Migraine infusion at Infusion Center US

Migraine Infusion Day: What Happens, Step by Step

During a migraine attack your stomach slows down, so the pills you swallow sit there and don't get absorbed. That's why the pills stopped working. **An IV skips the stomach.** The medicine goes straight into the bloodstream and works on the inflamed nerve causing the pain. Plan on **1 to 2 hours** with us. A physician directs every infusion.

1 Call or text before you come

- **Call (314) 886-5290 or text (314) 886-5902.** We do not take walk-ins. The chair, the medicine and the nurse are ready before you arrive.
- Tell us when the headache started, what you have already taken today, and whether you could be pregnant.
- **Bring someone to drive you home** (these medicines make most people sleepy), plus your medicine list and any recent scans.
- We check your benefits before treatment. An approval from your plan is not a promise of payment.

! Go to the ER or call 911

- Sudden “thunderclap” or worst headache of your life
- New weakness, numbness, trouble speaking or seeing, confusion
- Fever with a stiff neck
- A head injury while on a blood thinner
- A new severe headache in pregnancy or after delivery

2 Check in at Express Urgent Care

- Suite 290. A nurse checks your blood pressure and asks you to rate your pain, nausea, and how much you can do today.
- We review every medicine you have taken. Some migraine medicines can't be mixed within 24 hours.

3 A physician examines you

- We confirm this is your usual migraine and not something else.
- We choose your medicines for you, based on your history, your heart, and what has failed before.

4 IV medicines in the chair

60–90 minutes

- **An anti-nausea medicine** that also shuts down the migraine itself. We run it slowly so it doesn't make you feel restless.
- **An anti-inflammatory** to cool the inflamed nerve.
- **Magnesium**, which calms overexcited nerve cells. It helps most when you see an aura.
- **A steroid** that lowers the chance the headache comes back in the next three days.
- **Fluids** if you have been vomiting or can't keep anything down.

✓ Why we don't use opioids

Opioids dull the pain for a few hours, then make the headache more likely to come back and the attacks more frequent. Our medicines treat the migraine itself, so no rebound headache is waiting for you at home.

5 We check on you at one hour

your pain, nausea and how you feel

Feeling better

Rest, then home

- You rest about 30 minutes so we can make sure you feel steady.
- Then your driver takes you home.

Still hurting

A second treatment, same visit

- A different IV medicine for migraine, **or**
- A nerve block: numbing medicine at the back of the head, or a cotton-tipped applicator through the nose. You stay awake, and it takes minutes.

Headache for 3+ days

A 5-day infusion series

Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri

- One visit a day for up to five days, with a medicine called DHE, to break a headache that won't let go.
- We check your blood pressure throughout every visit.

6 Going home

- Someone else drives. Plan to rest the rest of the day.
- No triptans (like sumatriptan) for 24 hours after DHE.
- Call us right away for restlessness, muscle spasms, chest pain, or any new weakness or numbness.

7 Stopping the next one

- **A preventive IV every 3 months.** It's a 30-minute infusion that blocks CGRP, the protein that inflames the nerve during an attack.
- **Botox** for chronic migraine (15 or more headache days a month).
- **The daily triggers:** skipped meals, short or uneven sleep, and daily painkillers all bring attacks back. Keep a headache diary and bring it to your next visit.

(314) 886-5290
Call first, or text (314) 886-5902. No walk-ins.

Infusion Center US, inside Express Urgent Care · 4479 Woodson Rd, Suite 290, St. Louis, MO 63134 · Monday–Friday 7 a.m.–7 p.m. · infusioncenter.us