

GONE!

In an interview with A Chassidisher Derher, Rabbi Sholom Ber Hurwitz of Crown Heights told the following story:

For a number of years I suffered from migraines. Severe migraines. Migraines so severe I would occasionally faint as a result of them. At first they arrived only occasionally so I didn't think much of them and did not see a doctor. But gradually the migraines occurred more frequently. At the very worst point I was getting the migraines once every few months.

The tipping point for me was the night I traveled from my Flatbush home to a wedding hosted in Oholei Torah. While driving I was stricken with another such migraine and I was in deep pain by the time I arrived in Crown Heights. As I exited my car I recognized the harsh reality: I could barely function. Even the headlight of passing cars brought along searing pain. I sat down, hoping the rest will alleviate my agony. It didn't. After resting for close to an hour, I informed my wife I would be returning home without attending the wedding.

After relating this incident to my sister she persuaded me to seek medical attention. "If the migraines are this severe," she said, "you have to be crazy not to see a doctor!"

At the next opportunity I had, I went to visit my family doctor. After conducting a few simple tests, he determined I had something unwanted directly affecting my brain. "What!?" I responded in disbelief. "Yes," he said, and continued "though I'm unsure the exact nature of it." The doctor then proceeded to give me the name and contact information of a specialist based in Long Island.

After a short visit with the specialist and a handful of tests, one thing became evident.

Whatever was causing the migraines, it most certainly was not a virus, but rather something far more substantial. The exact



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course of action still remained unclear. "What now?" I asked. "Now you must go to a foremost expert of the field; Dr. Hausman of Beth Israel Hospital".

The arrangement of an appointment with Dr. Hausman took much patience and required a steady stream of requests and referrals by my doctor and the specialist from Long Island. In the end an appointment was secured.

Dr. Hausman studied my previous tests and confirmed the existence of a growth. The realization that something so harsh that we refrain from using its medical term was on my brain, sent me to a state of confusion and despair. I did not even know which questions to ask. Will they have to cut my head open...?

Dr. Hausman suggested two MRIs, one basic and the second utilizing a dye which allows a computer to survey the minutest parts of the area.

The MRIs were scheduled a week prior to

Gimmel Tammuz. On the day preceding the MRIs and on the day of the MRI's I visited the Ohel. I described the situation, poured out my heart and begged the Rebbe for a Brocha.

The basic MRI took 45 minutes and immediately the technician brought great results. Next was the more intricate MRI. Once the MRI was through, the results were not forthcoming. This worried me greatly. "Why couldn't he bring the second's results as quickly as the first's?" I thought.

Finally, after fifteen minutes which felt like fifteen years, the results were in. Boruch Hashem these too displayed nothing unusual. My happiness was so great that I had to restrain myself from hugging the technician!

The next day I returned to the Ohel to thank the Rebbe for the Brocha that saved my life. No such migraines have appeared ever since. ■