### SPINAL CORD ABNORMALITIES IN EARLY ONSET SCOLIOSIS: NEUROSURGICAL MANAGEMENT

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### **ETIOLOGY**

#### **NEUROGENIC**

#### - SPINAL DYSRAPHISM / TETHERED CORD

- MYELOMENINGOCELE
- LIPOMYELOMENINGOCELE
- SPLIT CORD MALFORMATIONS
- DERMAL SINUS TRACT
- ANORECTAL MALFORMATION
- SPINAL CORD TUMOR
- HYDROMYELIA
  - CHIARI
  - TETHERED CORD
  - POST TRAUMATIC / HEMORRHAGIC
  - IDIOPATHIC



### **SPINAL DYSRAPHISM**

MYELOMENINGOCELE
LIPOMYELOMENING.
SPLIT CORD MALFORM.
FILUM DYSGENESIS
DERMAL SINUS TRACT
SACRAL DYSGENESIS
INTRAMED CYSTS
ANORECTAL MALFORMA'



# SPINAL DYSRAPHISM EMBRYOGENESIS



#### **Formation of neural tube**

**Caudal Regression** 

### **TETHERED SPINAL CORD**



AN ABNORM. LOW LYING CONUS WHOSE NL ASCENT IS TETHERED SECONDARY TO A MULTITUDE OF DYSRAPHIC CONDITIONS.

RADIOGRAPHIC DX DOES NOT ALWAYS CORRELATE w/ CLINICAL PRESENTATION.



### **CLINICAL PRESENTATION**



- CUTANEOUS MANIFESTATIONS

   30% TETH. PTS --> SKIN LESIONS
   LEASYMMETRY
- NEURO SYMPTOMS
- SCOLIOSIS
- ONSET DURING GROWTH SPURTS









### TREATMENT

# FUNDAMENTAL SHIFT IN PHILOSOPHY PROPHYLACTIC R:B RATIO ADVANTAGE

- OBJECTIVE-->RELEASE THE CORD
  - MYELOMENING.--> FREE ADHESIONS
  - DIASTEMATO-->REMOVE SPURR/ADHESIONS
  - THICKENED FILUM-->CUT
  - LIPOMYELO.--> RESECT LIPOMA/ FREE ADHESIONS



### SPINAL DYSRAPHISM MYELOMENINGOCELE



-MYELOMENINGOCELE -MENINGOCELE -MYELOCYSTOCELE -MYELO MANQUE



### **MYELOMENINGOCELE INCIDENCE**

#### - APPEARS TO BE DECREASING IN US

- 5.9 / 100,000 BIRTHS ('84), 3.2 IN '92, 2.9 '03 (sweden)
- IMPROVED MATERNAL NUTRITION...FOLATE
- BETTER PRENATAL SCREENING / DIAGNOSIS
- SELECTIVE TERMINATION OF PREG.

#### **SURGICAL OBJECTIVES**

- PROTECTION / PRESERVATION EXPOSED NEURAL TISSUE
- **IDENTIFICATION OF PLACCODE**
- RECONSTR. OF NEURAL TUBE
- UNTETHER CORD IF NECESS.
- DURAL CLOSURE
- ADEQ. FASCIAL / SQ CLOSURE











### **MYELOMENINGOCELE**

#### • **KYPHOSIS**

- ? DUE TO UNOPPOSED ABD MUSC IN UTERO
  - POST ELEMENTS FREQ DEFICIENT
- ANT ELEMENTS OFTEN WEDGED
- APEX USUALLY AT L1-2
- LORDOSIS
  - COMMONLY SEEN IN MMC PTS
  - OFTEN COMPENSAT. OFFSET. INSTAB.
    - PELVIC OBLIQ.
    - **DISLOCATED HIP**



#### **MYELOMENINGOCELE**

#### **CONGENITAL**

- **UNCOMMON (20%)** 

- DEFORMITY PRESENT AT BIRTH
- FREQ. ASSOCIATED KYPHOSIS
- **VTB ANOMALIES (ANTERIOR)** 
  - hemivertabrae
  - fused anterior elements
- UNILAT BARS
- OFTEN RIGID--> EARLY, SLOW PROGRESSION

### **DEVELOPMENTAL**

#### - MORE COMMON

- MECH. INSTAB DUE TO MUSC PARALYSIS / VTB (POST) ABNL
- LESS RIGID than CONGEN CURVES
- CURVES INCREASE with UPRIGHT POSTURE / GRAVITY, TETHERING
- NEURO IMPAIRMENT DUE TO HYDRO-MYELIA / TETHERED CORD



#### **MYELOMENIGOCELE**

#### **MYELOMENINGOCELE**

• PREV. RELATED TO NEURO LEVEL

- THOR. / UPPER LUMB. (95%) ---> SCOLI
- LUMBAR / SACRAL (40%) ---> SCOLIOSIS
- SUSPECT TETHERED CORD
  - IN PTS <6 YRS w/ LUMBAR LESION and SCOLIOSIS
  - CURVES INCREASING > 10-12 degrees / yr



### SCOLIOSIS TETHERED CORD

**REIGEL et al., Ped Neurosurg, 1994; 20:30.** 

262 pts w/ tethered cd release med records reviewed over 20 years (2369 serial spine films--Cobb mm)

McLONE et al. Ped NSurg 1990/1991;16:8-13.

**30 pts with prior MM repair with scoliosis as presenting sign for tethered cord.** 

### LIPOMYELOMENINGOCELE

• TRANSITIONAL, DORSAL, FILUM

• NO HYDRO / CHIARI

FILUM OFTEN INVOLVED

OFTEN NL NEURO except B/B
 - FREQUENTLY ASYM LE
 -CUTANEOUS LESIONS ~ 60%













# **DERMAL SINUS TRACTS**

FREQ. COMMUNICATE WITH CORD
MAY PRESENT W/ REP. MENINGITIS
OFTEN ASSOC. W/ LIPOMAS / HEMANGIOMAS/ DERMOIDS











# **SPLIT CORD MALFORMATIONS**

- INTRADURAL MIDLINE MASS, COMPOSED OF BONE, CARTILAGE OR FIBROUS TISSUE w/ ASSOC. DURAL SLEEVE, WHICH MAY RESTRICT CORD MOVEMENT
- FREQ. ASSOC. w/ HYPERTROPHIED FILUM
- HEMICORD OR TRUE SPLIT CORD AT DEFECT
- CORD USUALLY REUNITES AT LOWER LEVEL

-TYPE 1 (DIASTEMATOMYELIA) -TYPE 2 (DIPLOMYELIA)





### TYPE I SCM DIASTAMATOMYELIA

### TYPE II SCM DIPLOMYELIA







# **SURGICAL TREATMENT**

### **CASE EXAMPLE**





# FILUM DYSGENESIS

-HYPERTROPHIC FILUM -LIPOMATOUS FILUM -ANORECTAL MALFORM -DERM SINUS TR -ARTHROGYRPOSIS -SYNDROMIC (SOTO),ETC.



### **ANORECTAL MALFORMATIONS**

1/5,000 LIVE BIRTHS
CLOACAL EXSTROPHY
VATER COMPLEX
VATER COMPLEX
VTB ANOMALIES
ANORECTAL ANOM.
TE FISTULA
RENAL
CARDIAC
MPERFORATE ANUS





# **ANORECTAL MALFORMATIONS ETIOLOGY OF TETHERING**

#### 35% of ARM pts----> tethered

Golonka NR, Haga LJ, Keating RF et al, J Ped Surg,2002.

- FILUM LIPOMA
- HYPERTROPHIC FILUM
- LIPOMYELOMENINGOCELE
- DERMAL SINUS TRACT





## **ECTODERMAL INCLUSIONS**

-DERMOID / EPIDERMOID -TERATOMA -LIPOMATOUS FILUM -DERMAL SINUS TRACT









**UNCOMMON** 

- SCOLIOSIS MAY BE ONLY SIGN
- ASSOCIATED SYRINX EARLY SIGN
- PAIN / TEMP, QTT EARLY SIGNS
- IF SUSPECT NEURO CHANGES --> GAD + MRI
  - 25-33% SP. CD TUMOR --> ASSOC SCOLI
    - Boldrey et al., Arch Neurol Psych, 1949;61:528.
    - Hayden JW,Ped Clin N Am, 1967;14:611.

# **INTRAMEDULLARY CYSTS**

-HOLOCORD SYRINX -NEURENTERIC CYSTS -RESP. SYNCYTIAL CYSTS





### **HYDROMYELIA**

- COMMONLY ASSOCIATED w/ SCOLIOSIS
- USUALLY CERVICAL / THORACIC OR HOLOCORD
- CHIARI, TETH., POST-TRAUMA, TUMOR, IDIOPATHIC (10%)
- SCOLIOSIS ACCOMPANYING SYRINGOMYELIA 25-62%

#### **ETIOLOGY**



### **HYDROMYELIA**

#### **SUSPICIONS RAISED BY:**

- LG CURVE < 10 YRS
- ASSOCIATION WITH TORTIC / PAIN / NEURO CHG
- L CURVES MORE CONSPIC. ???
- DOUBLE PRIMARY CURVES

#### ETIOLOGY



Chiari
Tethered Cord
Post-infectious
Post-inflammatory
Tumor
Hydrocephalus
Idiopathic

# Etiology

### Introduction

• Chiari malformation type I is characterized by descent of cerebellar tonsils below the foramen of magnum





Chiari 0

Normal position tonsils with characteristic symptoms and hydromyelia

Chiari 0.5

Tonsillar descent < 4mm with S/S/syrinx Chiari 1

Chiari 1.5

**Tonsillar descent > 4mm w/ hindbrain herniation No evidence of spina bifida** 

#### Chiari 2

Vermian / Hindbrain herniation w/ S.B.

? Chiari 1.75

Tubbs, Oakes et al. The pediatric Chiari I malformation: a review. Childs Nerv Sys. 2007 Nov;23(11):1239-50. Epub 2007 Jul 18

### PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

#### • Heiss JD et al. J Neurosurg 1999 Oct;91(4):553-6

- **Transcompartmental Pressure Differential**
- Int. occulsion of for. Magnum via pistoning tonsils leads to differential pressure gradients during systole / diastole, in turn promoting propagation of CSF caudally through the central canal.
- May see spinal cord swelling prior to development of syrinx Levy, Heiss, Kent et al. J Neurosurg 2000 Jan;92(1



### **Chiari malformation**

### **Presentation**

#### **Symptoms (age dependent / variable)**

- Headache (occipital > vertex> frontal)
  - Incrsed w/ Valsalva / exertion/ crying/ cough
- Neck pain / stiffness
- Extremity paresth./ weakness/numbness
- **Balance / coordination / gait difficulties**
- Swallowing / aspir. / phonation challenges
- Visual changes (diplopia)
- Apneic episodes / night-time dry cough
- ? Fatique / decreased stamina
- Fill in the blank.....



### **Chiari malformation** Pres

#### Presentation



Signs (age dependent) – Restricted cerv. motion (esp. hyperext) **Oculomotor paresis (ie. 6th n palsy)** – Weakness, numbness, gait / bal. changes - Scoliosis – Atrophy of intrinsics - Hypertonicity / spasticity

5

#### • Presenting signs (110 pts)

– **CN (6th n)** 

- Syrinx37- Incidental32- Scoliosis29- Hydrocephalus11- Sleep apnea7

34% 29% 26% 10% 6% 4%



#### Surgical Therapeutics

- 31/110 (28%) PF bony decomp., C1 lami
  - Intraop Us 22/110
    - 9/22 had bony decomp only after iUS
    - No repeat surg to date (5-36m, X=16.3)
    - 8/9 had imprvd sx (1 syrinx/ 1 6th n palsy)
- 79/110 (72%) PF decompression, C1 lami, duraplasty
  - PFD, C1 lami, duraplsty, 4th vent stent
    - 15 cases
      - 2 secondary operations



Surgery

• C1 lami, Occip. Decompr.

#### Intraoperative Ultrasound

- Decision point for open duraplasty
- **Real-time evaluation of:** 
  - Tonsillar "pistoning"
  - Level of tonsills
  - Adequacy of CSF space



#### Surgery



- Open decompression Duraplasty
- Arachnoid integrity
- Lysis of adhesions
  - **CSF outflow eval.** 
    - Tonsillar resection
    - 4th vent stent
    - Obex obliteration



# S.M. PROGRESSIVE HERNIATION DOB:7/21/87 Underwent PFC/ C1 lami / duraplasty 10/1/04







#### • Syringomyelia

- **37 /110 34%**
- Size
  - 9 minimal ( < 25% cord diameter)
  - 8 moderate (25-50% cord diameter)
  - 10 large (> 50% cord diameter)
- Location
  - 23 cervical
  - 5 C-T
  - 7 Thoracic
  - 20 Holocord







\*4 pts eventually needed CSF diversion

### **Post-op syrinx resolution**



• Chiari

- Tethered Cord
- Post-infectious
- Post-inflammatory
- Tumor
- Hydrocephalus
- Idiopathic

# Etiology

### Etiology

- Tethered Cord
  - Innumerable accounts of teth cd and term syringomyelia

Brophy et al. '89	lipo, tight filum	24%
Taviere et al. '89	lipo	25%
Gupta et al. '90	lipo	11%
	scm	38%
Tripathi et al.'92	scm	38%
	tight filum	35%
	lipo	15%

**Tethered cord** 

**175 patients with tethered cord (1997-2002)** 

16 patients (8 M : 8 F) No hydro/chiari/SB <u>Age</u> 3m-17y, X=41.4m <u>Follow-up</u> 3m-60m, X=20.6

### **ETIOLOGY OF TETHERING**





### **Clinical Example** Filum Dysgenesis

SK:

FT male born w/prom. sacral dimple, nl exam US-->sl low(L2/3) cord, terminal syrinx MRI-->conus L3,+lipo, mod sized syrinx(indx 25-50%)

Filum sectioned @ 9m. Syrinx untouched

Intraop







5m post



Preop

### **Clinical Example**

#### Filum/ARM

JK: 7m male born w/ imp anus, vtb anom, asym RLE MRI-->L5/S1 conus,lg syrinx, hypertrophic filum















Preop





### CONGENITAL

#### **INCIDENCE OF INTRASPINAL ANOMALIES**

#### - HISTORICALLY 5-18%

- McMaster MJ, Occult intraspinal anomalies and congenital scoliosis, J Bone Joint Surg Am, 1984
- MRI--> 53%
  - Nokes et al, Ped Rad, 1987;164:791.
  - 28 pt,X=9y,9/16 struc +, 6/12 nonstruc +
- MRI --> 13-38%
  - Bradford et al, J Ped Ortho, 1991;11:36.
  - 16/42 congen scoli pt, 1y-45y --> +
    - 10% with syrinx
  - Pahys J et al., 13% idiopathic infantile scoli--> intraspinal anomalies (majority requiring neurosurgery)

#### RADIOLOGY

#### **MRI SCREENING VITAL**

#### – TO DEFINE CORRECTABLE CAUSES/ PREVENT PROGRESSIVE NEURO LOSS

• Tethered cord, hydromyelia, tumor

- TO EVAL. CONDITIONS THAT SHOULD BE TX PRIOR TO SCOLIOSIS TX (to offer stabilization / improvement of scoli)
  - tethered cord / diastematomyelia/ ARM
- TO PREVENT NEUROLOGIC INJURY AT TIME OF INSTRUMENTATION
  - tethered cord, intraspinal tumor



#### **RECOMMEND MRI**

- PTS w/ NEURO CHANGES
  - PTS C/O atypical BACK OR LEG PAIN
- PTS w/ NEUROCUT. STIGMATA
  PTS UNDERGOING SPINE
- STABILIZ for EARLY ONSET SCOLI
- RAPIDLY CHANGING CURVES
  - >10-12 DEGREES / YR



