

Cranial dermal sinus

Stalk begins with a **dimple** in the **occipital** or nasal region. Cutaneous stigmata of **hemangioma**, subcutaneous **dermoid cyst**, or abnormal hair formation may occur. Occipital sinuses extend caudally, and if they enter the skull, they do so caudally to the torcular herophili. The presentation may include recurrent bacterial (usually *S. aureus*) or **aseptic meningitis**. Evaluation should include MRI to look for the intracranial extension and associated anomalies, including an **intracranial dermoid cyst**.

Treatment

When operating on a cranial **dermal sinus**, use a sagittally based incision to permit deep exploration. The tract must be followed completely. Be prepared to enter the **posterior fossa**.

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