

1. On a scale of 1-10, with "10" being the worst pain imaginable above the shoulders, how many mornings per week do you wake with a "0" (zero)? _____
2. On a scale of 1-10, what's the average "number" you usually wake with? _____
3. What % of your waking time do you have some degree of headache? _____
4. What % of your waking time do you have a "0" (zero) without taking medications? _____
5. What is your average headache pain level (1-10 scale) throughout the day? _____
6. On a scale of 1-10, what is the worst pain level you experience? _____
7. What time of day do you usually experience your worst headaches? _____
8. How many times per week (or month) might you experience your worst pain? _____
9. Where does your pain seem to originate from?

10. How would you describe your pain?
(examples: throbbing, squeezing, pressure, dull, stabbing, shooting, etc.)

11. Please circle the types of health care providers you've seen for your headaches.
MD Neurologist ENT Internist Physical Therapist Chiropractor Dentist
Others: _____

12. What medical tests have been performed regarding your headaches?
CT scan MRI Xray Blood analysis Other: _____

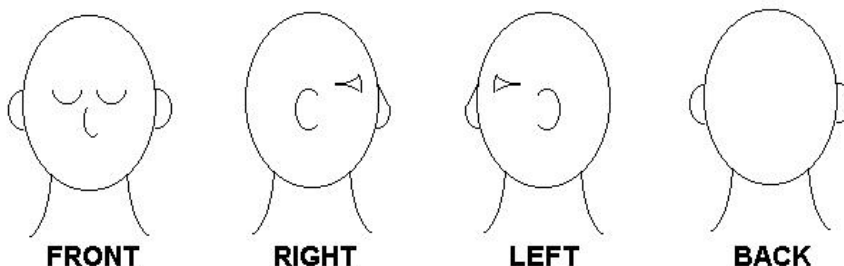
13. What types of procedures or treatments (including dental) have you had (for headaches)?

14. What medication(s) do you now take to prevent your headaches?

15. What medications have you tried to prevent your headaches?

16. What Rx'ed or over-the-counter meds. do you take to relieve your headaches? (and how much)

Below: Shade in the areas on your head/neck/shoulders to designate the location(s) of your headache:



Rationale for questions

1-5. The goal is to confirm a "foundation" for the headaches. There is nothing normal about waking with any degree of discomfort, although a majority of chronic headache sufferers accept a tolerable degree of discomfort as acceptable and unremarkable. They have succumbed to the regular pain, and report only their most intolerable pain.

6. This is what the patient is most concerned with, and what previous treatments have been aimed at. Confirm with the patient that this too is your goal, but to prevent the worst pain it is necessary to eliminate the causative and perpetuating activity "foundation" that allows for the worst pain.

7. The patients who have severe afternoon episodes usually have more muscular parafunction throughout the day. Although the answer may be "sometime in the afternoon" (and therefore the patient's focus), they still have discomfort at other times of the day. Those who report more severe afternoon episodes have a greater necessity for a "Daytime" device. Patients reporting the most severe episodes upon waking or in the morning (some will report they are awakened from sleep) may have less of a necessity for a daytime device.

8. This is usually what they report to a physician, and may have been interpreted as how many headaches per week (or month) they have, when it simply indicates how intense their (nearly) on-going discomfort can get. For example, if the response was "5 times per month", you might reply: "If your worst headache lasts for two days, then that takes up 10 days per month. So then, does that mean you have a "zero" the other 20 days per month?"

9. The position of the mandible during the muscular parafunction events dictates the origin of the discomfort. Examples-- Bilateral temporal pain: centric clenching; Unilateral temporal: unilateral clenching; Frontal (sinus) with neck symptoms: protrusive clenching; Facial and TMJ: excursive clenching... or alternating combinations.

10. This is a rule out type of question. Terms which DO NOT comply with myofascial pain (examples: shocking, jolting, knife-like) should be further investigated by a physician.

11-15. Just to confirm that you are NOT the first provider that the patient has consulted with regarding their headaches. If you are, and the patient has been having the headaches for less than one year, insist they see their physician for a complete work-up. If it has been more than one year, note in the chart that you recommend a full medical work-up.

14-16. Do not recommend that the patient change any of their medications. Note that most preventive medications are taken before bed.

As you review the questionnaire responses and listen to their comments, imagine if what they describe could be caused and/or perpetuated highly intense nocturnal clenching, *and what type* of clenching activity might be *required* to relate to their responses. There is nothing normal about the activities you'll be imagining... if fact, you might think, "That would be pretty weird if they were to do that...", which is exactly the point. The patient in front of you has most likely been given a clean bill of health, yet they are miserable. What they are doing must be pretty weird for them to be where they are.

Also, the patient may tell you things that they think you want to (or might need to) know. They may provide what they think are insights or suggestions. Something to consider always: Imagine the patient has been "possessed" by the muscular parafunction animal. Sometimes, "the animal" is speaking to you through the patient. **It is trying to mislead you.** It does not want to be disturbed. For example, the patient might say: "I feel that my bite is off", or, "I can't find a place where my teeth are supposed to come together". The animal is trying to convince you that you should improve the occlusal scheme. Why? Because that would make the animal a better clencher. At this moment, remind the patient: "You see! 'The Condition' is talking to us! It wants to keep on with its activity. Why would you comment that your 'bite' was off or needed to be improved if you weren't biting frequently?"