Reviewer's report

Title: Myofascial trigger points in cluster headache patients: a case series.

Version: 1 Date: 14 July 2008

Reviewer: Hong-You Ge

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The current case study suggest that there might be a causal relationship between active myofascial trigger points and cluster headache. The current results also indicate the role of peripheral sensitization in cluster headache, even though controlled studies are needed to support these notions.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
None

Minor Essential Revisions
1. the so-called trigger points these authors referred to in this manuscript are active myofascial trigger points (MTrPs) rather than latent ones. To be exact and clear to the reader, the wording "active MTrPs" may be preferably adopted throughout the entire manuscript.

2. Format the main text into "Introduction, Case description, Discussion and evaluation, and conclusion" sections.

3. The abbreviations are not defined in the text where first used, please check.

4. The first two sentences in the Abstract section may be re-stated like: "Active myofascial trigger points (MTrPs) have been found to contribute to chronic tension-type headache and migraine."

5. Abstract section, line 10, replace the word "to" with the word "with". The term "peripheral hypersensitization" may be changed into "peripheral sensitization".

6. Describe the procedure of MTrP injection. How do you define an accurate needle insertion into an active MTrP when it is a little point in the muscle? A local twitch response was induced?, or referred pain (headache) was reported by the patient? Were the injections repeated in different directions within a MTrP region?. As is known that different injection procedures may influence the clinical effects.

7. Page 4, line 14, 18, 19, 20, and 24, replace "six", "seven","six", and "seven" with "6,7,6, and 7", respectively; delete "a" before the word 50%;

Reformulate the third paragraph on page 4, it is difficult to follow;
Line 25, replace the word "with" with the words "to the";
Delete the second sentence in the first paragraph on page 5: "We expected
to....examined subject.", You may simply say that "active MTrPs were found in every subject examined.";
Insert the word "or" after the word "abortive" on page 5, line 17;
Use the abbreviation for "trigger points" on page 5, line 20;
Typographic error on page 6, line 3.
....
Careful editing of the whole text is needed.

8. References No. 1 and No. 18 are the same reference, delete No. 18?

9. Tab. 2, delete the word "of" in the footnote sentence of "*: It was considered effective when patients showed at least a 50% of reduction in the attack frequency".

Discretionary Revisions
A more expanded discussion of the role of peripheral sensitization in headache is preferred in the Discussion section.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.