Excessive daytime sleepiness in tension-type headache: a population-based study.

Chu¹, S.J Cho², W.J Kim³, K. Ik Yang⁴, C.H. Yun⁵, K. Min Kim¹

¹Neurology, Department of Neurology, Severance Hospital, Yonsei University, South Korea

Background: Previous study has demonstrated that EDS was prevalent among migraineurs and was associated with an exacerbation of migraine. Nevertheless, information on the association between EDS (excessive daytime sleepiness) and tension-type headache (TTH) is limited. The aim of this study is to investigate the association and impact of EDS on participants with TTH in a population-based setting. Methods: This study used the data of the Korean Headache-Sleep Study (KHSS), which was a population-based survey regarding headache and sleep for Korean adults aged 19-69 years. If the score on the Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) was more than or equal to 11, the participant was classified as having EDS. Results: Of the 2695 participants, 570 (21.2%) and 313 (11.6%) were classified as having TTH and EDS, respectively. EDS was more prevalent among TTH participants with ≥ 15 headache frequency per month compared with participants with non-headache (35.7% vs. 9.4%, p 0.001). TTH participants with EDS had higher headache frequency per month (4.3 \pm 8.1 vs. 1.7 \pm 4.2, p = 0.013), Visual Analogue Scale for headache intensity (5.0 [3.0 – 6.0] vs. 4.0 [3.0 – 6.0], p = 0.008), Headache Impact Test-6 score (47.1 ± 7.3 vs. 43.5 ± 7.6 , p 0.001) and more depression (Patient Health questionnaire score \geq 10) (12.7% vs. 3.2%, p 0.001) compared to those without EDS. Multivariable logistic regression revealed that headache frequency (β=0.051, p=0.016), Headache Impact Test-6 score (β=0.051, p=0.016), and depression (β=1.230, p=0.011) were independently associated with the existence of EDS among TTH participants. Conclusions: EDS is more prevalent in TTH participants with 15 headache frequency per month compared to those with non-headache. TTH participants with EDS was independently associated with higher headache frequency, increased impact of headache and higher prevalence of depression compared to those without EDS.

²Neurology, Dongtan Sacred Heart Hospital, Hallym University College of Medicine, South Korea

³Neurology, Gangnam Severance Hospital, Yonsei University College of Medicine, South Korea

⁴Neurology, Soonchunhyang University College of Medicine, Cheonan Hospital, South Korea

⁵Neurology, Bundang Clinical Neuroscience Institute, Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, South Korea