



Dear Program Director,

Migraine is among the most common and disabling neurologic conditions in the world, affecting nearly 1 billion people worldwide and more than 38 million in the United States. Despite the impact of migraine and other headache disorders, there is only one accredited headache specialist for every 80,000 patients in the United States. Thankfully, headache translational science and clinical care have evolved at a robust pace, bringing numerous therapies to patients in the past year alone—with more treatments to come.

In response to this significant problem, The American Headache Society has undertaken a long-term commitment to educate neurology residents more extensively about migraine and related headache disorders. In addition to our national **Resident Education Program** where residents come to our programming, we want to bring an educational initiative locally to your Department of Neurology. The program—**Resident Education for Assessment and Care for Headache (REACH)**—aims to inspire adult and pediatric neurology residents to receive high-quality education and, potentially, pursue careers in headache medicine so they can better serve the needs of migraine and headache patients.



REACH will be centered around an innovative half-day curriculum that covers essential concepts in headache medicine. The program includes neurology department-wide Grand Rounds with an expert from AHS and the REACH program. Smaller education modules specific for neurology residents and customizable for up to a half-day didactic curriculum, as well as online education elements, are available in addition to the Grand Rounds.

Hosted at institutions all over the nation, these half-day programs increase the profile of headache as a subspecialty. They also provide a curricular foundation to educate residents in the most common reason patients see neurologists, and inspire a greater number of trainees and faculty members to become educators and serve patients with headache and related pain disorders.

Though neurology departments traditionally budget funding for hosting a visiting Grand Rounds speaker, the REACH program by AHS covers expenses, including travel, lodging and meals for the visiting faculty member. Residents in your training program will also receive a complimentary trainee membership to AHS.

If your institution is interested in hosting REACH to educate your Department of Neurology and trainees for an update in the field of headache, **please contact us** at the American Headache Society. We would be happy to share further details and a sample curriculum.

Sincerely,  
REACH Program Co-Chairs  
Rashmi B. Halker Singh, MD, FAHS  
Matthew S. Robbins, MD, FAHS  
Noah Rosen, MD, FAHS

cc:

Kathleen Digre, MD, FAHS, President of the American Headache Society  
Peter Goadsby, MD, PhD, FAHS, Education Committee Chair

Connect with us



Thanks for reading!



Resident Education for Assessment and Care for Headache

## Proposed Curriculum

### Grand Rounds in Headache Medicine (45-60 minutes)

- a. Headache Medicine as a career
- b. Diagnosis of primary and common secondary headache conditions
- c. Pathophysiology
- d. Treatment: acute, preventive, behavioral, complementary/alternative
- e. Advocacy

### Half-day Educational Program (4 hours)

- a. Diagnosis (45 minutes)
  - a. Classification
  - b. Headache history-taking
  - c. Physical exam
  - d. Diagnostic testing/Imaging
- b. Anatomy and pathophysiology (45 minutes)
- c. Treatment (2 hours)
  - a. Acute and preventive treatment (pharmacotherapy and devices)
  - b. Behavioral therapies
  - c. Lifestyle modification
  - d. Complementary and alternative
- d. Cluster headache and trigeminal autonomic cephalalgias (30 minutes)
  - a. Acute and preventive treatment of cluster headache
  - b. Treatment of other trigeminal autonomic cephalalgias

### Online Education Elements

- Headache Medicine Virtual Platform: interactive, short-form modules covering a range of topics in Headache Medicine
- Headache Journal Club: summaries of and links to seminal articles
- Headache Case Club: case-based learning about secondary headache conditions, intractable cases, special populations etc.
- Virtual Resource Library: guidelines, patient education materials, diagnostic criteria



[www.AmericanHeadacheSociety.org](http://www.AmericanHeadacheSociety.org)