

Cerebral Cavernous Malformation Associated Developmental Venous Anomaly

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A **cerebral cavernous malformation (CCM)** associated with a **developmental venous anomaly (DVA)** refers to the coexistence of two distinct cerebral vascular malformations.

□ Cerebral Cavernous Malformation (CCM)

- Cluster of abnormally dilated, thin-walled capillaries.
- Lacks intervening normal brain parenchyma.
- Low-flow lesion with risk of microhemorrhages or overt bleeding.
- Clinical presentations:
 - Seizures
 - Focal neurological deficits
 - Incidental finding on MRI

□ Developmental Venous Anomaly (DVA)

- Most common type of cerebral vascular malformation.
- Characterized by radially arranged medullary veins draining into a central trunk.
- Typically benign and asymptomatic.
- Found incidentally in most cases.

□ Association Between CCM and DVA

- Up to **20-30%** of CCMs are associated with a DVA.
- Hemodynamic stress from the DVA may contribute to CCM formation or hemorrhage.

- **Surgical relevance:** DVAs drain normal brain tissue → **must not be resected** during cavernoma surgery.

Diagnosis

Cerebral Cavernous Malformation Associated Developmental Venous Anomaly Diagnosis

□ Clinical Note

Surgical planning must **preserve the DVA** to prevent venous infarction. Only the cavernoma should be targeted for resection if symptomatic.

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