

BENEFIT OF BOTULINUM TOXIN TYPE A (BOTOX) FOR THE TREATMENT OF THE REFRACTORY NEW DAILY PERSISTENT HEADACHE (NDPH).

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NDPH is a form of chronic daily headache notoriously refractory to treatment. We report 2 cases of NDPH which responded to the Botox.

Case reports: Both patients were females, aged 52 and 36 years, with no previous history of headache, who developed acute onset of severe constant unremitting headache with characteristics of tension type headache and without any identifiable triggers. Characteristically, both patients recall the exact date of headache onset. Neurological examination, and extensive work-up, including head and neck MRI, MRA, CSF analysis were negative in both cases, ruling out the secondary causes for the headache. Previous treatment with multiple medications, including vasoactive agents, neuromodulators, anticonvulsants, antidepressants, steroids, NSAIDs, muscle relaxants was ineffective. Both patients responded dramatically to Botox treatment (100 U every 3 months) with complete resolution of symptoms in one case and over 75 % improvement in the other.

Conclusion: To our knowledge this is the second report on the efficacy of Botox for the treatment of NDPH (previous report by R.C. Spears, J Headache Pain, 2008, 9, 405-6), which expands the applications for Botox for the treatment of the refractory primary headaches. Interestingly, both of our patients had NDPH with characteristics of tension type headache, which may be a trend, and more cases are needed to confirm this observation.