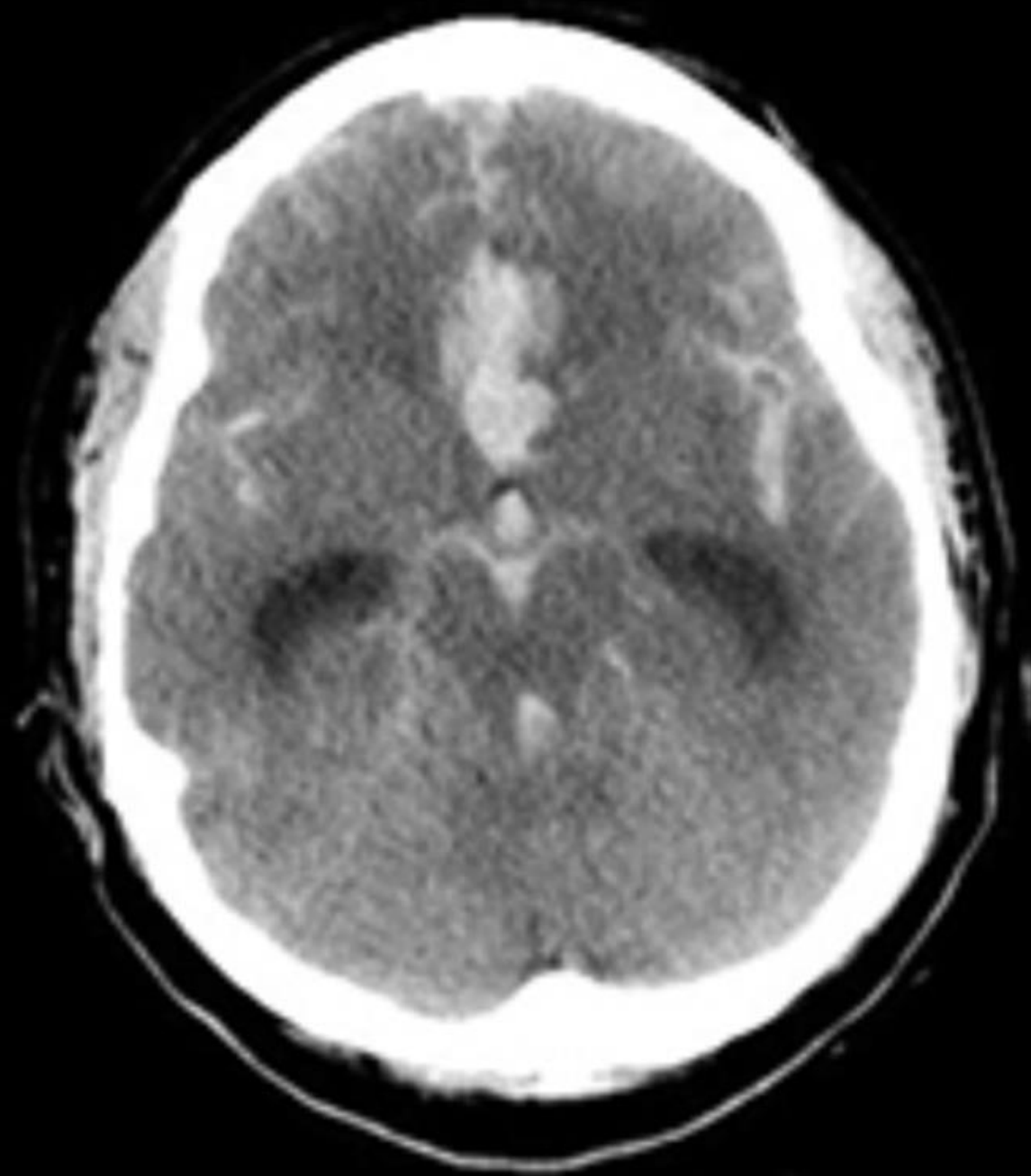
Sunbathing at onset of headache

Abrupt onset of headache

Left occipital region, throbbing, photophobia, lightheaded

ED in Spain – diagnosed migraine and discharged with analgesia

Represented to ED in UK



Subarachnoid Haemorrhage

Thunderclap headache (sudden explosive, pain peaks in 1 min or less)

‘Worst ever’

CT head (98% <6 hours)

CSF Xanthochromia – After 12 hours

1 in 20 missed in Emergency department

Common reason neurologists sued!

Thunderclap Headache

Subarachnoid haemorrhage

Cervical arterial dissection

Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis

Pituitary apoplexy

Spontaneous intracranial hypotension

Reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome (RCVS)

Stroke

CASE 3

57 yr female

3-month history throbbing headaches/photophobia/phonophobia (Migraine)

5 days before presentation- weakness right upper limb - 10 minutes followed by frontal headache - 5 minutes

Admission day- weakness left upper limb – 10 minutes

MEDICAL TEAM

Afebrile

BP 134/90

Completely normal neurological examination

CT head reported as normal

Medical Team- ? Transient Ischaemic attack ? Migraine

Full blood count, Urea and electrolytes, CRP, Glucose

Neurology Opinion

Neurology Review

All symptoms settled

Patient keen to go home

Left carotid bruit

Harsh systolic cardiac murmur

ESR, vasculitis screen

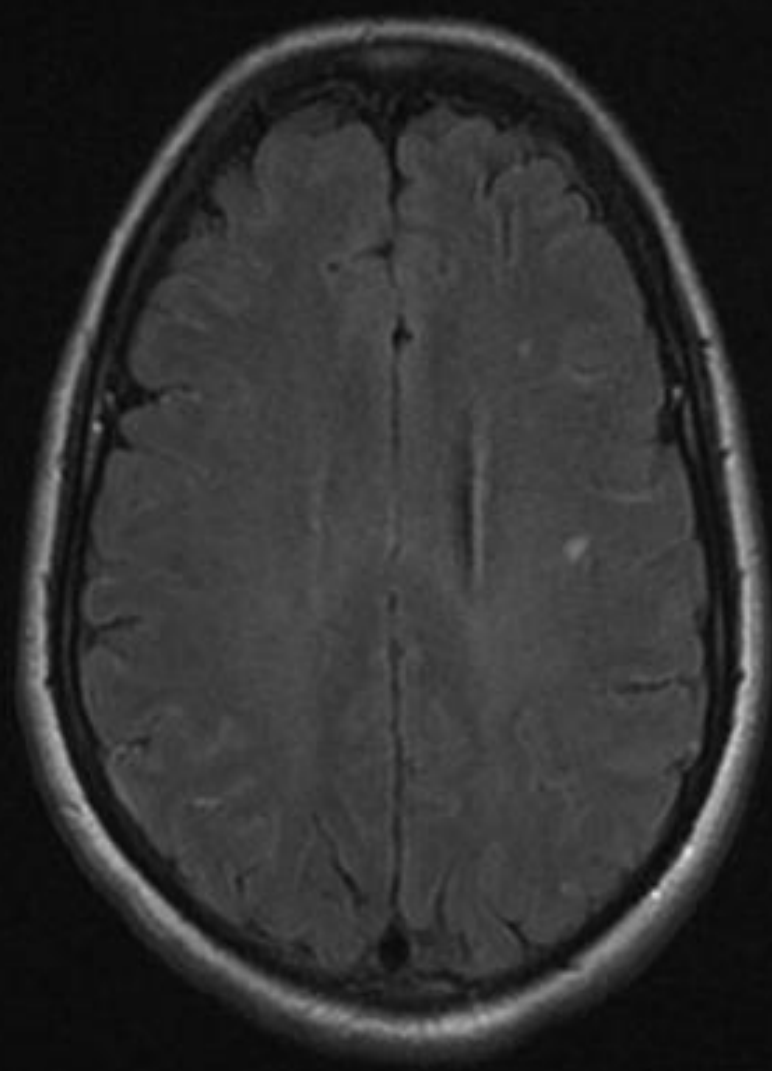
Carotid Doppler

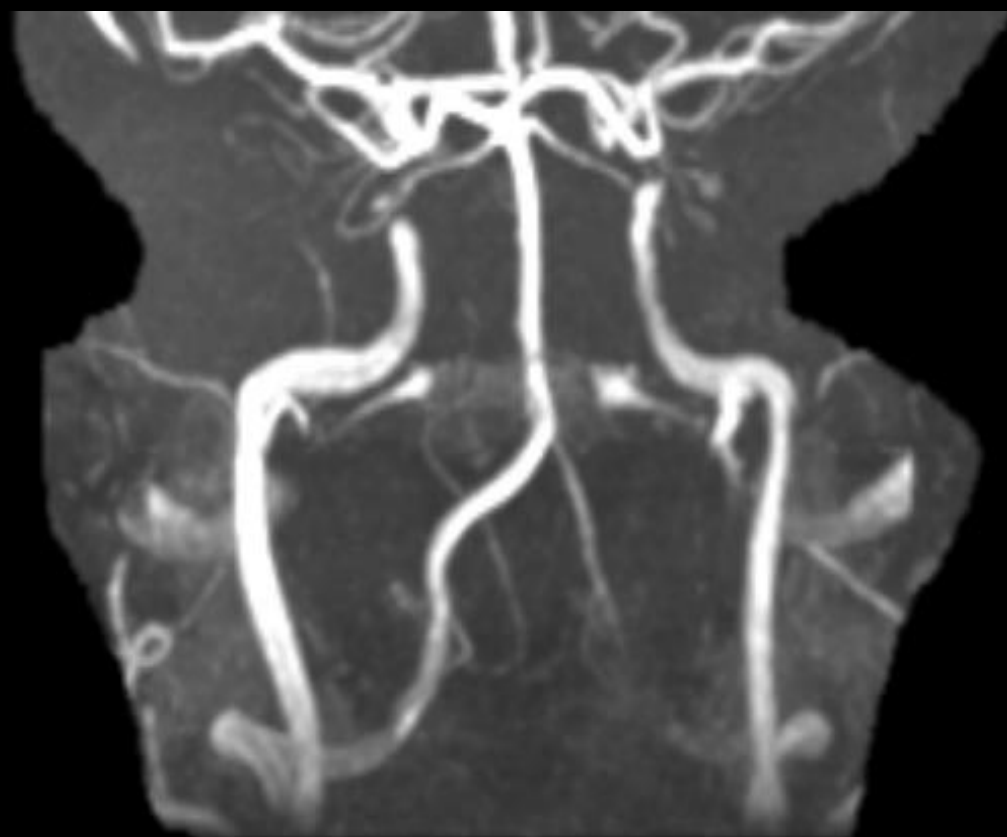
Echocardiogram

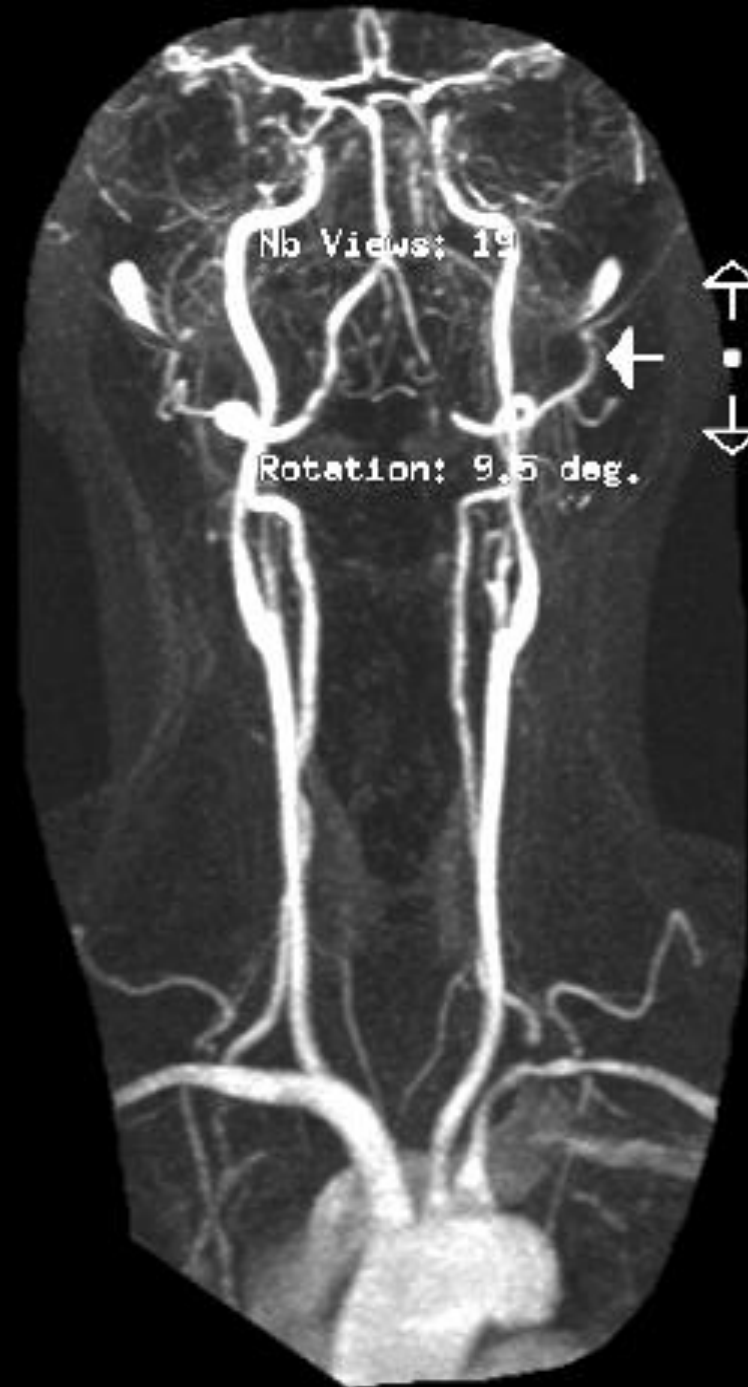
MRI Brain and MR Angiogram requested

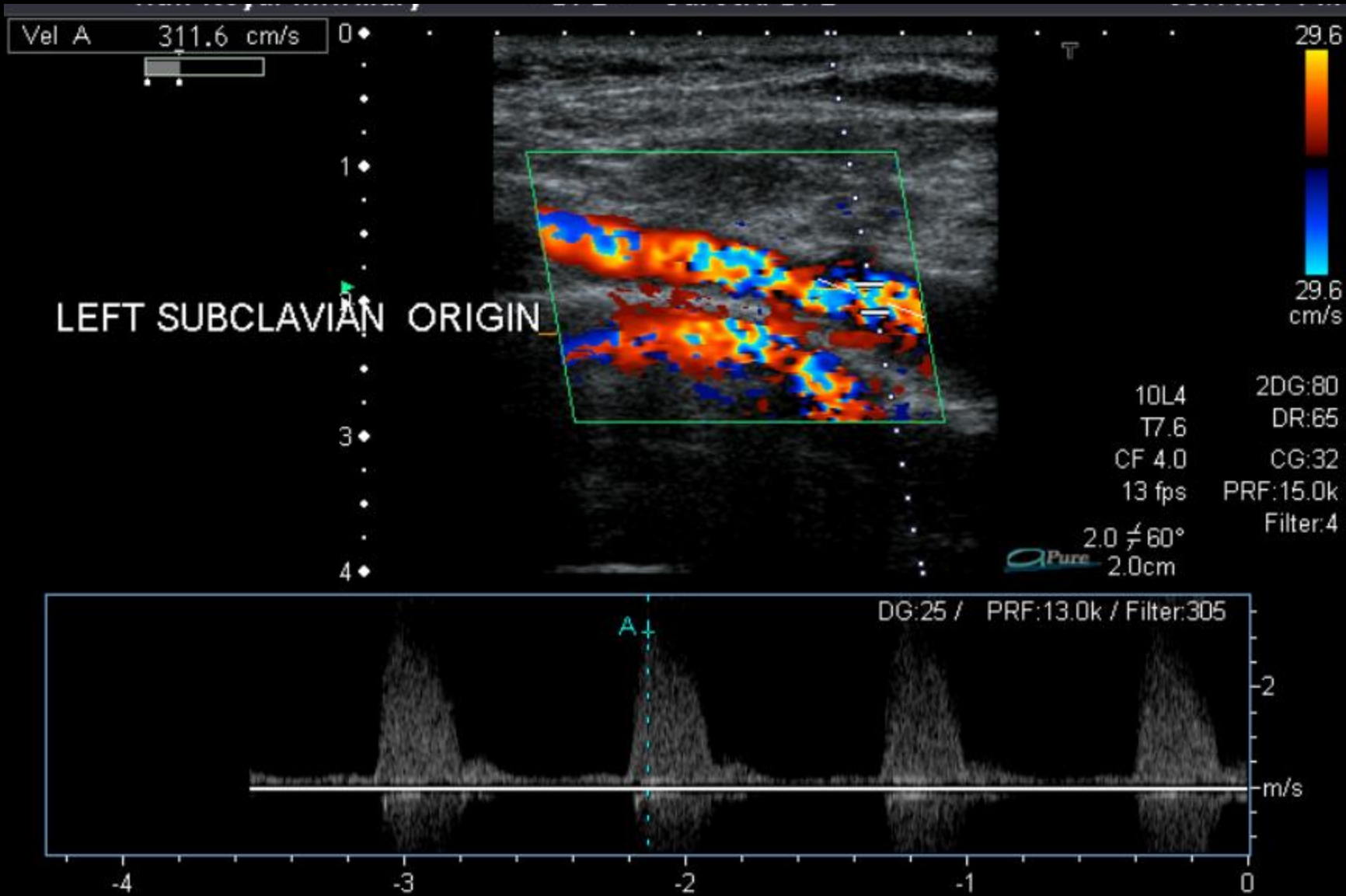
Started antiplatelets (? TIA)

Admit under Neurology









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TAKAYASU'S ARTERITIS

1908 - Dr Mikito Takayasu

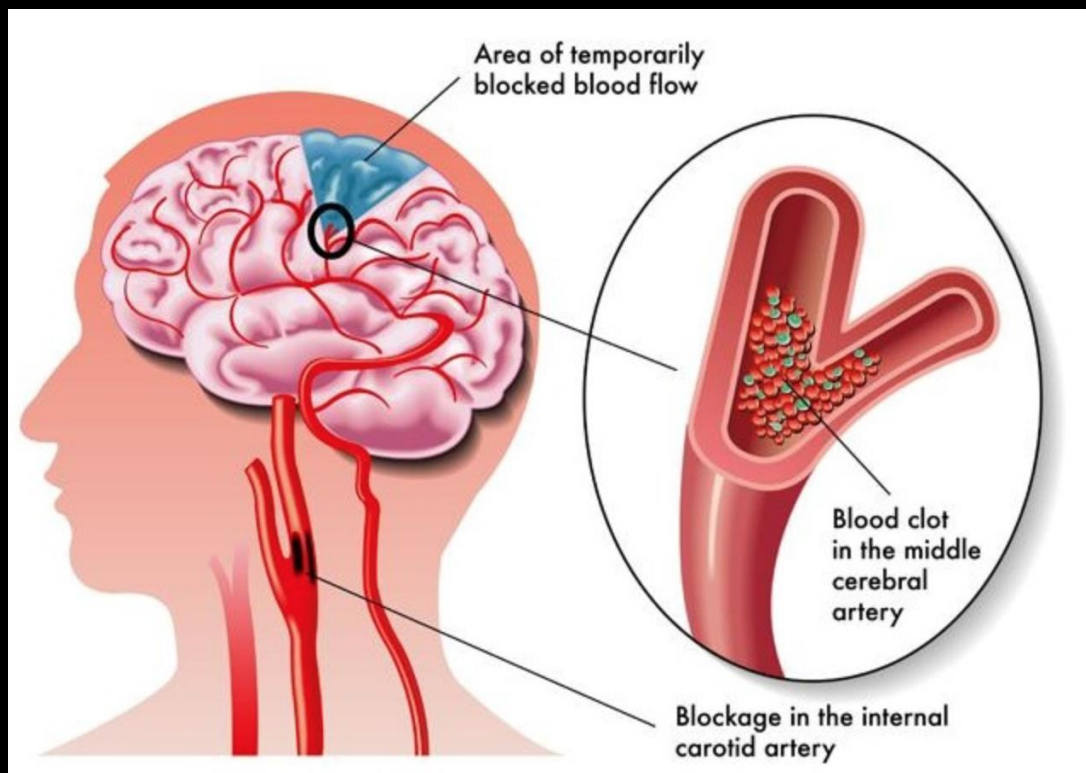
Large vessel vasculitis

Multisystem (joints, brain, heart, lung, gastro)

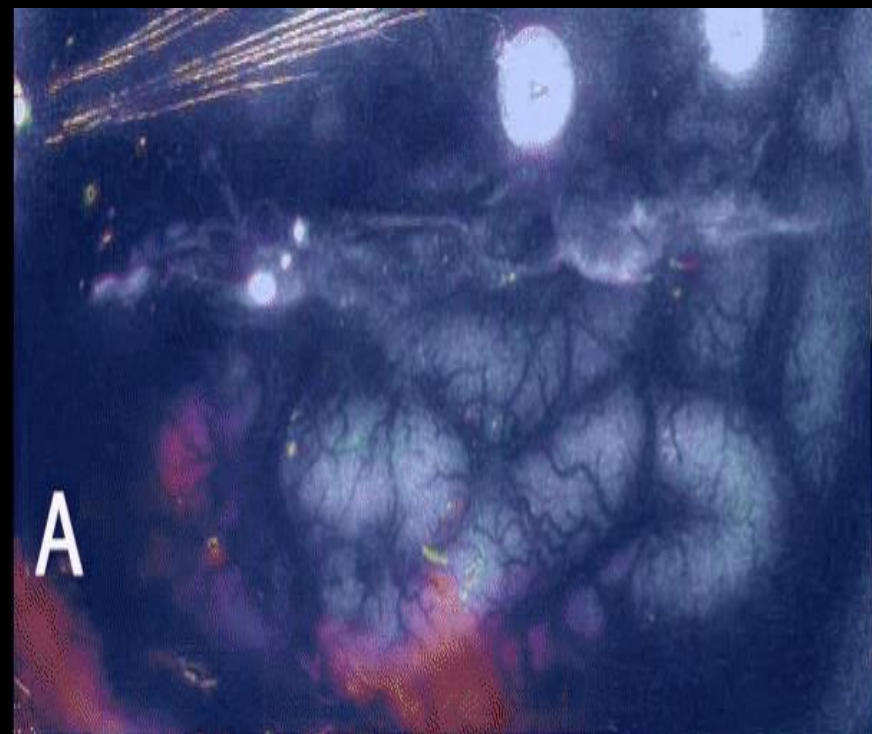
Neurology - headaches, strokes

Differentiating between TIA/stroke and migraine with aura

TIA/Stroke	Migraine with Aura
Negative symptoms	Positive, then negative symptoms
All symptoms at onset	Gradual spread over minutes
Symptoms clear together in TIA	Symptoms may clear in one modality before onset of symptoms in another modality
Can affect more than one modality simultaneously	Spreads from one modality to another
Duration up to 30 min most common in TIA, but can last hrs; enduring deficits in stroke	20-30 min aura is most common, usually followed by headache
Usually >40 yrs old	Often begins in teens or twenties
Stroke risk factors present	Often a personal/family history of migraine



Stroke



CSD

Potential new neuropeptide targets

CGRP

PACAP- 38

PACAP -27

VIP

AMY₁ receptor

5'-triphosphate sensitive potassium (KATP) channels

Voltage-activated potassium (BK) channel

Dickenson *et al.*, data presented at MTIS 2020

PACAP- Pituitary adenylate cyclase-activating peptide

VIP- Vasoactive intestinal peptide

AMY1- Amylin

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

Headache is a common medical complaint

Costly and major cause of disability

Early diagnosis and management is key

Novel treatments on the horizon

<https://aucklandregion.healthpathways.org.nz>