

## **IS MIGRAINE A DISEASE OR A SYNDROME? DISEASE**

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Migraine is a very common condition affecting more than 10% of general population, most often women in their productive age, with enormous social and financial impact. Migraine aura occurs almost in one third of patients raising doubts about a common pathogenetic pathway of migraine. Migraine with aura is associated with progression and brain damage by time, whereas migraine without aura seems more benign. These observations lead to the conclusion that migraine is more likely a syndrome rather a specific disease. However different phenomenology and forms within the same pathogenetic pathway is commonly seen in human diseases. One specific genetic mutation may have several phenotypes resulting in different diseases, as well as one disease may be associated with more than one gene expression. Migraine is very well defined according to the International Headache criteria and only a few cases cannot fulfill those criteria meaning that the migraine clinical spectrum is well understood so far. Treatment with specific drugs, both in acute and preventive era are efficient in all migraine forms and no particular indications have been documented. Thus, migraine is more likely a disease rather a syndrome.