

## DYNAMICS OF AGE AND GENDER-DEPENDANT CORRELATES OF RECURRENT HEADACHE IN BANGLADESHI SCHOOLERS

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**Objective:** Study the trend and dynamics of age-and gender-dependant prevalence of headache in schoolers and to determine if these attribute as plausible factors for recurrent headache.

**Background:** Magnitude of recurrent headache is not well explored in school-children (schoolers) particularly in developing countries, and not documented in Bangladesh, yet.

**Design and/or methods:** Cross-sectional population based respondent-dependent study following International Headache Society's ICHD-II (2004) recommended criteria.

**Results:** Overall-prevalence of Recurrent Headache among 1499 schoolers studied was 17%; being few times more in pubertal (13-15) than pre-pubertal (11-12) years-old children ( $p < 0.001$ ). Migraine was observed in 55% while Tension-Type-Headache in 20% demonstrating a steady-inclining-trend with age. Gender difference was obvious in migraine ( $p < 0.001$ ) but not in tension-type ( $p < 0.31$ ). Older-children (OR=8.75) and boys (OR=1.8) were at potential risk for migraine and tension type headache.

**Conclusions:** Since RHA connote serious public health implication(s) in Bangladeshi-schoolers, mass-awareness is imperative to prevent them from being chronic, psycho-socially handicapped and economically burdened. Further in-depth studies warrant data to examine its long-term risks/underlying factors.