

Poster presentation

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## A 50 year natural history of an untreated myelomeningocele - a rare case

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### Case report

An almost 50 year old woman, admitted to our clinic very recently, born with a small lumbo-sacral myelomeningocele (MMC), bilateral pes equino-varus and paralysed feet. The father refused any treatment. However, she survived, grew up, became able to walk with crutches and to bicycle. Bladder emptying was by means of abdominal pressure, later by means of a Bricker-bladder. She went through ordinary school and further education, but lost gradually walking ability and became wheel-chair-bound. She became married and had two healthy children by Caesarean section. She is now employed as leader of the secretariat in an educational institution on normal conditions.

In the meantime the MMC has grown slowly to the actual size of approximately 60 × 40 × 30 cm. She can lie on both sides, but most of her life is in the sitting position.

She now asks for surgical treatment. Because of time, we haven't done surgery yet, and because of contractures in hips and knees and the size, we will have to drain the MMC before MR scan to plan the operation that will take place in April. Subsequently we will have to deal with the potential hydrocephalus (VP-shunt? 3rd ventriculostomy?)