Uncomplicated Headache

First-line treatments

A. Phenothiazines
   - Compazine(1,8)
     o 10mg IV or IM
   - Thorazine(9,13)
     o 25mg IV, IM or PO

B. Reglan 10mg IV(3,5,14)

C. Butyrophenones
   - Haloperidol(15)
     o 2.5-5mg IM or IV
   - Droperidol(16,17)
     o 2.5-5mg IM or IV

D. Triptans(2,13,18)
   - Sumatriptan 6mg SQ or 100mg PO

E. NSAIDs
   - Toradol 30mg IV(6,19)
   - Motrin 800mg PO(20)

F. Acetaminophen(21)
   - 1 gram PO

G. IV Fluids

Adjunctive Therapies if needed
- Decadron 10 mg IV
- Ondansetron 4mg IV
- Promethazine 12.5mg IV
- Diphenhydramine 25-50mg IV

STOP

Attempt all possible first-line therapies before continuing.

Second-line treatments

A. DHE(22,23)
   - Typical dose: 1mg IV or IM
   - Contraindicated in pregnancy, hx CVA, severe HTN

B. Valproic Acid(24)
   - Typical Dose: 300mg IV
   - Contraindicated in pregnancy, liver disease

C. Occipital Nerve Block(25)
   - 3 mL anesthetic injected b/l

D. Ketamine(26,27)
   - 0.1 mg/kg IV or IM

E. Magnesium 1 gram IV(28)

F. Olanzapine 10 mg PO(29)

STOP

Consider repeating first- and second-line agents if appropriate.

Admission or outpatient neurology referral based on severity of symptoms.
References


