Cutaneous Allodynia: A Predictor of Migraine Chronification: Results of the American Migraine Prevalence and Prevention Study

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BACKGROUND

- Cutaneous allodynia (CA) is a marker of increased excitability of central nociceptive neurons, i.e. central sensitization.
- CA is more prevalent in chronic migraine (CM) than episodic migraine (EM).
- Each year, approximately 2.5% of EM sufferers can develop CM, i.e. migraine chronification.

OBJECTIVE

- To explore the relationship between CA and new onset CM in individuals with EM.

METHODS

- Data were collected from the American Migraine Prevalence and Prevention Study (AMPP), a longitudinal, prospective, population-based, mailed questionnaire study. Respondents were identified in 2004 by screening 120,000 US households to identify 24,000 individuals with severe headache who have been followed in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

RESULTS

- The sample included persons with EM in 2005 (n=6657) or 2006 (n=7042) who provided data in the subsequent year.

- In total 304 subjects developed CM: 160 in 2006 and 144 in 2007.

- Subjects with CA were significantly more likely to progress from EM to CM, even after adjusting for demographic factors, headache-related disability, depression and anxiety. Odds ratios are presented in Tables 1 and 2.

REFERENCES