



Surgical Treatment for Chronic Migraine Prevention

*The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center offers the only program in central Ohio, and one of the few in the world, with the expertise to provide a surgical treatment for the prevention of symptoms associated with chronic migraine headaches. This unique migraine prevention program is led by **Jeffrey Janis, MD, FACS**, an Ohio State surgeon, who is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery.*

When Medications Are Not Enough

Physicians refer patients with chronic migraine headaches to Ohio State's Wexner Medical Center because Ohio State has the multidisciplinary expertise to offer all evidence-based diagnostic and treatment options.

Surgical treatment to prevent chronic migraines is a safe and effective option for those who have not responded well to treatment with medications (antidepressants, anticonvulsants, beta-blockers, or calcium channel blockers) or other interventions (herbals, acupuncture, chiropractor services, electrical stimulation, patches, or biofeedback).

For those whose migraines do not respond to medications or interventions, Ohio State specialists can:

- Assess each patient to determine an optimal treatment plan
- Use Botox or nerve blocks to identify the migraine headache trigger sources
- Design a surgical intervention to eliminate headache symptoms caused by these triggers

A Surgical Solution for Chronic Migraines

Surgery to alleviate the symptoms of chronic migraine headaches is available only to patients who have been diagnosed by a board-certified neurologist with migraine headaches or cranial neuralgias, such as supraorbital or occipital neuralgia.

Patients are treated using an individualized approach but based upon a multidisciplinary concept that begins with the patient's history and a physical exam.

Botulinum toxin (Botox) or nerve blocks are administered to determine whether a patient has "trigger points" arising from peripheral nerves of the head and neck that may be compressed by surrounding tissue, including muscle, fascia, bone, or even blood vessels.

If a patient has a peripheral trigger point that is contributing to the migraine symptoms, the patient may be a candidate for surgical intervention, specifically a technique used to identify and decompress these nerves.

Surgical Intervention can take the form of multiple procedures, all performed in one operation in an outpatient setting.

Proven Results

This technique has a tremendous amount of data to support its efficacy, safety, and outcomes, with at least 24 studies published in peer-review journals. Literature includes retrospective studies, prospective pilot studies, prospective randomized controlled studies, sham surgery studies, and five-year follow-up studies.

Benefits of Surgical Treatment of Chronic Migraines:

- Long-term, preventive solution to chronic migraines
- Marked reduction in headache frequency, intensity, debilitating pain
- Less time away from family and work
- Fewer side effects than many other treatments
- Cost savings for patient and payer

Dr. Janis is the only surgeon in central Ohio with expertise or experience in this field of migraine surgery.



Dr. Janis has recorded excellent results from surgeries he performed while at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Among his patients who responded to surgery, average improvement from baseline levels was 96.9 percent.

Among the entire patient population, average improvement was 78.2 percent from baseline. This is far more effective than traditional treatments, and reflects a significant impact and improvement on the patient's quality of life.

Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

Professor and Executive Vice-Chairman, Department of Plastic Surgery at The Ohio State University

President of the American Council of Academic Plastic Surgeons

Member of the team that performed the first full face transplant in the U.S. at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts

Certification: American Board of Plastic Surgery, 2004

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For more Information or to refer a patient, contact Jeffrey Janis, MD, FACS, at 614-293-8566.



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