Intracranial epidural hematoma after ventriculoperitoneal shunt overdrainage

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Niimura report two cases with postoperative epidural haematomas (EDHs) associated with hydrocephalus and discuss the cause of haematoma development on the basis of a literature review. A 13-year-old boy presented with obstructive hydrocephalus caused by a sellar mass lesion. Multifocal EDHs occurred after partial resection of the lesion via a transcallosal approach following ventricular drainage. In the second case, a 26-year-old man who had a history of ventriculoperitoneal shunting for congenital hydrocephalus presented with hydrocephalus caused by ventricular catheter obstruction. An EDH occurred after replacement of the ventricular catheter with a new burr hole opening. On the basis of a review of 19 cases including our two cases, the authors concluded that postoperative EDH development associated with hydrocephalus was mostly caused by intraoperative overdrainage of cerebrospinal fluid, resulting in rapid shrinkage of the brain with dilation of the epidural space, a situation that may have caused dural venous bleeding [1].

1)

Niimura M, Takai K, Taniguchi M. Postoperative epidural haematomas associated with hydrocephalus caused by intraoperative overdrainage of cerebrospinal fluid: two case reports with a literature review of 19 cases. BMJ Case Rep. 2015 Feb 9;2015. pii: bcr2014206654. doi: 10.1136/bcr-2014-206654. Review. PubMed PMID: 25666241.