The dorsal root ganglion has been well studied in the middle and lower cervical spine and in the lumbar spine. In no previous study are the position and height of the C2 dorsal root ganglion and its corresponding foramen described.

Fifteen cadaveric cervical spines were exposed posteriorly. The C2 nerve roots and ganglia were dissected between the arch of the atlas and the lamina of the axis. The heights of the C2 ganglion and foramen were measured. The location of the C2 ganglion was also macroscopically observed.

The heights of the C2 ganglion and foramen are 5.7 +/- 0.8 mm and 7.7 +/- 1.2 mm, respectively. The C2 ganglion occupies 76% of the foramen height. All C2 dorsal root ganglia are confined within foramens between the arch of the atlas and the lamina of the axis.

The C2 dorsal root ganglia are all proximally placed and occupy most of the foramen height, which may render the C2 ganglion vulnerable to entrapment ¹⁾.

1)

Lu J, Ebraheim NA. Anatomic considerations of C2 nerve root ganglion. Spine (Phila Pa 1976). 1998 Mar 15;23(6):649-52. PubMed PMID: 9549785.

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