

Poster presentation

Hydrocephalus and myelomeningocele; series and results

JM Poch*, P Nogues, E Vazquez, J Spotti and J Zamora

Address: Pediatric Neurosurgery and Pediatric Neuroradiology Departments, Hospital Universitario Materno-Infantil Vall d'Hebron. Barcelona. Spain

Email: JM Poch* - 6232jpp@comb.es

* Corresponding author

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Background

Following different reported series, myelomeningocele presents in 1–2 per 2000 live newborns. Hydrocephalus occurs in approximately 80–90 % of all them.

Materials and methods

Authors present their personal experience in patients diagnosed of having myelomeningocele, seen in their Pediatric Neurosurgery Department since 1991 to 2004.

Results

During this period of time, a total of 396 patients were diagnosed of having myelomeningocele, and 352 of them have developed associated hydrocephalus. All these 396 patients were treated with CSF diversion.

Conclusion

Algorithm mostly used for diagnosis and follow-up in these patients, the different optional CSF diversion methods, the malfunction problems due to obstruction or infection, the better therapeutic approach to shunt malfunction, as well as the protocols used for following-up these children during the neonatal, infant and pubertal ages, will be presented in this paper. A comparative study between the reported series and our own experience is also made.