A final diagnosis was made by applying the criteria in ICHD-3β after putting together the results of the questionnaire, medical records, neurological examination, appropriate testing and response to treatment. Considering the purpose of the study for the overall distribution of headaches, we considered for diagnosis only those headaches complained of at the first visit to the clinics and not any headache identified additionally from past medical histories. As an exceptive clause, patients meeting criteria for both primary headaches and medication-overuse headaches (MOH) were given both diagnoses, but such cases were classified into only primary headaches. Only headaches caused purely by substances were classified into the headache attributed to a substance or its withdrawal. MOH incidences were measured separately.

For classification details, primary headaches were classified down to the second-digit diagnoses and secondary headaches, painful cranial neuropathies/other facial pains, and other headaches were classified down to the first digit. Headaches that did not satisfy appropriately any of the criteria were classified into ‘14. other headache disorders’ as in the ICHD.¹

Reference