

## **AWARENESS OF MIGRAINE AMONG PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS IN TURKEY: A REGIONAL STUDY**

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Migraine is a primary headache in which genetic and environmental factors play a role. The primary aim in these studies was to identify the competence of primary care physicians in making a diagnosis of migraine that provides basic health care to patients. All primary care physicians (371 individuals) working in the primary health service centres located within the borders of Kayseri province and whose details were obtained from the records of Kayseri province local health authority, were included in our study. The study was completed after reaching 266 (71.7%) of these physicians the study was completed. The research was conducted by using techniques such as face -to- face meetings with the primary care physicians as well as by participants filling in questionnaires by participants. In the questions no reminder choices were given for migraine diagnostic criteria and physicians were asked to write down the answers clearly as the questions were in open ended form. The migraine without aura diagnostic criteria that were given by participants were evaluated according to the migraine without aura diagnostic criteria prepared by the International Headache Society (IHS-2004). Only 10.5% of participants were able to give in full the diagnostic criteria of migraine without aura. The most well known properties are unilateral (53.4%) and pulsating headache, (47%) respectively. Our study is important because it is the first in our country on this issue and shows the necessity of increasing migraine awareness among primary care physicians who provide basic health services.