

Dogma

Dogma is a principle or set of principles laid down by an authority as incontrovertibly true.

It serves as part of the primary basis of an ideology or belief system, and it cannot be changed or discarded without affecting the very system's paradigm, or the ideology itself. The term can refer to acceptable opinions of philosophers or philosophical schools, public decrees, religion, or issued decisions of political authorities.

The term derives from Greek δόγμα “that which seems to one, opinion or belief” and that from δοκέω (dokeo), “to think, to suppose, to imagine”.

Dogma came to signify laws or ordinances adjudged and imposed upon others by the First Century. The plural is either dogmas or dogmata, from Greek δόγματα.

Dogmas in neurosurgery

A long-held dogma in [neurosurgery](#) is that parenchymal [arteriovenous malformations](#) (AVMs) are [congenital](#). However, there is no strong [evidence](#) supporting this [theory](#). An increasing number of documented [cases](#) of de novo formation of parenchymal AVMs cast doubt on their congenital nature and suggest that indeed the majority may form after birth. Further evidence suggesting the postnatal development of parenchymal AVMs comes from the exceedingly rare diagnosis of these lesions in utero despite the widespread availability of high-resolution imaging modalities such as [ultrasound](#) and fetal [MRI](#). The exact [mechanism](#) of AVM formation has yet to be elucidated, but most likely involves [genetic susceptibility](#) and environmental triggering factors ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Morales-Valero SF, Bortolotti C, Sturiale CL, Lanzino G. Are parenchymal AVMs congenital lesions? Neurosurg Focus. 2014 Sep;37(3):E2. doi:10.3171/2014.6.FOCUS14234. PubMed PMID: 25175439.

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Last update: **2024/06/07 02:49**

