

ICHD-III and future headache medicine

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The first (1) and second (2) editions of the International Classification of Headache Disorders were well received and have formed the basis of clinical research over the last quarter century. The third edition is now keenly awaited (3).

The beta version will be available in 2013 with a number of important changes. I will illustrate some and encourage attendees to feedback on this third edition.

Chronic migraine is now defined in the main body and includes patients with aura.

Tension-type headache remains unchanged with the complexity of dissecting out if photophobia or phonophobia are acceptable parts of that phenotype.

Hemicrania continua has been moved to section three and the cranial autonomic features have been standardized across the syndromes.

Entities such as nummular headache (4) and hypnic headache (5) have been included in section four.

Medication overuse headache has had its definition streamlined.

New conditions contained in the appendix include Infantile Colic (6), and visual snow (7).

References

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Peter Goadsby obtained his basic medical degree and training at the University of New South Wales, Australia. His neurology training was done under the supervision of Professor James W. Lance in Sydney. After post-doctoral work in New York with Don Reis at Cornell, with Jacques Seylaz at Universite VII, Paris, and post-graduate neurology training at Queen Square in London with the Professors C David Marsden, Andrew Lees, Anita Harding and W Ian McDonald, he returned to the University of New South Wales, and the Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney as a consultant neurologist and was promoted to Associate Professor of Neurology.

He was appointed a Wellcome Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Neurology, University College London in 1995. He was Professor of Clinical Neurology and Honorary Consultant Neurologist at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London. He is now Professor of Neurology in the Department of Neurology, University of California, San Francisco and remains Honorary Consultant Neurologist at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond St, London. His major research interests are in the basic mechanisms of head pain in both experimental settings and in the clinical context of headache management. The work of the Headache Group involves human imaging and electrophysiological studies in primary headache, as well as experimental studies of trigeminovascular nociception. The aim is to understand what parts of the brain drive and modulate headache syndromes, and how those might be modified by treatment.