

1836

1835-1837

Iniencephaly is a rare type of cephalic disorder characterised by three common characteristics: a defect to the occipital bone, spina bifida of the cervical vertebrae and retroflexion (backward bending) of the head on the cervical spine.

Stillbirth is the most common outcome, with a few rare examples of live birth, after which death almost invariably occurs within a short time.

The disorder was first described by Étienne Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire in **1836**. The name is derived from the Ancient Greek word ἰνίον **inion**, for the occipital bone/nape of the neck.

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