

Trigeminal Neuralgia Questions

PAIN

When did your facial pain start?

Which side of your face is the pain located? Right, Left, Both sides?

Describe the exact *location* of the pain.

Does it start in a particular area?

Does it radiate or travel to a different area?

Does the pain go into your forehead, eyebrow, eye, cheek, nose, upper jaw, lower jaw, upper/lower lip, teeth, or gums?

Describe the *quality* or type of pain:

Electric, stabbing, shocking, shooting, sharp, burning, tingling

How *long* does the pain last? (seconds, minutes, hours):

How often does the pain occur?

Have you ever experienced periods of weeks, months, or years, when you were pain free?

Do you have any *aggravating factors* that initiate the pain?

Touching or washing your face, shaving, brushing your teeth, wind, chewing, talking

Do you have any "trigger spots," that elicit or set off the pain when touched?

Do you have any constant background facial pain?

Aching, burning, throbbing, stinging

Do you have any facial *numbness*?

When did it start?

Where is the numbness?

TREATMENT

Have you had any tests or scans performed (MRI Brain, CT Head, etc)?

Where and when were they done?

Have you ever been treated with medications?

Tegretol (carbamazepine), Neurontin (gabapentin), Trileptal (oxycarbazepine),

Lioresal (baclofen), Topamax (topiramate), Zonegram (zoisamide)

If so, what was the highest dose?

Why did you discontinue the medication?

Did you ever have a reduction in facial pain (partial or complete) from taking any medications?

If so, how long did the medications alleviate your facial pain?

Have you had adverse side effects to any of the medications?

Have you ever had a procedure to try and alleviate the pain?

Gamma Knife Radiosurgery, open skull surgery (Microvascular Decompression (MVD)), needle procedure (Percutaneous Balloon Compression, Radio Frequency Rhizotomy/gangliolysis, glycerol injections), neurectomy.

Please give the date the procedure was done, the physician and the city?

Did the procedures help reduce your facial pain? For what length of time?

Did your current pain start after a trigeminal nerve procedure and is it different than your original pain?

Do you have multiple sclerosis (MS)?

Did your pain start after shingles (Herpes Zoster)?

Did your pain start after a facial injury?

Did your pain start after facial surgery (oral surgery, ENT surgery, plastic surgery)?

Do you have pain in the back of your throat or tongue, near the area of your tonsils?

When you have pain, is it predominately deep in your ear?

When you place your index fingers in front of your ears and feel your jaw open and close, does the area under your fingers hurt on either side?