

Lasmiditan, a highly selective, orally available, 5-HT_{1F} receptor agonist, has been approved by the FDA for the acute treatment of migraine based on large phase 3 studies where it was superior to placebo. Ditans have no vascular effects because the 5-HT_{1F} receptor is located in the central and peripheral nervous system but not vasculature; the class thus unequivocally fills a gap in therapy for patients with cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease. The major side effect is dizziness, occurring in about 15% of patients in clinical trials, and somnolence in 6%. Patients are advised not to drive for 8 hours after treatment.

DOPAMINE RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS

Oral Oral dopamine receptor antagonists can be considered as adjunctive therapy in migraine. Drug absorption is impaired during migraine because of reduced gastrointestinal motility. Delayed absorption occurs even in the absence of nausea and is related to the severity of the attack and not its duration. Therefore, when oral NSAIDs and/or triptan agents fail, the addition of a dopamine receptor antagonist, such as metoclopramide 10 mg or domperidone 10 mg (not available in the United States), should be considered to enhance gastric absorption. In addition, dopamine receptor antagonists decrease nausea/vomiting and restore normal gastric motility.

Parenteral Dopamine receptor antagonists (e.g., chlorpromazine, prochlorperazine, metoclopramide) by injection can also provide significant acute relief of migraine; they can be used in combination with parenteral 5-HT_{1B/1D} receptor agonists. A common IV protocol used for the treatment of severe migraine is the administration over 2 min of a mixture of 5 mg of prochlorperazine and 0.5 mg of dihydroergotamine.

OTHER OPTIONS FOR ACUTE MIGRAINE

Oral The combination of acetaminophen, dichloralphenazone, and isometheptene, one to two capsules, has been classified by the FDA as “possibly” effective in the treatment of migraine. Because the clinical studies demonstrating the efficacy of this combination