Pediatric brain abscess

- Capnocytophaga sputigena Causing Complicated Sinusitis With Intracranial Involvement in a Pediatric Patient
- Spectrum of Central Nervous System Disease Caused by Streptococcus anginosus Group: A Single-Center Case Series
- The role of neuroendoscopy in treatment of pediatric brain abscesses: case series and systematic review of the literature
- Otogenic Lateral and Transverse Sinovenous Thrombosis in a Child: A Case Report
- The use of intraventricular vancomycin in subacute brain abscess in an adolescent male: A case report
- Poor surgical outcomes following Paenibacillus infant infectious hydrocephalus
- From Headache to Diagnosis: A Case of Pediatric Cerebral Abscess
- Danger of Delay: A Case Report of a Hidden, Extensive, Congenital External Auditory Canal Cholesteatoma in a Pediatric Patient

A review of the literature was performed through a PubMed search of original articles, case reports, and reviews using the keywords “brain abscess,” “cerebral abscess,” “brain infection,” “intracranial suppuration,” “otogenic brain abscess,” “otitis complications,” and “sinusitis complications.”

Results: Pediatric brain abscess is a rare but serious infection, often involving patients with specific risk factors and burdened by a high risk of morbidity and mortality. Brain abscess incidence and mortality decreased over the years, thanks to improved antibiotic therapy, new neurosurgical techniques, and the wide spread of vaccinations. There are no guidelines for the adequate diagnostic-therapeutic pathway in the management of brain abscesses; therefore, conflicting data emerge from the literature. In the future, multicentric prospective studies should be performed to obtain stronger evidence about brain abscess management. Over the next few years, changes in epidemiology could be observed because of risk factors changes [1)]

Case reports

A case of a 7-year-old child with a recent chickenpox infection, who presented with headache and left hemiparesis and was diagnosed with a large, deep-seated right-sided CCM with concurrent infection caused by Streptococcus pyogenes, an organism which itself is an extremely rare cause of brain abscess and may be a complication of recent chickenpox infection. The patient underwent surgical aspiration of the infected collection, completed a prolonged course of antibiotic therapy, and made a good clinical recovery. Based on our review of the literature, this case represents the first reported case of Strep. pyogenes as a cause of infected CCM and only the second in a patient aged under 16 years [2)]

1)
Mameli C, Genoni T, Madia C, Doneda C, Penagini F, Zuccotti G. Brain abscess in pediatric age: a review. Childs Nerv Syst. 2019 Jul;35(7):1117-1128. doi: 10.1007/s00381-019-04182-4. Epub 2019 May 6. PMID: 31062139.
2)
Sanders MI, Bagga V, de Lacy P, Ushewokunze S. Cerebral cavernous malformation with associated Streptococcus pyogenes abscess in a child: a case report and literature review. Childs Nerv Syst. 2024 Dec 31;41(1):76. doi: 10.1007/s00381-024-06745-6. PMID: 39738866.

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