## POSSIBLE SINUS HEADACHE

## **Supportive Management**

- Take warm drinks.
- Drink a minimum of 8 glasses of clear fluid per day. Take 2 glasses with each meal, and another 2 any time within the day.
- Have plenty of rest. Sleep for 7-8 hours every night in a dark room, as melatonin a powerful anti-oxidant that promotes healing through boosting the immune function are found to be produced in higher amounts when sleeping in darkness. If sleeping in a dark room is not possible, wear an eye patch instead.
- Apply a heating pack to the forehead, upper cheek, and nose.
  - Home-made heating pack: fill up a tightly-closed glass bottle with hot water and wrap it in a towel (make sure that the bottle does not touch the skin directly)
- Use saline nasal wash.
  - Home-made saline nasal wash ingredients:
    - 1 cup warm water (if using tap water, sterilize first by boiling, and let it cool until lukewarm)
    - ➢ ½ teaspoon of salt
    - ½ teaspoon of baking soda
  - Instructions:
    - 1. Prepare the home-made saline nasal wash.
    - 2. Fill the nasal bulb (bulb syringe) with the saline solution.
    - 3. Insert the tip of the nasal bulb into one nostril, and gently squeeze.
    - 4. Aim the flow of saline solution toward the back of the head.
    - 5. Allow the solution to drain back out through the other nostril or through the mouth.
    - 6. Gently blow nose to remove excess mucus and solution.
    - 7. Follow the same process with the other nostril.
    - 8. Repeat this process a couple of times daily until condition improves.
    - 9. Clean the nasal bulb after each use.



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- Use steam inhalation (using eucalyptus extract, Vicks vaporub, or sea salt)
  - For relief of congestion, which may help in relieving sinus headache
  - Don't use for children under 12 years old
  - Instructions
    - 1. Place a bowl in the sink (where it will have less chance to tip over).
    - 2. Pour boiling water in the bowl.
    - 3. Add any of the following three:
      - ▶ If eucalyptus extract: add 2-3 drops
      - > If Vicks vaporub: add two teaspoons
      - ➢ If sea salt: add ½ cup
    - 4. Cover head with a towel and lean carefully over the bowl. Keep face 12 inches away from the boiling water.
    - 5. Deeply inhale steam for 5-10 minutes, and then, blow nose thoroughly.

### **Consult doctor:**

- If headache gets worse.
- If headache becomes an interruption to performance of activities of daily living.
- If headache happens more than 15 days a month.



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