**Table 1: The international classification of headache disorders criteria for the diagnosis of PDPH**10

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| 1. Headache that worsens within 15 minutes after sitting or standing and improves within 15 minutes after lying down, with at least one of the following and fulfilling criteria C and D.
2. Neck stiffness
3. Tinnitus
4. Hypacausia
5. Photophobia
6. Nausea
 |
| 1. Dural puncture has been performed
 |
| 1. Headache develops within five days after dural puncture
 |
| 1. Headache resolves either
2. Spontaneously within one week
3. Within 48 hours after effective treatment of the spinal fluid leak; usually by epidural blood patch
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**Table 2: Incidence rate of PDPH with needle sizes** 2,3,5

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| --- | --- |
| **Needle bore size** | **Approximate incidence rate** |
| Quincke (cutting) | Whitacre (non-cutting) |
| **Size decreases** | 16-19 G | >70% | - |
| 20G | 40% | 2 – 5% |
| 22G | 36% | 0.63 – 4% |
| 24G | 0 – 9.6% (Sproute needle) |
| 25G | 3 - 25% | 0 – 14.5% |
| 26G | 0.3 – 20% | 2.5 - 4% |
| 27G | 1.5 -5.6% | 0 |
| 29G | 0 – 2% | - |

**Figure 1: Common spinal needle tip designs (Reproduced from Anaesthesia UK)**17

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