



St. Clair County Medical Control
Community Paramedicine
Migraine Headache

Initial: March 2025

Section 11-82

Migraine Headache

Indications: This protocol provides general guidance for treatment of migraine headache when the evaluation of a patient determines that the headache is of typical presentation for the patient and the patient wishes home treatment for the condition and the headache is appropriate for treatment under the Community Paramedicine Program. The CP will respond to a residence on request from the primary care provider, on request by the patient through 911 triage or on referral from ALS 911 response. The CP will follow guidelines outlined by the primary care providers or on-line medical direction orders.

Purpose: To provide guidance for appropriate treatment for the patient with a migraine headache or recurrent headache without red flag symptom amenable to treatment at home.

CP Directives:

1. Follow General Protocol for CP Patient Assessments.
2. Obtain and review patient health history and primary care provider's orders prior to evaluation when available.
3. Obtain manual and automated vital sign readings and determine patient headache medication prescription and usage.
4. Determine whether the patient has additional symptoms which may indicate red flag symptoms such as: Sudden onset atypical for the patient's previous headaches (maximum intensity within one minute), fever, neck stiffness, weakness, dizziness or altered mental status. If red flag symptoms are present transport may be indicated.
5. If the patient does not meet criteria for transport the following are appropriate home treatments to use for migraine headache treatment.
 - a. Oxygen, 2 – 4 L per NC. Not proven but worth a try in migraine HA.
 - b. IV Fluid, 1 – 2 L NS bolus. Helpful particularly if the patient had been vomiting.
 - c. Acetaminophen 650 mg.
 - d. Diphenhydramine 50 mg, PO, for sedation and nausea treatment
 - e. Ondansetron 4 mg, PO, for nausea without active vomiting.
 - f. Ibuprofen 200 mg, 2 – 4 tabs PO, or
 - g. Ketorolac (Toradol) 15 mg IV or IM, for pain.
6. Contact the PCP or on-line medical direction per the General Protocol for CP Patient Assessments. Provide patient report and discuss treatment and continuity plans.
7. Continue treatment and follow the General Protocol for CP Patient Assessments until a disposition is determined and continuity plan completed.