

COMPUTERS CAN ACCURATELY DIAGNOSE PRIMARY HEADACHE DISORDERS AS WELL AS MOST PHYSICIANS-NO

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Primary headache disorders are the most common brain conditions among general population with specific diagnostic criteria revised every five years (ICHD-IIIbeta). But headache is a symptom in the main rather a condition. Only when headache attacks fulfill those specific diagnostic criteria consistently does a primary headache disorder occur. In addition, ICHD-IIIbeta criteria demand a normal neurological examination for a primary headache disorder that only an experienced neurologist performs. In most cases headache is primary but secondary headache disorders may be related to life threatening conditions. They may respond to common analgesics and mimic primary ones a lot. Diagnostic tests are necessary therefore when the treating physician doubts for the primary origin of headache. Although there are official recommendations for these tests (EHF published recently a consensus on technical investigation for primary headache disorders), the clinical relevance and interpretation of the test findings remains extremely complex, that only an experienced physician performs, again. There is no doubt that computers offer tremendous assistance in searching and analyzing data; nevertheless this support stays poor in front of a person suffering from headache. Because headache is the commonest presenting symptom in people asking medical consultation, the above concerns (among many others) to use digital diagnostic procedures exclusively are principal in managing headache.