

VASCULAR DISORDERS

PRESENTATION OF NEONATAL SINOVENOUS THROMBOSIS

Signs, risk factors, comorbidities, and radiographic findings in 59 neonates presenting with sinovenous thrombosis are reported from Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN. Thirty-nine (66%) patients presented early, within 48 hours after birth, and 20 (34%) presented late, between 2 and 28 days (median 7.5 days). Presenting signs were respiratory distress in 43 (73%), hypoxia (69%), seizures (59%), weight loss (58%), and hypotonia (58%). Early presentation was significantly associated with respiratory distress, hypoxia, hypotonia, preterm delivery, and low Apgar score; maternal preeclampsia/hypertension showed a trend toward early association. Late presentation was significantly associated with dehydration. Neonatal comorbidities included congenital cardiac disorders in 37%, anemia in 29%, cyanosis in 27%, and dehydration in 17%. Diagnosis of sinovenous thrombosis was established by CT scan in 28, MRI in 20, MR venography in 10, and ultrasound in 1. Superior sagittal sinus was involved most commonly (75%); 71% had multiple thrombosed sinuses. Infarction occurred in 54%, with associated hemorrhage in 42%. Multiple thromboses, complications and radiographic severity were not significantly correlated with time of presentation. Refractory seizures were marginally associated with hemorrhage ($P=0.09$). (Nwosu ME, Williams LS, Edwards-Brown M, Eckert GJ, Golomb MR. Neonatal sinovenous thrombosis: Presentation and association with imaging. *Pediatr Neurol* September 2008;39:155-161). (Respond: Dr Golomb, Division of Pediatric Neurology, Indiana University School of Medicine, 575 West Dr, Building XE, Room 040, Indianapolis IN 46202. E-mail: mgolomb@iupui.edu).

COMMENT. Two thirds of neonates with cerebral sinovenous thrombosis have symptoms within 48 hours after birth. Early presentation is associated with respiratory distress, hypoxia, hypotonia, and low Apgar scores; late presenters frequently have dehydration, a preventable causative factor.

DEMYELINATING DISORDERS

SUN EXPOSURE AND REDUCED RISK OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

The association between red hair color (RHC) melanocortin 1 receptor genotype, past environmental sun exposure, and risk of multiple sclerosis (MS) was investigated in a population-based case-control study in Tasmania, Australia, involving 136 cases with MS and 272 controls. Increasing summer sun exposure at ages 6 through 10 years was associated with reduced MS risk among those with no RHC variant ($p=0.03$), but not among those with RHC variant genotype ($p=0.15$). The association was more evident for women than for men. (Dwyer T, van der Mei I, Ponsonby A-L, et al. Melanocortin 1 receptor genotype, past environmental sun exposure, and risk of multiple sclerosis. *Neurology* Aug 19, 2008;71:583-589). (Reprints: Dr Terry Dwyer, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, Royal Children's Hospital, Parkville Victoria 3052, Australia. E-mail: terry.dwyer@mcri.edu.au).