

Appendix 6.1

International Classification of Headache Disorders, 3rd Edition (ICHD-III): Acute Headache Attributed to Traumatic Injury to the Head

5.1.2 Acute headache attributed to mild traumatic injury to the head

Diagnostic criteria:

A. Headache fulfilling criteria for 5.1 Acute headache attributed to traumatic injury to the head

B. Injury to the head fulfilling both of the following:

1. associated with none of the following:

- a) loss of consciousness for >30 min
- b) Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) score <13
- c) post-traumatic amnesia lasting >24 hr
- d) altered level of awareness for >24 hr
- e) imaging evidence of a traumatic head injury such as intracranial haemorrhage and/or brain contusion

2. associated, immediately following the head injury, with one or more of the following symptoms and/or signs:

- a) transient confusion, disorientation or impaired consciousness
- b) loss of memory for events immediately before or after the head injury
- c) two or more other symptoms suggestive of mild traumatic brain injury: nausea, vomiting, visual disturbances, dizziness and/or vertigo, impaired memory and/or concentration.

Comment:

The diagnostic criteria for mild traumatic injury to the head and for moderate or severe traumatic injury to the head allow for substantial variability in the severity of head injury classified in each category.

This has led some experts to suggest inclusion of additional categories: headache attributed to very mild traumatic injury to the head and headache attributed to very severe traumatic injury to the head.

Although there is insufficient evidence for adding these categories at present, future studies should investigate the utility of doing so.

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