

Giuseppe Conte Gradenigo

One of the most prominent Italian otolaryngologist (1859-1926), who was known for his work on a triad of symptoms ([Gradenigo's syndrome](#)) that accompanies [petrous apicitis](#), a result of severe [middle ear infections](#), was obstinate in his criticism of [Primo Dorello](#)'s findings.

Although the level of anatomical detail found in [Primo Dorello](#)'s work was previously unmatched, the first description of the [Dorello's Canal](#) was made by [Wenzel Leopold Gruber](#), almost 50 years prior to Dorello's landmark publication.

In his book he stated that under the “ligament petrosphenoideum” is an osteofibrous “foramen petrosphenoideum” through which the abducens nerve passes. This foramen measured 6 to 12 mm in length and 1 to 3 mm in width and contained the [inferior petrosal sinus](#) and [sixth cranial nerve](#). His observations were not acknowledged until [Giuseppe Conte Gradenigo](#) in 1904, described a syndrome related to infection and inflammation of the apex of petrous temporal bone ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Gradenigo G. Über circumscripte Leptomeningitis mit spinalen Symptomen und über Paralyse des N. abducens otitischen Ursprungs. Arch Ohrenheilk. 1904;62:255-270.

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