

HEADACHE

It's ALL about doing a good history and exam

Differential Dx

(King) Subarachnoid

(Queen) Meningitis

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### 3 Killers In The BRAIN

Strokes

Hematomas

Tumors/Elevated ICP

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3 Killers In The VESSELS

Arterial Dissection

Brain DVTs

Giant Cell/Temporal Arteritis

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### 3 MISCELLANEOUS Killers

Preeclampsia

Carbon Monoxide

Glaucoma

## Approach to Headache

### 1) Write out your differential diagnosis

The King and The Queen

3 In the Brain, 3 In the Vessels, 3 Miscellaneous

### 2) How does this compare to previous headaches?

### 3) HENT and FULL NEURO

\*Don't forget to walk the patient

### 4) Order tests as necessary

CT Head without Contrast

Lumbar Puncture

Sed Rate, Carboxyhemoglobin

### 5) Headache Cocktail

Dopamine Antagonist (PLUS)

Antihistamine (PLUS)

Steroid (PLUS)

NSAIDS (PLUS)

Fluids

\*Triptans and Opiates are Rarely Indicated\*