

MRI Referral Decision Support Checklist – Headache in Adults

Medical Imaging


IMPORTANT: Please include this checklist with all MRI referrals for an adult who suffers from a headache when sending to HGH’s Central Booking. This information is required to process your request and avoid delays in scheduling an appointment.

PATIENT INFORMATION


Last name			First name, initial		
Date of birth			Health card number		
Day	Month	Year			

DECISION SUPPORT CHECKLIST


To help us appropriately triage your request for an MRI exam associated with a headache (adult), please check the box that applies to your patient’s condition.

 **MRI is indicated**

<input type="checkbox"/> MRI was recommended on a previous imaging report. Please attach the report.	<input type="checkbox"/> New primary headache of suspected trigeminal autonomic origin
<input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up for prior neurosurgery. Please attach the report.	<input type="checkbox"/> New headache in pregnant woman
<input type="checkbox"/> Scheduled for neurosurgery.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Date and location: _____	

 **MRI may be indicated**

<input type="checkbox"/> Post-traumatic headache	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexplained focal neurological signs
<input type="checkbox"/> New neurological deficit	<input type="checkbox"/> Focal neurologic deficit or papilledema
<input type="checkbox"/> New headache in cancer patient or immunocompromised individual	<input type="checkbox"/> Headache associated with cough, exertion, position or sexual activity
<input type="checkbox"/> New headache with optic disc edema	<input type="checkbox"/> Unusual headache attack precipitants
<input type="checkbox"/> Suspected meningitis/encephalitis	<input type="checkbox"/> Headache onset after age 50
<input type="checkbox"/> Rhino-sinusitis or nasal congestion refractory to medical treatment, with or without suspected orbital or intracranial complication.	<input type="checkbox"/> Cervicogenic headache and new or increasing non-traumatic cervical or neck pain. No neurologic deficit.

 **MRI is typically not indicated. Consider consultation with a specialist or radiologist prior to MRI**

<input type="checkbox"/> Typical migraine, or tension type headaches with a normal neurological exam results, with no red flags suggestive of causes for a secondary headache disorder	<input type="checkbox"/> Headache caused by acute (< 4 weeks) uncomplicated rhino-sinusitis
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sudden, severe headache or “worst headache of my life” (consider urgent CT)