

MIGRAINES - A FEMININE DISEASE

R L Carasso¹²³⁴

¹ Department of Neurology and Pain Clinic, Hillel Yaffe Medical Center, Hadera, Israel

² Department of Psychology, Bar Ilan University Ramat-Gan, Israel

³ Rapoport School of Medicine, Technion Haifa, Israel

⁴ College of Management, Academic Studies Division, Rishon Le-Zion, Israel

The overall prevalence of migraine in the western world is approximately 10% affecting only 6% of men and 18% of women. Migraine headache can affect the psychological well-being of women suffering from this brain neuro-vascular disease leaving them depressed, angry tearful and frustrated. Migraine not only prevents women from enjoying life to the fullest, but can have a devastating impact on their well being and self-worth, which can negatively affect all other aspects of women lives. Can it be said that migraine is a women's disease only because it affects three times more women than men? Is there a genetic component? Many attacks appear in proximity to the monthly period, and most of them disappear during the second and third trimester of pregnancy. What is the role of the feminine hormones and how to treat migraine?