Migraine through the life span: Focus on the child and young adult

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A World Health Organization (WHO) review of global data found migraine to be one of the most prevalent health disorders worldwide. The goal of this presentation is to provide the learner with an overview of the incidence and presenting scenarios of migraine type headaches during the life span. Studies have identified the peak incidence of migraine is between the ages of 14 and 15 years. The peak prevalence is between 45 and 64 years of age. The pediatric population is often undertreated and stereotyped as being depressed or having school avoidant behavior. Timely and accurate diagnosis of migraine type headaches is vital in choosing appropriate treatments and improving outcomes for affected children. Special attention will be given to neurologically assessing the pediatric client, noting the impact of headache syndromes on developmental goals and family dynamics. The professional, family and community roles are impacted by migraines in the middle aged client. The psychosocial impact on the middle aged client affected by migraine headaches will be discussed along with management strategies. Preventative interventions, nursing management and pharmacological interventions will be addressed for these age groups.

Biography

Louann McGinty MSN, RN, CNRN is a faculty member at Pennsylvania College of Health Science. She has published book chapters and peer reviewed articles. Her most recent podium presentation addressed teaching modalities to facilitate student understanding of the Glasgow Coma Scale at the European Association of Neuroscience Nursing in Belgium. She received both her Bachelor and Master degrees from the University of Pennsylvania.

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