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> [Muscle Nerve](#). 2021 Apr;63(4):563-567. doi: 10.1002/mus.27153. Epub 2021 Jan 8.

## Anti-calcitonin gene-related peptide monoclonal antibodies for neuropathic pain in patients with migraine headache

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** There is increasing evidence that calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP) plays a role in the development of neuropathic pain, a common feature of peripheral neuropathy. Although clinical studies have shown that anti-CGRP monoclonal antibodies are highly efficacious for migraine headache prophylaxis, their effects on nonheadache chronic pain conditions, including neuropathic pain, in humans are unknown. Therefore, the aim of this study was to assess the effectiveness of anti-CGRP monoclonal antibodies for neuropathic pain in patients with coexisting chronic migraine.

**Methods:** A retrospective chart review was conducted of 14 patients with chronic migraine and peripheral neuropathy. All patients were treated with anti-CGRP monoclonal antibodies. We collected data on patient-reported scores on the Neuropathy Pain Scale (NPS) and the frequency of migraine headache days (MHDs) per month. Data were collected 3 and 0 months before and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months after treatment with anti-CGRP medications.

**Results:** With treatment of anti-CGRP monoclonal antibodies, patients reported a 41.7% decrease in NPS scores from 89.3 at baseline to 52.1 at 12 months posttreatment ( $P < .05$ ). In addition, there was a 33.3% decrease in MHDs per month from 19.8 at baseline to 13.2 at 12 months posttreatment ( $P < .05$ ).

**Discussion:** Administration of anti-CGRP medications significantly improved neuropathic pain in patients who also had chronic migraine. To confirm these promising outcomes, it would be worthwhile to conduct a blinded, randomized study with a larger population of patients.

**Keywords:** calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP); migraine headache; monoclonal antibodies; neuropathic pain; peripheral neuropathy; treatment.

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