TITLE: Ergotamine versus Dihydroergotamine for the Treatment of Migraine Headaches: Comparative Clinical Effectiveness

DATE: 09 June 2010

RESEARCH QUESTION:

What is the comparative clinical effectiveness of ergotamine versus dihydroergotamine for the treatment of migraine headaches in patients over the age of 16 years?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 5, 2010) University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI (Health Devices Gold), EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. The search was limited to English language articles published between January 1, 1999 and June 3, 2010. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links were provided, where available.

RESULTS:

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, controlled clinical trials, and observational studies.

One systematic review, six randomized controlled trials, and one clinical controlled trial were identified in the literature search. No relevant health technology assessments, meta-analyses, or observational studies were identified. No studies directly comparing ergotamine with dihydroergotamine were identified. Additional potentially relevant articles are located in the appendix.
Health technology assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Randomized controlled trials


Controlled clinical trials


Observational studies
No literature identified.

PREPARED BY:
Health Technology Inquiry Service
Email: htis@cadth.ca
Tel: 1-866-898-8439
APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Observational studies


Clinical practice guidelines


12. Diagnosis and management of headache in adults: a national clinical guideline (SIGN 107) [Internet]. Edinburgh: Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (GB); 2008 Nov [cited 2010 Jun 3]. Available from: [link]

Note: See Section 6.1.2 Triptans vs ergots; Section 6.1.3 D; Section 6.1.4 Ergotamine; Section 9.2 Treatment


Review articles


