Clocking Tinnitus found to be an Audiology Manifestation of Migraine

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On the basis of recent research published in the journal, Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery, Tinnitus an objective or subjective sound listened inside the ear or brain presents as an audiology symptom by some of the migraineurs. As compared to the previous theory, tinnitus is restricted as an otologic ailment; current evidence supports it as a phantom sensory event of vestibulocochlear injury with the cortical reconstitution.

This investigation involved a total of ten participants who suffered from a ticking sound of a pendulum or quartz clock known with the name of clocking tinnitus. All patients were reviewed for tinnitus symptoms, laboratory tests, and therapy response.

Out of the ten participants, one showed bilateral, three showed unilateral, and six showed midline clocking tinnitus. It normally dwindled in 15 minutes. No symptoms of the otic disorder, vertigo, focal neurological deficit or hemifacial spasm were noticed along with tinnitus. Seven participants exhibited pre-existing migraine. Six patients showed some of the migraine symptoms concurrently at the time of the tinnitus attack. According to the pure-tone audiometry, half of the participants exhibited a symmetric sloping pattern of hearing impairment whereas 30% of the patients showed an extended wave I-III latency revealed by brainstem auditory evoked potentials. All participants showed normal p300 and electroencephalogram. No structural change was unveiled, and patients reacted poorly to conventional therapies but positively to Topiramate or Flunarizine.

Therefore, among migraineurs, the clocking tinnitus may present as an audiology indication of migraine, which can be prevented using the antimigraine medications like Topiramate or Flunarizine.

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