

TRANSFORMED MIGRAINE SHOULD NOT BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ICHD-3 CRITERIA

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The term chronic daily headache (CDH) has been recognized to be a collective description of patients with very frequent headache rather than a diagnostic category. The term transformed migraine (TM) based on the evolution of headache over time, but has the problem that patients are often diagnosed several years after a presumed transformation has happened. The requirement that the CDH as well as TM must meet criteria for migraine without aura daily or almost daily is a significant problem with the ICHD-2 criteria and one of the major reasons for its lack of generalizability in clinical practice. While up to 80% of headaches experienced by episodic migraine sufferers will fulfill criteria for migraine or probable migraine, migraineurs do experience a spectrum of headaches that may phenotypically resemble or fulfill criteria for TTH. The term "migraine transformation" focus more on the burden than on operational diagnostic criteria It was said, that Migraine transformation most often develops when there is medication overuse, but chronification may occur without overuse. The introduction of longitudinal aspect into the headache classification that means to introduce a new principle that goes across existing categories:

CTTH might then also be called transformed tension-type headache, as the great majority of cases begin as episodic tension-type headache and tension-type headache may transform into migraine A diagnosis of TM would have to be reserved exclusively for those patients who were able to give a very precise history of how their headaches had changed and who were not transformed by the overuse of drugs. TM, in that way described by Lipton and Silberstein is not a single entity. TM do not accurately reflect the headache phenotype of those patients with a history of migraine that evolves into a pattern of frequent or daily headache A diagnosis of TM would have to be reserved exclusively for those patients who were able to give a very precise history of how their headaches had changed and who were not mtransformed by the overuse of drugs. For these reasons, the term TM should NOT be incorporated into the ICDH-3 classification criteria.