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Column: Observational Study

Title: Greater Occipital Nerve Blocks in the treatment of refractory chronic migraine: An observational Report of Nine Cases

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Reviewer code: 00646433 and 02445899

First decision: 2016-06-12 09:32

Scientific editor: Fang-Fang Ji

### 1. Reviewers' comments and answers:

**Reviewer 1:** This manuscript describes the effect of Greater Occipital Nerve (GON) Blocks in the treatment of refractory chronic migraine. It is an interesting pivotal report. I have some suggestions:

**\*\*** An English revision for style (i.e. some paragraph are too long) is advisable.

**Answer:** We revised manuscript by a native speaker (professionally).

**\*\*** The authors should comment that a definite conclusion on GON block as treatment of refractory chronic migraine could be made only after randomized double blind trials. In fact, the placebo effect on diseases as migraine can be of great relevance. This represents a main limitation of the findings described in the present manuscript

**Answer:** It was written in abstract section (..Further controlled studies are warranted to better assess the role of GON block in the treatment of refractory migraine cases..) and also I added the sentence just before conclusion section (...In fact, the placebo effect on diseases as migraine can be of great relevance and GON block as treatment of refractory chronic

migraine can be made only after randomized double blind trials.. This represents a main limitation of the findings described in the present paper....).

\*\* Discussion section: please avoid terms as miraculous or dramatically, when discussing scientific data.

Answer: You are right. I deleted the words “a miraculous manner”.

## Reviewer 2:

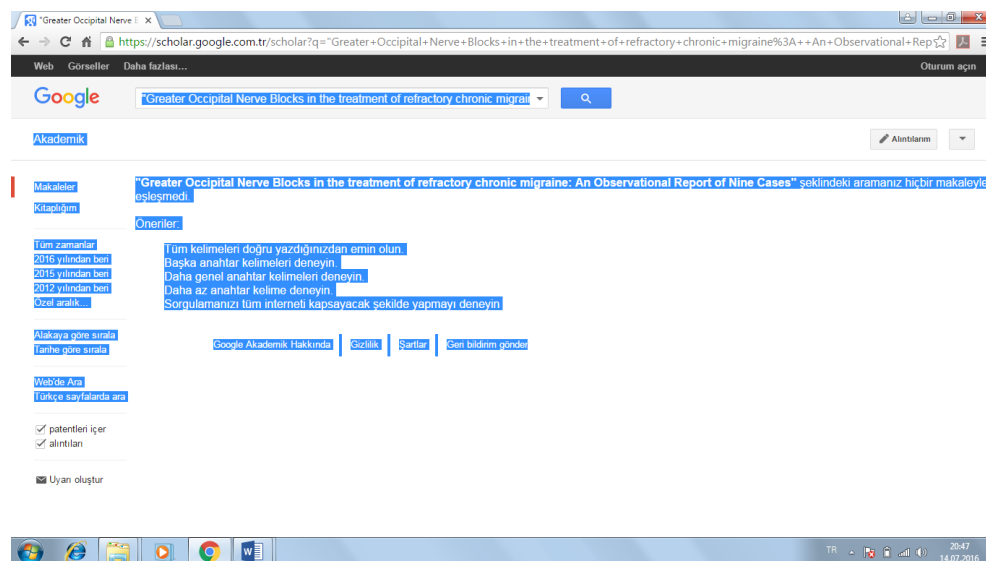
An interesting though rather short case report including just 9 patients, with only 8 patients completing the study. More numbers would have made the study more robust; however, the difficulty in recruiting suitable candidates is appreciated. The conclusions drawn are supported by the data. Some language polishing is required - an edited document is attached, which highlights the main language issues.

Answer: Thanks for your valuable comments. We made all changes according to your comments as it was seen in the revised manuscript.

Step 2. We updated the manuscript according to the Guidelines and Requirements for Manuscript Revision-Observational study (I asked and you recommended me to revise like that).

Step 3. We revised the manuscript as observational study and I think there is no need of Audio Core Tip.

Step 4. We checked the paper by iThenticate (document checking software) and the final title by Google Scholar search, Then it was stored as screenshot images of the results.



Step 5. We provided informed consent statement, biostatistics statement, conflict-of-interest statement, and data sharing statements.

Step 6. No grant application form. This is an observation of cases.

Step 7. We revised the language of your manuscript and attached certification letter.

Step 8. We signed the Copyright Assignment form.

Step 9. We submitted the revised manuscript and all related documents.

<http://www.wjgnet.com/esps/ModifyManuscript.aspx?UserId=5Ag1nG5neaZwwgXr2w6umiGjXFGwzNDBJloeaVEz48I%3d&id=t1uCQQJ70lsTQJvKC%2fTggA%3d%3d&UserNumId=00027639>)

I hope you find the changes valuable. Best regards.

A Köger