Aqueductal stenosis in achondroplasia: Report of a case

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ABSTRACT

Achondroplasia is the most frequent cause of disproportionate short stature. Characterized by abnormal growth of long bones, it renders a short-limbed individual of normal intelligence. A serious potential complication is spinal compression, which can happen at any level but is particularly common at the craniocervical junction. It can cause important morbidity during the first few years of life, including sudden death. We present a 22-month-old patient diagnosed with achondroplasia, who developed aqueductal stenosis with symptomatic spinal cord compression, diagnosed during a routine consultation, requiring decompressive surgery with excellent results.

Key words: Achondroplasia, aqueductal stenosis, symptomatic spinal cord compression, hydrocephalus, suboccipital craniectomy.