

HISTORY

HPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Duration symptoms• Speed of onset: Sudden / Gradual• Pain location: Frontal / Occipital / Unilateral• Pain nature: Throbbing / Tension / Positional / Recurrent• Other symptoms: Aura / Eye drooping / Runny nose-eye / Jaw claudication / Scalp tenderness• Fevers• Meningitic symptoms: Neck stiffness / Photophobia• Head trauma• Neurological symptoms: Paraesthesia / Weakness / Slurred speech / Facial drop / Seizures• Visual changes
PMH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Headache history: Migraine / Cluster / Simple• Glucoma• PMR• Epileptic: Recent seizure activity• Haemorrhagic Stroke risk factors: TIA / AF / Hypertension
DH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opiates• GTN• Allergies / New medications
SH / FH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alcohol status: Sudden abstinence• Migraine risk factors: 1st degree FH

EXAMINATION

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evidence of trauma• Distressed• Photophobia• Moving neck freely• Nasal / Eye discharge• Obesity
AIRWAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure airway patent
BREATHING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical Observation: FiO₂ / RR / SaO₂• Auscultation: Wheeze / Crackles / Air entry / Silent Chest
CIRCULATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical Observation: HR / BP• Fluid input-output: Fluid balance• Hydration status: CRT / Mucus membranes
DISABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical Observation: Temp• GCS• PERL: Normal / Constricted / Dilated• Cranial neurological examination• Peripheral neurological examination
EXPOSURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rash: Petechiae• Kernigs sign• Cervical spine stiffness: Brudzinski sign• Cervical spine palpation: Tenderness + reproducing headache• Sinus palpation: Tenderness + reproducing headache• Temporal artery palation: Tenderness / pulsation

INVESTIGATIONS

BLOODS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FBC / U&E / CRP / ESR• LFT• Clotting	
MICRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultures: If Temp > 38	
FUNDOSCOPY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Raised intracranial pressure: Papilloedema	
CT HEAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intracranial Haemorrhage• Skull fracture• Space occupying lesion	DISCUSS WITH SENIOR
LUMBAR PUNCTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening pressure• Organisms / Culture / PCR• WBC / RBC• Xanthochromia• Protein• Glucose	DISCUSS WITH SENIOR +/- CT HEAD INR <1.4 & Plt > 50

POTENTIAL DIFFERENTIALS

PRIMARY HEADACHE MIGRAINE / TENSION / CLUSTER	ALCOHOL WITHDRAWAL HEADACHE	MEDICATION INDUCED HEADACHE
INTRACRANIAL HAEMORRHAGE SAH / SUBDURAL / EXTRADURAL	TEMPORAL ARTERITIS	ENCEPHALITIS MENINGITIS
INTRACRANIAL HYPERTENSION SOL / HYPERTENSION / IDIOPATHIC (IIH)	CLOSED ANGLE GLUCOMA	SINUS HEADACHE
STROKE		