

Sex differences examined for mechanism of migraine-stroke link

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(HealthDay)—Possible sex differences are suggested in the

pathophysiology underlying the migraine-stroke association, which do not appear to be related to conventional cardiovascular risk factors, according to research published online Nov. 3 in *Frontiers in Neurology*.

Noting that an increased risk for stroke among [patients](#) with migraine has mainly been seen for women, Katie M. Linstra, M.D., from the Leiden University Medical Center in the Netherlands, and colleagues examined [sex differences](#) in cardiovascular risk profiles and stroke cause/outcome among 2,492 patients with [ischemic stroke](#) from a prospective multicenter study; 17 percent had a history of migraine.

The researchers found no association between a history of migraine and sex differences in the prevalence of conventional cardiovascular risk factors. Compared with women without migraine, women with migraine had an increased risk for stroke at young onset (

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