

Conference Abstract

DAY 1 15th September 2023 (Friday)

ORAL 1

2.00-3.30 pm

Scientific Session 6

A rare case report of Iniencephaly and its embryological basis**Vinutha. S. P**

JSS Medical College, JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research, Mysuru, Karnataka

Email: vinuthasp@jssuni.edu.in

Background: Iniencephaly is a rare and severe neural tube defect characterized by a combination of structural abnormalities in the head and neck region, leading to a distinct appearance where the head is excessively tilted backward. "Inion" is the Greek term for the back of the neck. Here, the inion (external occipital protuberance) joins the back, causing the head to retroflex and the neck to disappear. Lewis classified them as iniencephaly apertus and iniencephaly clausus based on the presence or absence of encephalocele respectively. Its incidence ranges from 0.1 to 10 in 10,000 pregnancies. It is nearly 4 times more common in females and has a recurrence risk of 1–5% in next pregnancies.

Case Report: We report a case of preterm fresh stillborn female fetus of 22 weeks gestation born to a primigravida. She had a history of nonconsanguineous marriage. She had no history of iron and folic acid supplementation. Prenatal ultrasound showed prominent retroflexion of head which is described as "star gaze posture." In the case of iniencephaly, there is a failure of the neural tube to close properly in the cervico-occipital region, which is the area where the neck meets the back of the head. This failure of closure results in an extreme retroflexion of the head, leading to a fusion of the cervical vertebrae (bones of the neck) with the occipital bone (bone at the back of the skull). As a result, the neck is fixed in a severely extended position, and the head appears to be merged with the spine.

Conclusion: The malformation seen in iniencephaly is thought to be a result of disruptions in the complex interplay of genetic and environmental factors during embryonic development. Iniencephaly is associated with poor prognosis and other structural anomalies.

Keywords: Congenital, neural tube defect, iniencephaly.