**Headache Infusion Therapy**

Patients with chronic or intractable headaches often benefit from an infusion of a series of medications at one time. It’s done as outpatient therapy for eight hours a day, three days in a row. One goal is to “reset” the brain. Over time, chronic migraine can lead to changes in the brain that cause symptoms to become worse. By stopping the headaches and decreasing the activity of certain neurotransmitters, there may be decreased levels of inflammation and then an end of the cycle of internal triggers and inflammation leading to pain awareness. Another benefit of infusion therapy is to learn which medications provide the best response for a patient.

We utilized the following treatments: IV magnesium sulfate, dexamethasone, valproate sodium, lidocaine, dihydroergotamine, promethazine, Zofran, and Toradol.

**Patient Guidelines for Headache Infusions**

Your Physician has requested that you be scheduled for an Infusion Course. This course lasts (3) three days. You should plan to be at our Canton office for (6) six hours each day. During your time here you will be monitored by our staff or nurses and our Physician overseer.

Below is a list of guidelines for you to follow

* As a service to you, our office will contact your insurance company and obtain precertification for the procedure. Once this has been completed, our office will call to schedule dates and times with you. If you have not heard from our office within 48 hours ( 2 business days ), please contact us at 330-494-2097 ext 372.
* If you have any cardiac or respiratory conditions please notify our office prior to scheduling your procedure.
* If you do not have a headache on the date scheduled, please call our office and cancel your appointment.
* This procedure requires you to have a driver to take you home after the infusion is complete. You will be required to provide us with the name of your driver on the date of service. Due to the privacy act whoever accompanies you will not be allowed to stay in the infusion center with you but are welcome to stay in the lobby. Upon your arrival, your cell phone needs to be turned off or silenced.
* NOTE: If you are currently taking any of the following medications do NOT take them12 hours prior to the infusion: Amerge, Axert, Frova, Imitrex, Maxalt, Relpax, Sumavel, Treximet or Zomig. This includes any oral, nasal or needleless injectable version of these drugs. All other medications may be taken as regularly scheduled.
* If you are a diabetic and will require insulin during the time of your infusion, please bring it with you.
* Due to the length of treatment, please wear loose and comfortable clothing.
* NO children are permitted.
* If you would like or require a snack during your visit you are welcome to bring something with you.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please call the office at 330-494-2097 ext 327.

Jose M. Casanova, MD

Director, NeuroCare Infusion Clinic