

Diagnosis of tension-type headache, migraine and cluster headache

Headache feature	Tension-type headache		Migraine (with or without aura)		Cluster headache	
Pain location¹	Bilateral		Unilateral or bilateral		Unilateral (around the eye, above the eye and along the side of the head/face)	
Pain quality	Pressing/tightening (non-pulsating)		Pulsating (throbbing or banging in young people aged 12–17 years)		Variable (can be sharp, boring, burning, throbbing or tightening)	
Pain intensity	Mild or moderate		Moderate or severe		Severe or very severe	
Effect on activities	Not aggravated by routine activities of daily living		Aggravated by, or causes avoidance of, routine activities of daily living		Restlessness or agitation	
Other symptoms	None		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unusual sensitivity to light and/or sound or nausea and/or vomiting. Aura: symptoms can occur with or without headache and; are fully reversible, develop over at least 5 minutes, last 5 - 60 minutes. Typical aura symptoms include visual symptoms such as flickering lights, spots or lines and/or partial loss of vision; sensory symptoms such as numbness and/or pins and needles; and/or speech disturbance. 		On the same side as the headache: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red and/or watery eye Nasal congestion and/or runny nose Swollen eyelid Forehead and facial sweating Constricted pupil and/or drooping eyelid 	
Duration of headache	30 minutes–continuous		4–72 hours in adults 1–72 hours in young people aged 12–17 years		15–180 minutes	
Frequency of headache	< 15 days per month	≥ 15 days per month for more than 3 months	< 15 days per month	≥ 15 days per month for more than 3 months	1 every other day to 8 per day ³ , with remission ⁴ >1 month	1 every other day to 8 per day ³ with a continuous remission ⁴ <1 month in a 12-month period
Diagnosis	Episodic tension-type headache	Chronic tension-type headache²	Episodic migraine (with or without aura)	Chronic migraine (with or without aura)	Episodic cluster headache	Chronic cluster headache

¹ Headache pain can be felt in the head, face or neck. ² Chronic migraine and chronic tension-type headache commonly overlap. If there are any features of migraine, diagnose chronic migraine. ³ Frequency of recurrent headaches during a cluster headache bout. ⁴ The pain-free period between cluster headache bouts.