

Recurrent meningitis and persistence of craniopharyngeal canal: case report

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Summary

Objects. Craniopharyngeal Canal is a rare malformation of the sphenoid bone described in up to 0.42% of the asymptomatic population. It's been related to the development of the Rathke's pouch during embryonic period although some authors think it's a vestige of a former vascular channel.

Methods. This report details a case of a four and a half years old child that developed recurrent meningitis associated with this anomaly. Its origin, clinical manifestations and treatment options are discussed.

Conclusion. due to its low incidence and diagnostic difficulties, a high suspicion index is required while studying a case of recurrent meningitis or CSF leakage. Surgical approach is still controversial.

KEY WORDS: Sphenoid bone. Encephalocele. Transcranial approach. Transpalatal approach. Pituitary.