Diagnostic Criteria for Temporomandibular Disorders (DC/TMD): Diagnostic Decision Tree

Pain-Related TMD and Headache

HISTORY

Start at each blue-outline box

EXAMINATION

DIAGNOSIS

Regional pain [SQ3]
AND Pain modified by jaw movement, function, or parafunction [SQ4]

Yes No

Examining confirmation of pain location [E1a]
[Yes = Mast muscles] [Yes = TMJ]

Yes No

Investigate other pain diagnoses

(1) Familiar pain from:
  jaw opening [muscle, E4] OR masticatory muscle palpation (2 secs) [muscle, E9];
  AND
  (2) Confirm location [E1a]

Yes No

Investigate other pain diagnoses

Yes

Investigation of headache in temporalis area [E1b]

Yes No

Familiar headache from:
  jaw opening [joint, E4] OR jaw horizontal movement [joint, E5]
  OR TMJ palpation [joint, E9];
  AND
  (2) Confirm location [E1a]

No

Examiner confirmation of headache in temporalis area [E1b]

Yes

Yes

Yes

Headache not better accounted for by another headache diagnosis [Symptom review]

Yes

Headache attributed to TMD

Myalgia

Myofascial pain

Myofascial pain with referral

Local myalgia

Arthralgia

Note: 2 secs palpation is sufficient for myalgia; 5-secs is required for subtypes

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