



Kids Brain Doc

Dr. Laila Mohammad

Prenatal Diagnosis

Patient Packet



Prenatal Diagnoses

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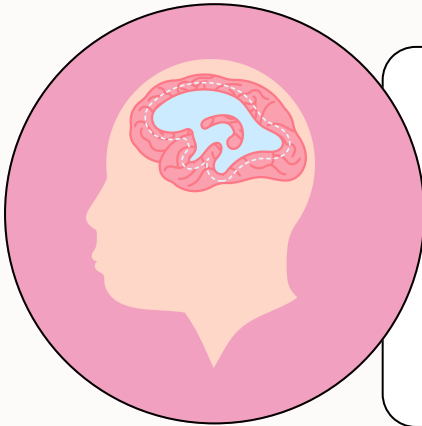
CEREBROSPINAL FLUID (CSF)



Kids Brain Doc
Dr. Laila Mohammad

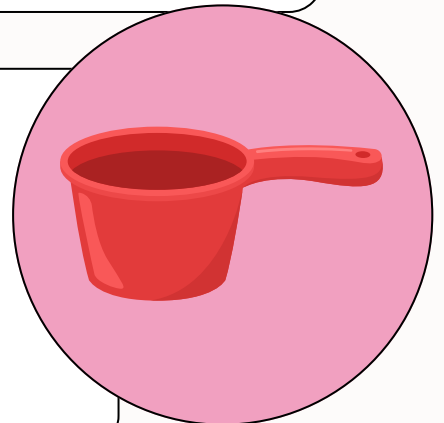
01. WHAT IS IT

A clear liquid that surround the brain and spinal cord. It cushions the brain, protects it from injury, and helps move nutrients and waste in and out.



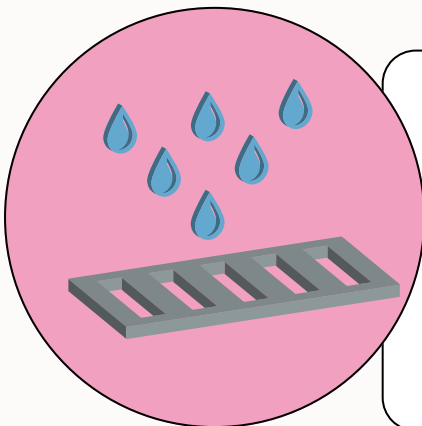
02. HOW MUCH DO WE HAVE

You produce about 15-20 mL (1 Tablespoon) every hour. Over a whole day, that's about 500 mL (or 2 cups). However, at any one time, there's only about 150 mL (or 1/2 cup) around the brain and spinal cord.



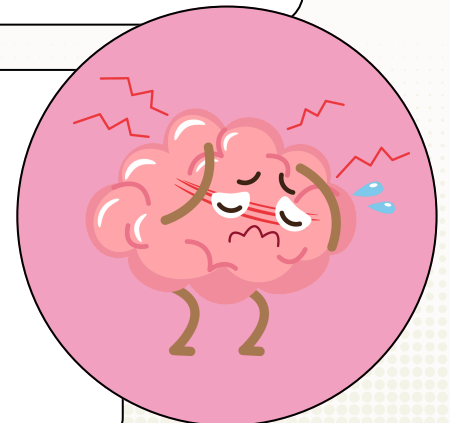
03. WHERE DOES THE EXTRA GO?

Since your body only needs a set amount, the "extra" drains away through the brain's natural gutters (*arachnoid granulations*), which carry the fluid back into the bloodstream to keep everything in balance.



04. WHY IS THIS IMPORANT

If too much CSF builds up or doesn't drain well, it can put pressure on the brain. This might show up as headaches, vomiting, sleepiness, irritability, a bulging soft spot, or a quickly growing head size. This would need treatment.



YOUR BABY'S DIAGNOSIS



Diagnosis:

What This Means:

After Birth, You Can Expect:

-

Treatment Options

- Observation
- Surgery

Long Term Follow-up

- Follow-up in outpatient neurosurgery clinic
- Ongoing monitoring and neurodevelopment support
- Outpatient neurology consult

Where to Deliver:

- Delivery at a hospital with a pediatric neurosurgeon is recommended
- Vaginal delivery is usually appropriate

Resources:

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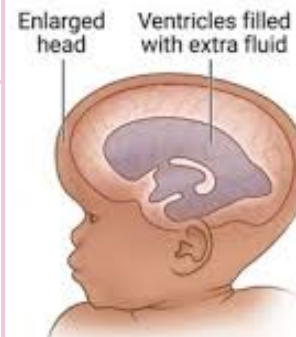
YOUR BABY'S DIAGNOSIS



Diagnosis: Ventriculomegaly/Hydrocephalus

What This Means:

The fluid-filled spaces in the brain (*ventricles*) are large. This can be a sign of high pressure in the brain (*hydrocephalus*).



After Birth, You Can Expect:

- Check your baby for signs of pressure in their head:
 - Head circumference & firmness of the soft spot (*fontanelle*)
- A scan of the head to check the size of the ventricles:
 - Head ultrasound vs. MRI

Treatment Options

- Observation
- Ventriculoperitoneal Shunt
- Endoscopic Third Ventriculostomy (ETV)

Long Term Follow-up

- Follow-up in outpatient neurosurgery clinic
- Ongoing monitoring and neurodevelopment support
- Outpatient neurology consult

Where to Deliver:

- Delivery at a hospital with a pediatric neurosurgeon is recommended if pressure appears high
- Vaginal delivery is usually appropriate

Resources:

- Hydrocephalus Association: www.hydroassoc.org
- Hydrocephalus Clinical Research Network: www.HCRN.org

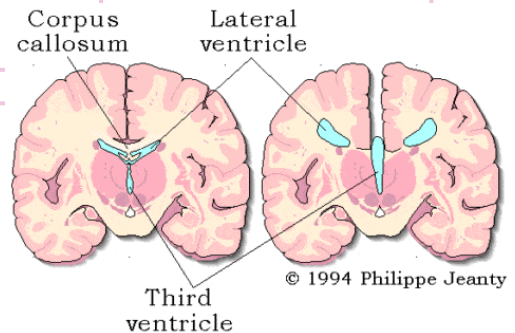
YOUR BABY'S DIAGNOSIS



Diagnosis: Agenesis of Corpus Callosum

What This Means:

The corpus callosum is a band of nerve fibers connecting the 2 sides of the brain. This part is missing or small.



After Birth, You Can Expect:

- Check your baby for signs of pressure in their head:
 - Head circumference & firmness of the soft spot (*fontanelle*)
- A scan of the head to check the size of the ventricles:
 - Head ultrasound vs. MRI

Treatment Options

- Observation
- Surgery

Long Term Follow-up

- Follow-up in outpatient neurosurgery clinic
- Ongoing monitoring and neurodevelopment support
- Outpatient neurology consult

Where to Deliver:

- Delivery at a hospital with a pediatric neurosurgeon is recommended
- Vaginal delivery is usually appropriate

Resources:

- Child Neurology Foundation:
www.ChildNeurologyFoundation.org/Disorder/agenesis-of-the-corpus-callosum

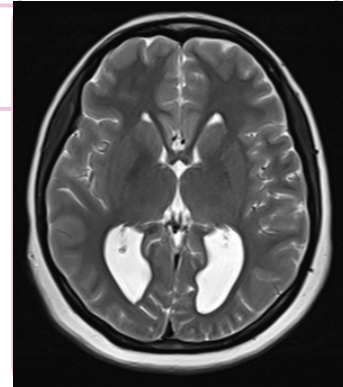
YOUR BABY'S DIAGNOSIS



Diagnosis: Colpocephaly

What This Means:

When the back part of the brain's fluid-filled spaces (*ventricles*) is enlarged. Often associated with other brain abnormalities.



After Birth, You Can Expect:

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Treatment Options

- Observation
- Surgery

Long Term Follow-up

- Follow-up in outpatient neurosurgery clinic
- Ongoing monitoring and neurodevelopment support
- Outpatient neurology consult

Where to Deliver:

- Delivery at a hospital with a pediatric neurosurgeon is recommended
- Vaginal delivery is usually appropriate

Resources:

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