

Neurosurgery Abstracts

Title: MANAGEMENT OF COMPLEX SHUNTED HYDROCEPHALUS IN SPINA BIFIDA PATIENTS

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Background: Hydrocephalus occurs in over 70% of patients with open neural tube defects, and is a life long condition requiring multiple surgical interventions.

Method: We analyzed our database and identified patterns of hydrocephalus presenting in a complex manner in the spina bifida population. A vigilant and methodical approach to treating these issues offered an algorithm for proper management.

Results: A review of the various approaches, including endoscopy, and multiple shunts when necessary, have improved outcomes, with less morbidity in this patient population.

Conclusion: Complex hydrocephalus occurs frequently in a large spina bifida practice, and requires a diligent approach to maintain good outcomes. Combined with a strong educational effort, we were able to improve outcomes for this patient population.