

Archer et al. presented the case of a 12-year-old girl with **Down syndrome** and significant **spinal cord compression** due to **basilar invagination** and a retro-flexed odontoid process. A posterior transdural **odontoidectomy** prior to **occipitocervical fusion** was performed. At 12 months after surgery, the authors reported satisfactory clinical and radiographic outcomes with this approach <sup>1)</sup>.

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An et al., present two clinical cases in which transoral approach was used to treat ventral meningiomas of the craniovertebral junction. Endoscopic assistance and an original method of anterior atlantooccipital stabilization were used.

Subtotal removal in the first case and complete removal of the tumor in the second case were achieved. In the first case, an unsuccessful attempt of anterior stabilization was made. In the second case, there were no indications for instrumentation (anterior or posterior) as local bone autograft fusion between the condyles and lateral masses of C1 was effectively carried out.

Previously, the transoral approach garnered interest only from a historical point of view, but with technical progress it has acquired a "second life". Novel surgical techniques allow for a more radical resection of named tumors, as well as lower morbidity and invasiveness of the surgical procedures, which, in the long term, leads to lower complication rates <sup>2)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup>

Archer J, Thatikunta M, Jea A. Posterior transdural approach for odontoidectomy in a child: case report. J Neurosurg Pediatr. 2019 Oct 11:1-5. doi: 10.3171/2019.7.PEDS19337. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31604321.

<sup>2)</sup>

An S, Chernov 4th, Andreev. Transoral Removal of Ventrally Located Meningiomas of the Craniovertebral Junction. World Neurosurg. 2018 Dec 31. pii: S1878-8750(18)32926-7. doi: 10.1016/j.wneu.2018.12.103. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 30605758.

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