

# CLUSTER HEADACHE: JUST THE FACTS



## ABOUT CLUSTER HEADACHE

Cluster headache is a rare and extremely painful primary headache disorder characterized by recurring unilateral (on one side of the head) attacks. Cluster headache is one of the most painful conditions an individual can experience. Often referred to as "suicide headache," cluster headache is known to be even more excruciating and debilitating than migraine.

## THE FREQUENCY OF CLUSTER HEADACHE



Typically occurs in bouts for  
**6-12 weeks<sup>1</sup>**

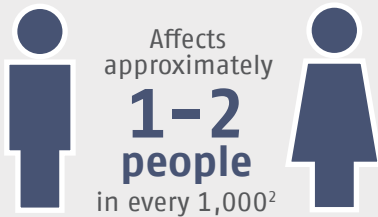


Lasts **15 minutes**  
to **3 hours<sup>1</sup>**



Can strike up to  
**8 times a day<sup>1</sup>**

## THE IMPACT OF CLUSTER HEADACHE



Patients  
**take their own lives**



more than the  
national average<sup>2</sup>



**79%**

of patients reported they were either  
**"Not at all satisfied"**  
or **"A little satisfied"**  
with current treatment options<sup>3</sup>

## CLUSTER HEADACHE CAN BE A COSTLY STRAIN<sup>4</sup>



Work hours lost due to cluster headache:

**78%**

for absenteeism

**23%**

for short-term disability



Overall direct costs of cluster headache can total over

**\$3,000**

per person, per year

**20%**

of patients with cluster headache have lost their job due to their condition

## CURRENT STANDARD OF CARE FOR CLUSTER HEADACHE TREATMENT IS NOT ALWAYS EFFECTIVE<sup>5</sup>

Treatment strategies can prove challenging for cluster headache patients, as there is a critically unmet need for viable therapies.

For example, approved therapies like injectable sumatriptan can pose challenges for patients:



- **Triptan non-response**
- **Limitations on the number of uses per day**
- **Reimbursement and quantity restrictions**

## EMERGING THERAPIES

Upcoming innovations have the potential to provide cluster headache patients with alternative treatment options for currently unmet needs.



**Neuromodulation**

- **Neuromodulation** is an area of medicine that can potentially be used in novel ways to give patients alternative treatment options for pain associated with primary headache, especially as varying applications of neuromodulation have already proven effective and safe. Through the transmission of therapeutic signals, neuromodulation blocks certain pain signals and thereby provides relief for the patient.



**Novel drugs**

- **Calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP) monoclonal antibodies** are part of a new class of medicine being studied in cluster headache.

### REFERENCES

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