PRIMARY CHRONIC DAILY HEADACHE: A REPORT ON 52 CASES (Abstract)*. **THESIS.**

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Fifty-two patients (48 women, 4 men, ages varying between 13 and 71 years) that fulfilled the criteria by Silberstein et al. (1994) for chronic daily headache (CDH) were studied.

The main clinical characteristics allowed three diagnostic types of CDH: transformed migraine (n=39; 75%); chronic tension-type headache (n=11; 21.1%); and new daily persistent headache (n=2; 3.9%). Thirty-four patients used to take symptomatic medication in excess and were considered as having drug-induced headache.

The treatment included increasing doses of amitriptyline alone or associated with propranolol besides the interruption of the symptomatic medication. This scheme was effective to decrease the frequency of headache in most CDH patients and its beneficial effects had lasted even six months after the beginning of the follow-up. In the few patients in whom the treatment was unsuccessful, the persistence of abusive use of symptomatic drugs was statistically significant.

**KEY WORDS:** chronic daily headache (CDH), transformed migraine (TM), chronic tensional-type headache (CTTH), new daily persistent headache (NDPH), drug-induced headache.

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* *Cefaléia crônica diária*: a propósito de 52 casos (Resumo). Tese de Mestrado, Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade Federal Fluminense (Área: Neurologia). Orientador: Pedro Ferreira Moreira Filho.

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