The Headache and Facial Pain Clinic within Cleveland Clinic's Neurological Center for Pain is dedicated to the diagnosis and management of headache disorders, atypical facial pain and cranial neuralgias.

The clinic most commonly treats patients with primary headaches (migraines with and without auras, tension-type headaches, cluster headaches and other less commonly seen headaches) or secondary headaches (post-traumatic headaches, headaches related to neck problems, medication-induced chronic headaches and headaches associated with other medical conditions). We see more than 7,000 patients a year and offer a wide variety of medical treatments, including a specialized infusion service at Cleveland Clinic’s main campus and the Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute at Lakewood Hospital to provide urgent outpatient care to patients who would otherwise need to visit an emergency room.

More than 70 percent of Americans will suffer headache pain severe enough to compel them to seek medical attention at some point during their lifetimes. A small but substantial minority of individuals experiences chronic daily or near-daily headaches, which have a significant impact on quality of life. Our intent is to alleviate this pain, as well as the pain of those individuals with more episodic – but equally disruptive – headaches, restoring a sense of well-being and fostering a return to a more functional life.

The Multidisciplinary Approach to Headache Management
The cornerstone of effective patient management is individualized treatment based on open communication among the patient and treating clinicians and referring physicians.

The Infusion Suite
The Headache and Facial Pain Clinic’s Infusion Suite is a treatment room devoted to intravenous infusions specific to headaches. The goal of infusions is to provide urgent, inpatient-type care when you would otherwise have to visit the emergency room. The suite on main campus is available 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and provides same-day care for established headache patients. The suite also functions as a site where medications that perpetuate headaches can be safely discontinued without hospitalization. For the convenience of patients living on Cleveland’s west side we also have an infusion suite at the Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute at Lakewood Hospital.

Home Care Infusion Nursing
Once treatment is established in the Infusion Suite, medication can be continued at home by home care nurses, making it easier for you to receive aggressive medical therapy for headaches.

Physical Therapy
Mechanical factors, such as mobility of the neck and upper body, posture and the physical environment of home and work, can contribute to headaches. Physical therapists employ their knowledge of anatomy, biomechanics and ergonomics to assess and treat these factors. Treatment focuses on education and empowerment for you to participate in the techniques and specific exercises to correct mechanical problems.

Dietary Therapy
A registered dietitian is available to analyze your eating patterns and medical history as they relate not only to your headache disorder, but also to your general lifestyle and individual needs.
IMATCH Treatment Program

Interdisciplinary Method for the Assessment and Treatment of Chronic Headache

The Headache and Facial Pain Clinic offers this unique treatment program for adults with chronic headache (at least 15 headache days per month for three or more consecutive months) who already have seen a neurologist and have exhausted all medication options. This intensive, three-week outpatient care program involves daily consultations with a neurologist, psychologist and physical therapist, who work together to develop a customized treatment plan. While in the program, you will undergo infusions to decrease the severity of your headache or to break the cycle of a chronic headache. Other services offered during the period are group counseling, physical therapy, nutrition planning, biofeedback, trigger point injections, botulinum toxin type A (BOTOX®) therapy and other alternative therapies.

Our Staff

The Headache and Facial Pain Clinic includes neurologists and one internist who are dedicated to the treatment of headache and facial pain. Working with them are pain psychologists trained in cognitive behavioral therapy, relaxation therapy, biofeedback and hypnosis; physical therapists trained in head and neck pain; and specialists in dizziness, sleep medicine, physical medicine and rehabilitation, pain anesthesia and neurosurgery. Nurses are trained in pain management and patient education, with knowledge of all aspects of headache management. They are an excellent resource, educating patients on medication, lifestyle changes and headache tracking using a daily diary.

Locations

The IMATCH treatment program is available at Cleveland Clinic’s main campus. The Headache and Facial Pain Clinic offers additional services at the following convenient sites:

- Cleveland Clinic main campus, 9500 Euclid Avenue
- Lakewood Hospital, 14519 Detroit Avenue
- Chagrin Falls Family Health Center, 551 East Washington Street
- Independence Family Health Center, 5001 Rockside Road
- Solon Family Health Center, 29800 Bainbridge Road
- Twinsburg Medical Office Building, 2365 Edison Blvd., Suite 100
- Westlake Family Health Center, 30033 Clemens Road

Contact Us

For an appointment or for more information, call 216.636.5860 or toll free, 866.588.2264. Visit us online at clevelandclinic.org/headache.

ABOUT THE NEUROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

The Headache and Facial Pain Clinic is part of the Neurological Institute, one of 26 institutes at Cleveland Clinic. The multidisciplinary institute is internationally known for superior diagnosis and treatment of neurological disorders ranging from the common to the most complex.

More than 250 specialists combine clinical expertise, academic achievement and innovative research to accelerate transfer of investigational therapies unavailable elsewhere, for the benefit of adult and pediatric patients. The institute is committed to improving outcomes while treating patients with compassion and respect.