

ABSTRACT

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Title of diploma thesis: Pharmacotherapy of headache in adults

Headache is one of the most common health problem that encounters almost everyone during the life. Depending on the cause, headaches can be divided on the primary headaches, which are the subject of the diploma thesis, and secondary headaches, which are caused by other diseases. The primary headaches are migraine, tension-type headache, cluster headache and primary chronic daily headache. Headache is not a life-threatening condition but it can significantly reduce the quality of life, particularly the chronic forms of headache. The determination of the right diagnosis is essential for the choice of appropriate therapy. For primary headache are typical negative test results, there are no structural lesions or signs of organic brain damage. Diagnostics is complicated and it is primarily based on a carefully processed medical history. In the therapy of primary headache are used both pharmacological and non-pharmacological methods, optimally in combination. Pharmacological treatment consists of preventive and acute therapy. The preventive treatment is given to reduce the frequency and severity of attacks, it consists of, for example, some antidepressants, anticonvulsants, calcium channel blockers, glucocorticoids, central myorelaxants and many other drugs. The acute treatment is used to treat the attacks of headache. Drugs from the group of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, triptans, ergot alkaloids, antiemetic drugs and others. The choice of the drug depends on the subtype of headache, patient's health, preferences and other aspects. Monotherapy is usually preferred, in the case of failure combined treatment is used. Non-pharmacological procedures include, for example, acupuncture, transcutaneous nerve stimulation, biofeedback, cognitive-behavioral therapy, hypnosis, relaxation and other techniques.