

1.4 Retinal migraine

Description:

Repeated attacks of monocular visual disturbance, including scintillations, scotomata or blindness, associated with migraine headache.

Diagnostic criteria:

- A. At least 2 attacks fulfilling criteria B and C
- B. Fully reversible monocular positive and/or negative visual phenomena (*eg*, scintillations, scotomata or blindness) confirmed by examination during an attack or (after proper instruction) by the patient's drawing of a monocular field defect during an attack
- C. Headache fulfilling criteria BD for 1.1 *Migraine without aura* begins during the visual symptoms or follows them within 60 minutes
- D. Normal ophthalmological examination between attacks
- E. Not attributed to another disorder¹

Note:

- 1. Appropriate investigations exclude other causes of transient monocular blindness.

Comment:

Some patients who complain of monocular visual disturbance in fact have hemianopia. Some cases without headache have been reported, but their migrainous nature cannot be ascertained. Other causes of transient monocular blindness (*amaurosis fugax*), such as optic neuropathy or carotid dissection, must be excluded.