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Review Article

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A systematic review of the relationship between migraine and sleep disorders

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ABSTRACT

Migraine and sleep disorders are prevalent chronic conditions that have a significant socioeconomic impact and can be burdensome. The exact nature of the relationship between these conditions and the underlying mechanisms is not completely understood. Recent research has identified central nervous system structures and neurotransmitters that play a role in both migraine and normal sleep architecture, indicating a possible causal role in the pathogenesis of both conditions. This systematic review aims to evaluate the existence of a causal relationship between migraine and sleep disorders, as well as to identify influencing factors. Identifying specific sleep disorders associated with migraine can help clinicians systematically assess their presence in migraine patients and implement combined treatment strategies.

Keywords: Headache, Migraine, Sleep disorders, Insomnia, Sleep apnea, Circadian rhythm sleep-wake disorders.

INTRODUCTION

igraine and sleep disorders are chronic conditions that are prevalent in the general population [1-3], and often coexist, leading to the hypothesis of an association beyond chance occurrence. Studies show that migraineurs have poorer sleep quality compared to non-migraineurs [4-16], self-reported poor sleep quality is linked to increased frequency of attacks or chronification of migraine [17-20], and preventive migraine treatments may improve sleep quality [4, 12].

However, the exact nature and direction of the association remain uncertain, as migraine may result from sleep disruption, sleep disruption may trigger migraine, or the two conditions may be unrelated symptoms or in-

trinsically related phenomena with shared pathophysiological mechanisms [21].

Recent studies have identified central nervous system structures and neurotransmitters involved in the pathophysiology of migraine and normal sleep regulation, suggesting a possible causative role of dysregulation in these common nervous system pathways [21, 22].

Evidence suggests that diencephalic and brainstem regions play a major role in both migraine pathogenesis and sleep-wake cycle regulation and molecules such as orexins, melatonin, pituitary adenylate cyclase-activating polypeptide, serotonin, dopamine and adenosine may mediate the relationship between the two conditions [21, 22].

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The aim of this review is to examine the current evidence of the association between migraine and sleep disorders in order to enhance treatment strategies and the understanding of the shared pathophysiology.

METHODS

he methodology used for this review followed the guidelines of the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) [23].

STUDY SELECTION

he study selection process involved the inclusion of clinical trials, observational studies, and case series that included subjects of both sexes, aged 18 years or older, and of all ethnicities. To be included, studies had to diagnose migraines according to the International Classification of Headache Disorders (ICHD) and provide a clear description of the criteria used for the diagnosis of the sleep disorder under consideration. Studies that lacked a clear description of diagnostic criteria for migraine and the sleep disorder being studied, included subjects with headaches other than migraine, lacked a clear definition of study design and setting, were case reports, letters to the editor, published erratum, abstracts, studies not performed on humans, studies not written in English, or unpublished studies were excluded.

The evidence about the association between migraine and sleep disorders was organized according to the major diagnostic sections of the ICSD-third edition, a comprehensive classification system of sleep disorders designed as a diagnostic and coding tool for clinical and epidemiological purposes. The ICSD-third edition includes seven major diagnostic sections: insomnia, sleep-related breathing disorders, sleep-related movement disorders, central disorders of hypersomnolence, circadian rhythm sleep-wake disorders, parasomnias, and other sleep disorders. Each disorder is presented in detail with specific diagnostic criteria. The ICSD-third edition also includes two appendices that list sleep-related medical and neurological disorders and the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) codes for substance-induced sleep disorders.

INSOMNIA

nsomnia is a common sleep disorder that affects individuals of all ages and races, with prevalence estimates varying according to study design and the adopted definition of insomnia. About one-third to

two-thirds of adult's report insomnia symptoms, and about 10% to 15% meet the criteria for chronic insomnia [33-38].

Several epidemiological studies have evaluated the association between migraine and insomnia [39-48].

Studies have shown that patients with migraine have a higher prevalence of insomnia and insomnia complaints compared to those without headaches, and a higher prevalence of migraine has been reported in subjects with insomnia compared to those without [39, 43, 47].

The Nord-Trondelag Health (HUNT-2 and HUNT-3) prospective population-based study showed that the association between migraine and insomnia may be bidirectional. Individuals with insomnia had a higher risk of developing migraine, and individuals with migraine had a 2-fold increased risk of developing insomnia compared to those without, especially those with at least 7 migraine days/month and those with comorbid chronic musculoskeletal complaints [40, 41].

Insomnia is also associated with increased migraine pain intensity, impact, attack frequency, and risk of chronification, and this association is not solely attributable to anxiety and depression [39, 43-46, 48].

Nonetheless, it is unclear if the association between insomnia and migraine is specific to migraine, as the prevalence of insomnia complaints did not differ between headache subtypes [39, 42].

Conversely, a study by Kim et al. found a higher prevalence of insomnia in individuals with migraine (25.9%) compared to those with non-migraine headache (15.1%) [43].

Longitudinal cohort studies also suggest that insomnia may be generally associated with headache, as the risk of insomnia was found to be similar in individuals with both migraine (OR, 1.9) and non-migraine headaches (OR, 1.7) [41], and individuals with insomnia had the same risk of developing any type of headache (RR, 1.4 for any headache; RR, 1.4 for tension-type headache; RR, 1.4 for migraine; RR, 1.4 for nonclassified headache) [40].

A double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study [49] aimed to investigate the role of insomnia in migraine frequency and severity by randomizing patients with migraine and insomnia to receive eszopiclone 3 mg at bedtime or placebo. The study failed to answer the question of whether insomnia is a risk factor for increased headache frequency and intensity in migraineurs, as active treatment did not lead to improvement in total sleep time compared to placebo. Furthermore, no differ-

ences were found in headache frequency, intensity, and duration, while only a reduction in nighttime awakenings as well as in daytime fatigue in favor of eszopiclone were reported.

Cognitive behavioral therapy, including sleep hygiene, relaxation training, stimulus control therapy, sleep restriction therapy, and cognitive therapy, has been proven effective in improving both insomnia complaints and comorbid symptoms and is the recommended first-line treatment for chronic insomnia in adults [50].

Recent clinical trials suggest that cognitive behavioral therapy for insomnia is effective in improving migraine attack frequency [51, 52] and pain intensity [52]. A sequential Bayesian analysis of the results of these trials showed that cognitive behavioral therapy for insomnia decreased headache frequency by 6.2 (95% CI, -9.7 to -2.7) days more in patients with chronic migraine than in the control group, supporting the effective role of cognitive behavioral therapy as a non-invasive adjunctive treatment for chronic migraine [53].

The pathological mechanism underlying the association between migraine and insomnia is not yet fully understood. According to most available studies, migraine attack onset follows a circadian variation, with an early morning or late-night peak of migraine attack onset [54]. The observed circadian pattern of migraine attack onset may be related to a temporal relationship with rapid eye movement (REM) sleep stages. Nocturnal arousal from sleep with migraine has been found to be more likely during REM sleep [55, 56], and an increased REM sleep and REM latency have been documented by an electroencephalographic study [57]. Hypothalamic and brainstem dysfunctions have been hypothesized as common pathological mechanisms of migraine and insomnia. These structures are involved in both sleep-wake physiology and pain transmission and modulation, and their dysfunctional activity might explain the observed bidirectional relationship between migraine and insomnia.

In summary, the available evidence suggests the existence of a bidirectional relationship between migraine and insomnia that is independent of anxiety and depression. Insomnia is a risk factor for migraine onset and for increased migraine impact, pain intensity, and chronification. Additionally, individuals with migraine are at an increased risk of developing insomnia. Clinicians should always inquire about insomnia complaints in patients with headaches, particularly those with migraines, and manage this comorbid association by implementing specific insomnia treatment in their routine management,

including medications also approved for insomnia treatment, such as amitriptyline.

CONCLUSION

he relationship between migraine and sleep disorders is complex and multifactorial, involving shared anatomical pathways and neuropeptides. Despite advances in recent years, there is still much to learn about the underlying mechanisms and potential therapeutic approaches. However, the high prevalence of comorbid association and the mutual exacerbation between migraine and sleep disorders highlight the importance of routine assessment of sleep history and sleep quality in headache centres. Proper diagnosis and treatment of comorbid sleep disorders may improve the overall management of migraine patients by reducing headache frequency and severity.

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MIGREN VA UYQU BUZILISHI O'RTASIDAGI O'ZARO BOG'LIQLIKNING TIZIMLI TAHLILI. Annotatsiya:

Migren va uyqu buzilishi keng tarqalgan surunkali kasalliklardan biri bo'lib, og'ir kechishga moyil va jiddiy ijtimoiy-iqtisodiy ta'sirga ega. Ushbu holatlar o'rtasidagi bog'liqlikning aniq tabiati va asosiy mexanizmlari hali to'liq o'rganilmagan. So'nggi o'tkazilgan tadqiqotlarda migren va normal uyqu arxitekturasida rol o'ynaydigan markaziy asab tizimi tuzilmalari va neyrotransmitterlar aniqlanib, bu ikkala holatning patogenezidagi ishtirokini o'rgandi. Ushbu tizimli tahlilning maqsadi migren va uyqu buzilishi o'rtasida sabab-oqibat aloqasi mavjudligini baholash va ta'sir etuvchi omillarni aniqlashdir. Migren bilan bog'liq o'ziga xos uyqu buzilishlarini aniqlash migrenli bemorlarda ularning mavjudligini tizimli ravishda baholashga va kombinatsiyalangan davolash strategiyalarini amalga oshirishga yordam beradi.

Kalit so'zlar: bosh og'rig'i, migren, uyqu buzilishi, uyqusizlik, uyqu apnoeasi, sirkad ritmining buzilishi.

СИСТЕМАТИЧЕСКИЙ ОБЗОР ВЗАИМОСВЯЗИ МЕЖДУ МИГРЕНЬЮ И НАРУШЕНИЯМИ СНА

Аннотация:

Мигрень и расстройства сна являются распространенными хроническими заболеваниями, которые оказывают значительное социально-экономическое воздействие и могут быть обременительными. Точная природа взаимосвязи между этими состояниями и лежащие в ее основе механизмы до конца не изучены. Последние исследования выявили структуры центральной нервной системы и нейротрансмиттеры, играющие роль как в мигрени, так и в нормальной архитектуре сна, что указывает на возможную причинную роль в патогенезе обоих состояний. Целью данного систематического обзора является оценка наличия причинно-следственной связи между мигренью и нарушениями сна, а также выявление влияющих факторов. Выявление специфических нарушений сна, ассоциированных с мигренью, может помочь клиницистам систематически оценивать их наличие у пациентов с мигренью и реализовывать комбинированные стратегии лечения.

Ключевые слова: Головная боль, мигрень, расстройства сна, бессонница, апноэ во сне, нарушения циркадного ритма сна-бодрствования.