



Symptoms, Treatment and Prognosis of Hydrocephalus

Dunn Goel*

Department of Neurology, University of Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

DESCRIPTION

Hydrocephalus is a condition characterised by the accumulation of extra Cerebro Spinal Fluid (CSF) in the ventricles of the brain, which can lead to a rise in pressure gradient. Although "fluid on the brain" is a common term used to describe hydrocephalus the clear fluid called CSF really surrounds the brain and spinal cord.

SYMPTOMS

- Breathing issues
- Some development models, including such jumping up or trying to crawl poor feeding
- Inability to bend or move the neck or head.
- Arm and leg muscles may be stiff and prone to contractions.
- Include distress, dizziness or both
- The fontanel, the soft spot on top of the head is tense and bulges outward
- Some convulsions
- Eyes may have pupils that are close to the bottom of eyelids
- There may be a high-pitched cry
- The scalp is thin and shiny and there may be visible veins on it
- The head appears larger than its original

TREATMENT OF HYDROCEPHALUS

There are many techniques to cure hydrocephalus. The disease may be treated directly by removing the cause of CSF obstruction

or indirectly by redirecting the extra fluid depending on the underlying aetiology. The most typical indirect treatment for hydrocephalus involves implanting a "shunt" to move extra CSF away from the brain.

The diversion is a flexible tube that is inserted under the skin along with a catheter and a valve to drain extra CSF from a brain ventricle into another bodily cavity, such as the peritoneal cavity. The shunt system is typically implanted and left in place for the remainder of the patient's life.

PROGNOSIS

The origin of hydrocephalus, the severity of the symptoms, and the promptness of diagnosis and treatment all affect the prognosis. With treatment some patients exhibit a substantial improvement while others do not. By inserting a shunt dementia may be reversible in some cases of normal pressure hydrocephalus. Other symptoms such as headaches may go away relatively instantly if the symptoms are caused by high pressure. The likelihood of successful therapy often increases with the timing of hydrocephalus diagnosis.

The likelihood of a successful outcome of treatment decreases with the duration of the symptoms. The success of surgery varies from patient to patient, therefore it is unfortunately impossible to predict with any degree of accuracy. Some patient's conditions will significantly improve while others will reach a plateau or decline after a few months or years.

Correspondence to: Dunn Goel, Department of Neurology, University of Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain, E-mail: dunnngoel@gmail.com

Received: 1-Nov-2022, Manuscript No. BDT-22-18951; **Editor assigned:** 4-Nov-2022, PreQC No. BDT-22-18951 (PQ); **Reviewed:** 18-Nov-2022, QC No BDT-22-18951; **Revised:** 25-Nov-2022, Manuscript No. BDT-22-18951 (R); **Published:** 2-Dec-2022 DOI: 10.35248/2168-975X.22. S7.180.

Citation: Goel D (2022) Symptoms, Treatment and Prognosis of Hydrocephalus. Brain Disord The. S7:180.

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