**OBJECTIVE**

To develop an effective teaching tool to facilitate communication among medical providers, students, and families, and school administration on how to best meet the needs of students with headache complaints, specifically chronic pediatric headache and migraine.

**BACKGROUND LITERATURE**

- In recent decades, the number of children with chronic illnesses transitioning back to school has increased. (1)
- Pediatric migraine is one of the five most prevalent childhood disorders in the US, affecting up to 10% of children and 28% of adolescents. (2)
- Children with chronic headache experience significant impairment to daily functioning, including difficulty with school performance and higher rates of school absenteeism than kids with other chronic illnesses. (3)
- Minimizing school drop-out rates for children with pain conditions such as chronic pediatric headache has evolved beyond individual patient care towards a global public health issue. (4)

**METHODS**

**Participants:**
- 31 school nurses from 9 different counties in Massachusetts and New Hampshire
- 109 patients seen at the Pediatric Headache Program at Boston Children’s Hospital

**RESULTS**

**Mean Ratings (out of 5)**
- Overall: 4.46
- Introduction: 4.10
- Headache as Chronic Illness: 4.40
- Education on Lifestyle Factors: 4.48
- Checklists for Scenarios: 4.29
- Medication Overview Charts: 4.23
- When to Contact a PCP, Neurologist, or a Headache Specialist: 4.33
- Additional Resources: 4.05

**CONCLUSION**

- Feedback from patients and school nurses confirms need to further educate school nurses on specific chronic pain conditions, including headache/migraine
- Overall positive feedback of Back to School guide (as rated by school nurses) emphasizes importance of providing concise, yet thorough reference tools to parties involved in a child’s ongoing care
- Strong liaisons among medical providers, students, and school administrators are crucial to a child’s successful recovery

**REFERENCES**


**Acknowledgements**

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