

Thunderclap headache: Do we need more than head CT and lumbar puncture?

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Thunderclap headache is a high-intensity headache of abrupt onset, reaching its maximum intensity in <1 minute. There are two varieties of this headache: primary and secondary thunderclap headache. Even though thunderclap headache can be associated with serious disorders, and particularly with subarachnoid hemorrhage, we will emphasize that most cases of this headache attending Emergency Units will be diagnosed by taking a careful clinical history and CT brain scan, lumbar tap being necessary for doubtful cases.