

Intracranial epidural abscess epidemiology

Epidural abscesses are rare overall but together with subdural empyema account for around 20-33% of all intracranial infections. They can present in any age group and have no real gender predilection.

It is the third most common localized [intracranial infection](#), after [brain abscess](#) and [subdural empyema](#) ^{1) 2)}.

It is far less common than [spinal epidural abscess](#). In the past, most cases of intracranial epidural abscesses were associated with [sinusitis](#), [otitis](#), or [mastoiditis](#). Today, many cases arise as a complication of neurosurgical procedures ³⁾.

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Pfister H-W, Klein M, Tunkel AR, Scheld WM. Epidural abscess. In: Infections of the Central Nervous System, Fourth Edition, Scheld WM, Whitley RJ, Marra CM (Eds), Wolters Kluwer Health, Philadelphia 2014. p.550.

²⁾

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³⁾

Eggart MD, Greene C, Fannin ES, Roberts OA. A 14-Year Review of Socioeconomics and Sociodemographics Relating to Intracerebral Abscess, Subdural Empyema, and Epidural Abscess in Southeastern Louisiana. Neurosurgery. 2016 Aug;79(2):265-9. doi: 10.1227/NEU.0000000000001225. PMID: 26909804.

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