

SURVEY REPORT

Medical Devices for Migraine and Other Headache Disorders



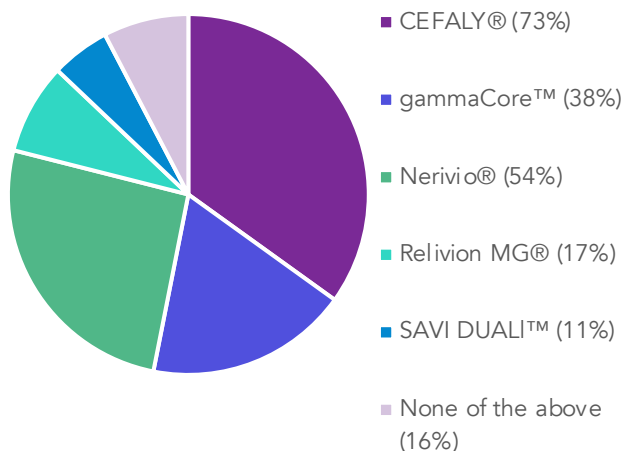
Migraine Meanderings and The Headache and Migraine Policy Forum recently conducted an online survey to better understand if and how people with migraine and other headache disorders are using medical devices. The survey, completed by **326 respondents**, was distributed online via social media channels and through email.

THE RESULTS

AWARENESS

86% of respondents have heard of FDA-cleared medical devices for migraine.

Respondents have heard of:

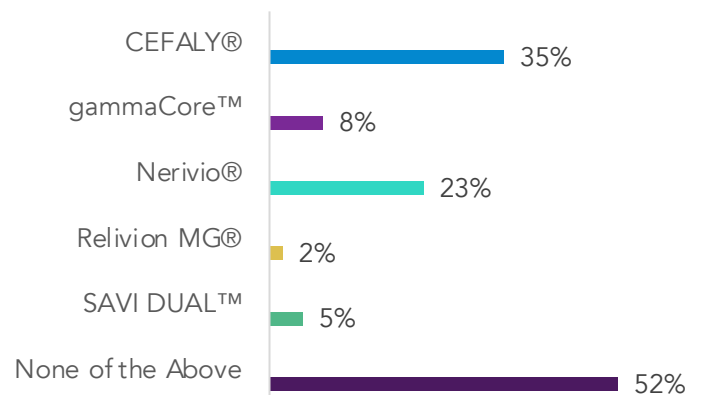


- **75%** of respondents heard about these devices in **migraine support groups/pages**. They also learned about them from their doctors (42%) and from medical and manufacturer websites (25%, 21%).
- **43%** say their doctor has recommended or prescribed one of the above devices to treat migraine or another headache disorder.

TREATMENT

49% of respondents currently use or have tried at least one of the medical devices for migraine.

Respondents have used:



- **25%** say they use a medical device in conjunction with other abortive and/or preventive treatments, as part of their migraine treatment toolbox.
- **18%** agree that the use of one or more of the above medical devices has significantly improved their migraine pain and symptoms. But **only about 8%** say using a medical device has significantly reduced the amount of medication they are using to treat their migraine.
- **About 13%** report that medical devices are effective in **ABORTING** their migraine attacks, while just **6%** say they are effective in **PREVENTING** their attacks.

“My daughter and I would love to try a medical device for migraine but they are cost prohibitive and our doctor said it may not help enough to justify paying out of pocket.”

—Survey Respondent

X BARRIERS TO ACCESS

INSURANCE BARRIERS

- **About 46%** of respondents have tried to get a medical device covered by their insurance, and **33%** of those report that their insurance company has denied coverage.
- **Only about 5%** of respondents said their insurance covered the device they were prescribed, while some had luck getting at least partial coverage for CEFALY® (4%) and Nerivio® (5%).

FINANCIAL BARRIERS

- **36%** of respondents pay for their medical device out of pocket, and another **5%** pay out of pocket with a copay.
- **30%** say they have had to reconsider using a device because the cost is too much without insurance.
- **77%** say financial cost is what prevents them from trying a device; and **35%** say they are not sure the device would work.

≡ PATIENT VOICES

“I don't have insurance and can't afford the devices. I would be more willing to try to buy one if there was a 100% guarantee it works.”

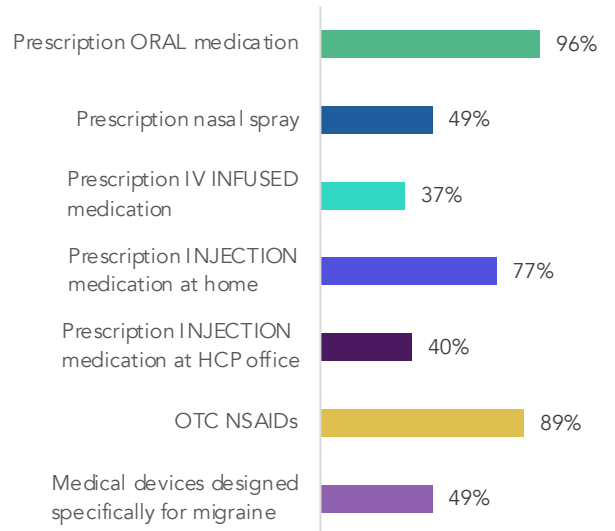
“Devices are more effective than meds for me but insurance refuses to pay.”

“I love gammaCore and it helps, but I cannot afford it anymore.”

“These devices are not viable for me as I have severe allodynia and these devices often make that worse.”

📄 BACKGROUND

Respondents use the following treatments to prevent migraine attacks:



AGE

- **About 59%** of respondents first started experiencing migraine or other headache symptoms when they were **18 years old or younger**.
- **37%** have children who also have migraine.

OTHER KEY FINDINGS

- **Less than 1%** used a medical device to treat migraine during pregnancy.
- Only about **4%** ever tried a medical device for migraine **BEFORE** age 18.

👥 SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS

GENDER

- **94%** female
- **4%** male
- **2%** other

AGE

- 56+: **31%**
- 41-55: **51%**
- 26-40: **15%**
- 18-25: **3%**

INSURANCE TYPE

- 42%** Medicare/Medicaid
- 55%** Commercial Insurance
- 14%** Other

FREQUENCY

- On average, respondents report having migraine:
- 66%** 15 days or more/month
 - 22%** 8-14 days/month
 - 12%** 1-7 days/month

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