

ANALYSIS OF VISUAL EVOKED POTENTIALS AND THE RESPONSES TO PHOTOSTIMULATION OF OTHER ELECTROPHYSIOLOGICALS TESTS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS IN MIGRAINE HEADACHE DIAGNOSIS (Abstract\*). *Dissertation. São Paulo, 1995.*

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The use of visual evoked potentials (VEP) in neurology is of importance in the auxiliary diagnosis of many illnesses. Recently it has been used in migraine headache research with the objective of becoming a diagnostic marker in this type of illness. The research attempts to correlate the alterations found using VEP with the pathophysiology of migraine headaches.

In this study, the responses of VEP, by pattern reversal, of 20 patients diagnosed as having migraine headaches based on criteria established by the International Headache Society, 1988, were analysed and the results of amplitude alterations and the analysis of the latencies found are discussed.

Results showed higher amplitude in 9 of the 20 patients ( $p < 0.01$ ) and shortened latencies considering the waves N75 and P100 ( $p < 0.01$ ). This may reflect an evidence of neuronal hyperexcitability as a factor involved in the pathogenesis of migraine headaches.

**KEY WORDS: migraine headache, visual evoked potentials, photostimulation.**

\*Análise dos potenciais evocados visuais e a resposta à fotoestimulação de outros testes eletrofisiológicos e suas contribuições no diagnóstico da enxaqueca (Resumo). *Dissertação de Mestrado, Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de São Paulo (Área: Neurologia). Orientador: Aron J. Diamant.*

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