

Central Nervous System Congenital Abnormalities

Eva Brichtova, M.D., Ph.D.,
Department of Pediatric Surgery,
Orthopaedics and Traumatology,
University Hospital Brno

Neural tube defects

■ Dysraphism

- uncomplete neural tube closure with possible herniation

1. Cranial dysraphism

2. Spinal dysraphism

■ Total dysraphism - craniorachischisis

- non developed calvarium with complete spinal canal splitting (mostly abortus)

1. Cranial dysraphism

- incomplete neural tube closure with „cranial bifidum“ (middleline calvaria defect) with possible cephalocele
- **Cephalocele**
 - a) **cranial meningocele:** dura mater and CSF herniation
 - b) **encephalocele:** cerebral tissue herniation
 - c) **anencephaly:** open dysraphism, without calvaria bones
- **Localisation**
 - middle line, frontal, parietal or occipital
- **Diagnosis**
 - X-rays skull and spine - skeleton defects
 - Ultrasound - hernia content
 - CT or MRI - detailed information

Cranial dysraphism

- Cranial meningocele mostly has a good prognosis
- Encephalocele is mostly accompanied by hydrocephalus, mikrocephaly, mental retardation, epileptic seizures



Cranial dysraphism

- a) Microcephalia
- b) Hydranencephalia - a loss of almost all cerebral tissue
- c) Holoprosencephalia - hemispherical development disturbance
- d) Lissencephalia - severe disturbance of neural tissue migration
 - **agyria:** completely smooth cerebral surface
 - **pachygyria:** few flat gyri
 - **polymicrogyria:** small gyri, shallow sulci (similar to pachygyria)
- e) Porencephalia
- f) Agenesis of corpus callosum
- g) Dandy-Walker syndrome (cerebellar hypoplasia)
- h) Macroencephaly - megalencephaly
- i) Schizencephaly

Cranial dysraphism

- Schizencephalia



2. Spinal dysraphism - spina bifida

a) Spina bifida occulta

- congenital absence of processus spinosi and vertebral arches changes

■ cutaneous changes in middle lumbosacral region:

- hypertrichosis
- lipoma
- dyscoloration
- dermal sinus (cave infectious complications)

■ Serious conditions associated

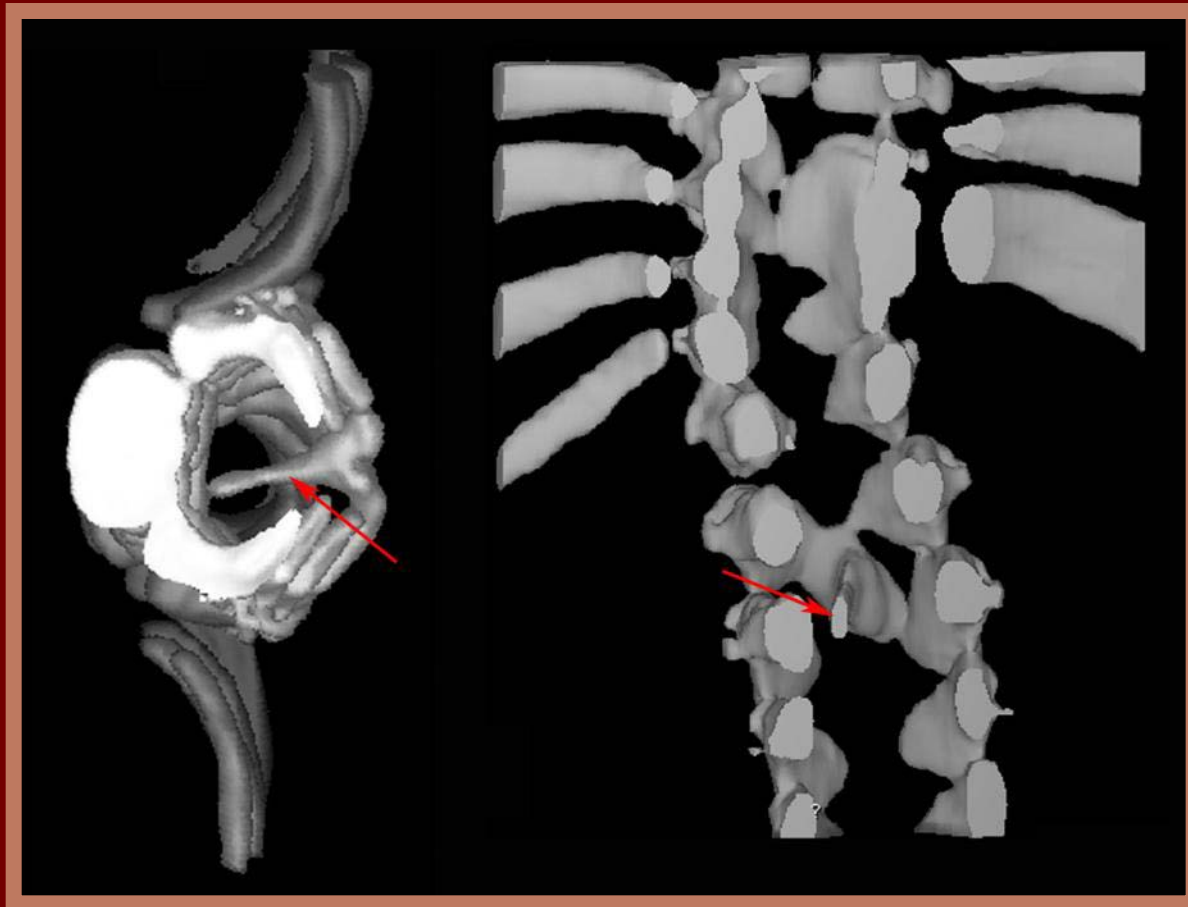
- Syringomyelia
- Diastematomyelia
- Tethered cord syndrom

■ X-rays diagnosis

- L5-S1 level - dorsal part of spinal canal - closure defect

Spinal dysraphism

- Diastematomyelia in CT 3D



Spinal dysraphism

a) Spina bifida aperta seu spina bifida cystica

- **eningocele** - vertebral arches defect, meningeal cyst, in 1/3 neurological deficit
- **myelomeningocele** - vertebral arches defect, meningeal cyst, structural and functional nervous tissue abnormalities

■ **Myelomeningocele epidemiology:** 1 from 1000 newborns

■ **Clinical features**

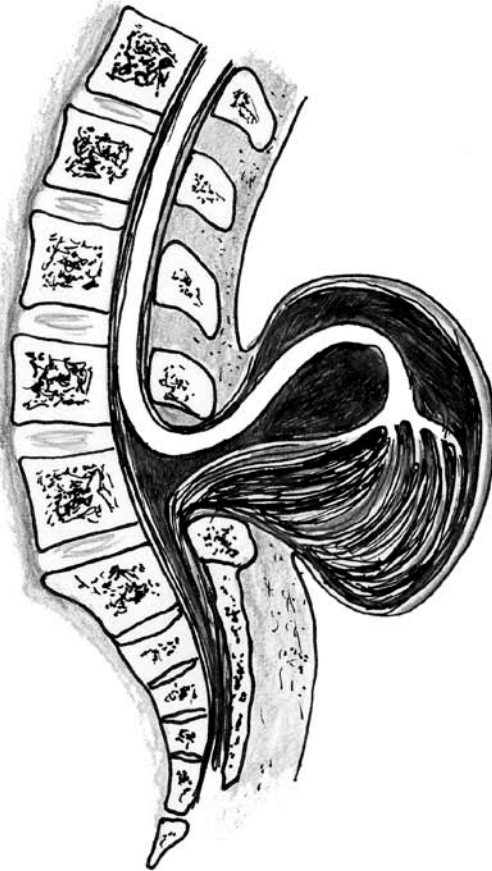
- lower extremities paresis proprioceptive reflexes disturbance incontinence

■ **Associated conditions**

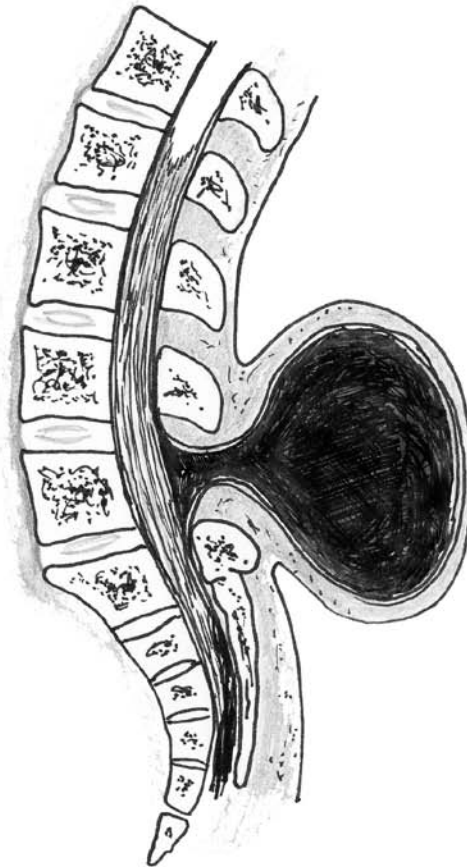
- hydrocephalus (in 65-85 %)
- Chiari malformation (in 80 %)

Spinal dysraphism

Myelomeningokéla



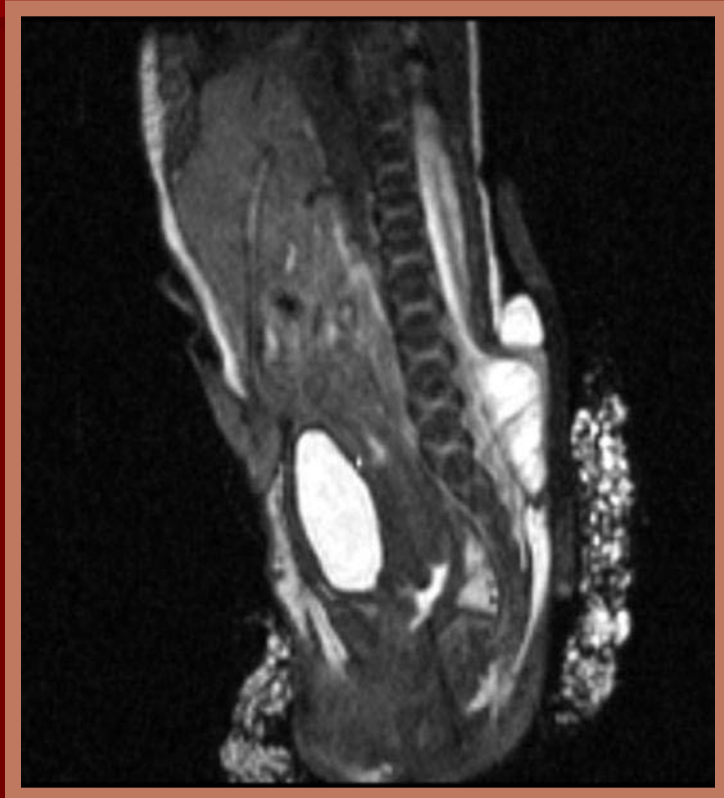
Meningokéla



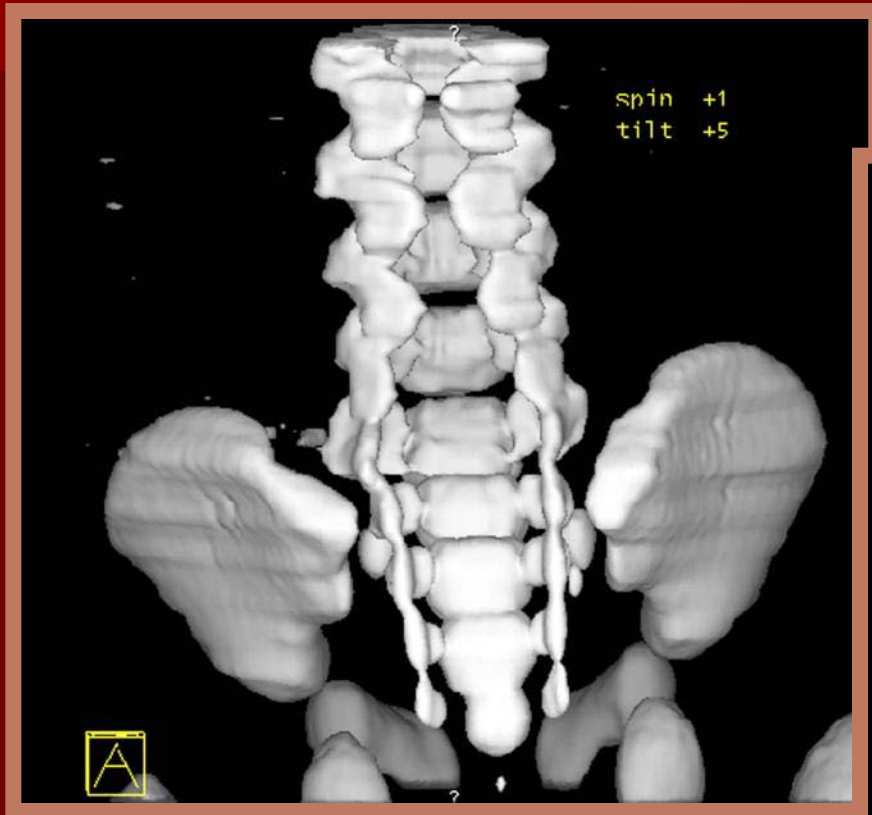
Spinal dysraphism



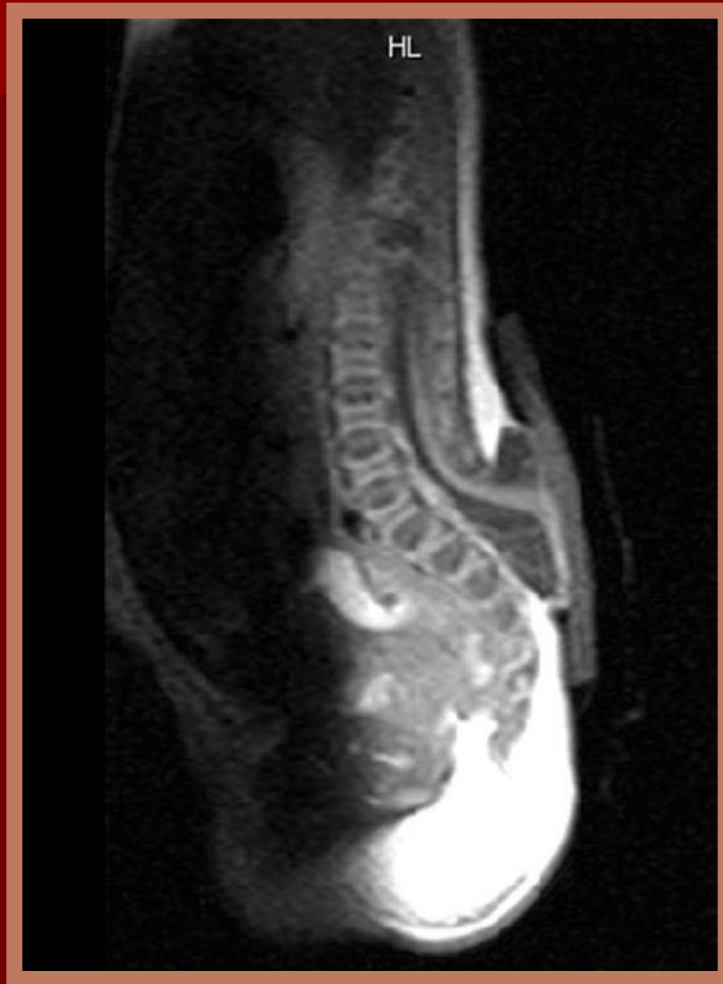
Spinal dysraphism



Spinal dysraphism



Spinal dysraphism



Spinal dysraphism



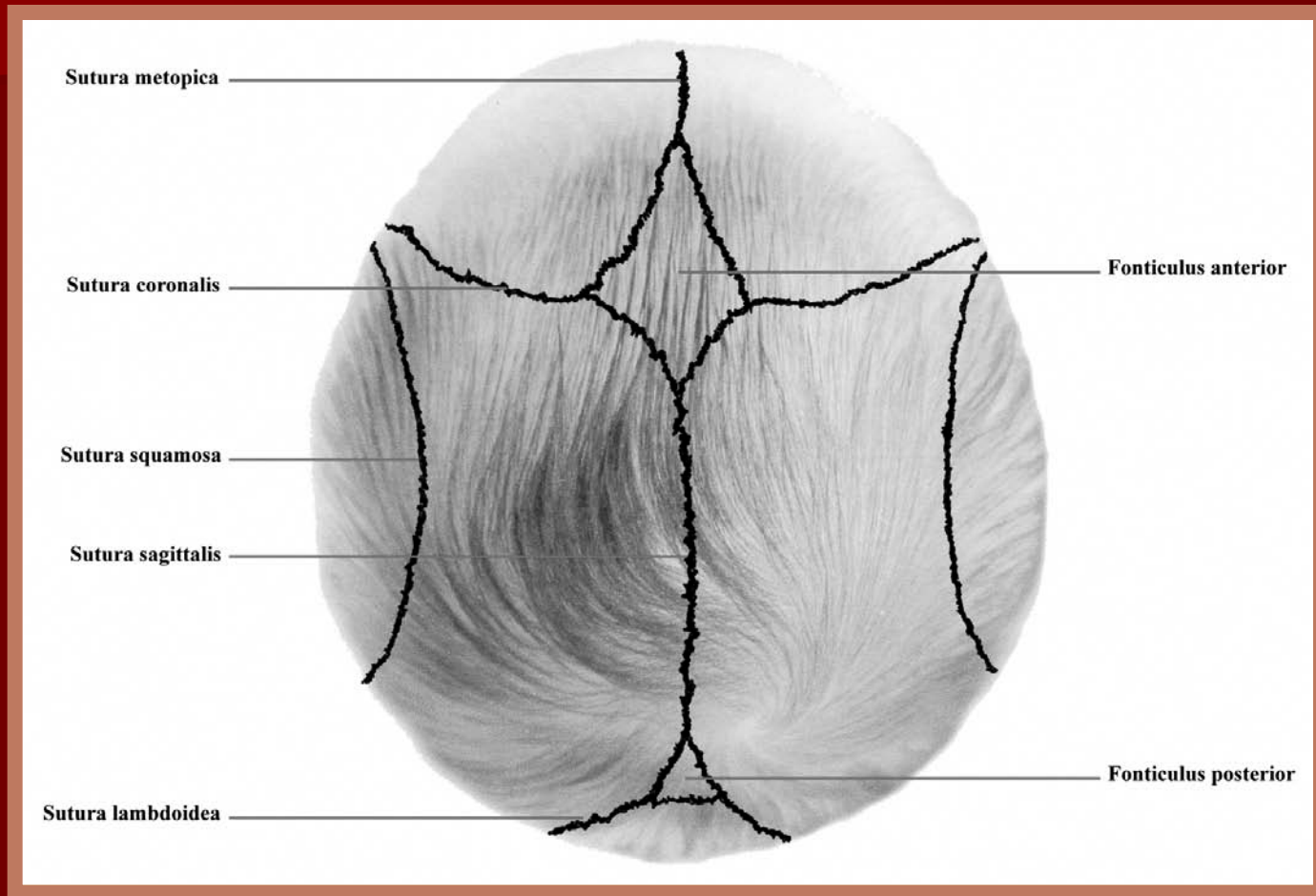
Spinal dysraphism



Craniostenosis (caniosynostosis)

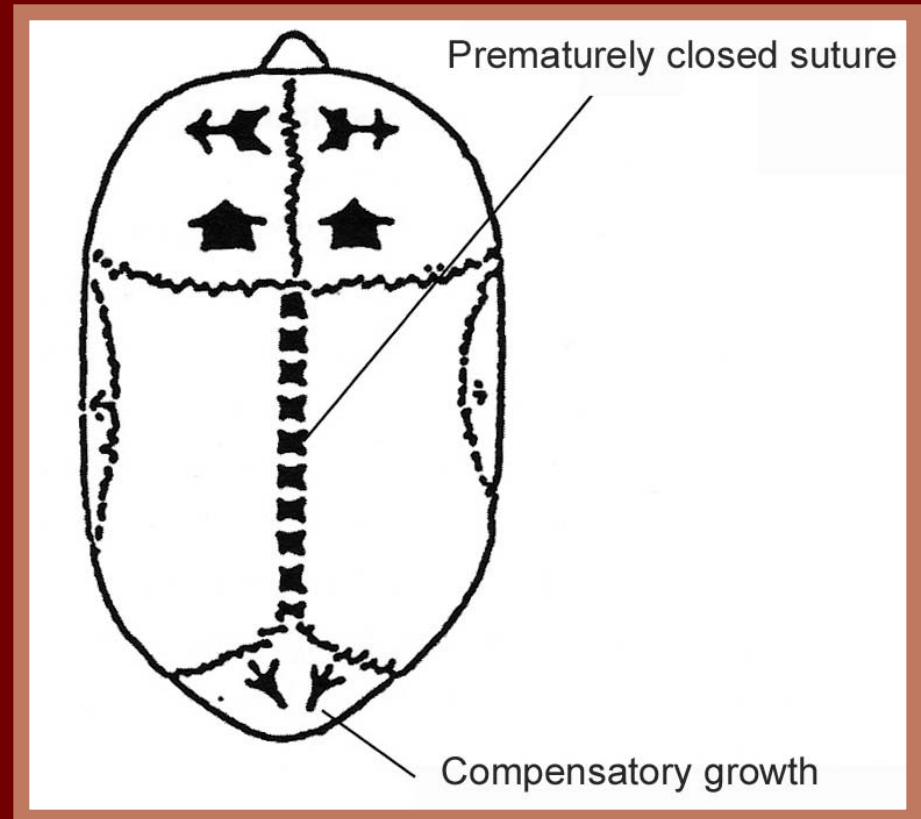
- Premature skull sutures synostosis
- 1852 Rudolf Virchow
- 1 from 2100 children

Sutures of the skull

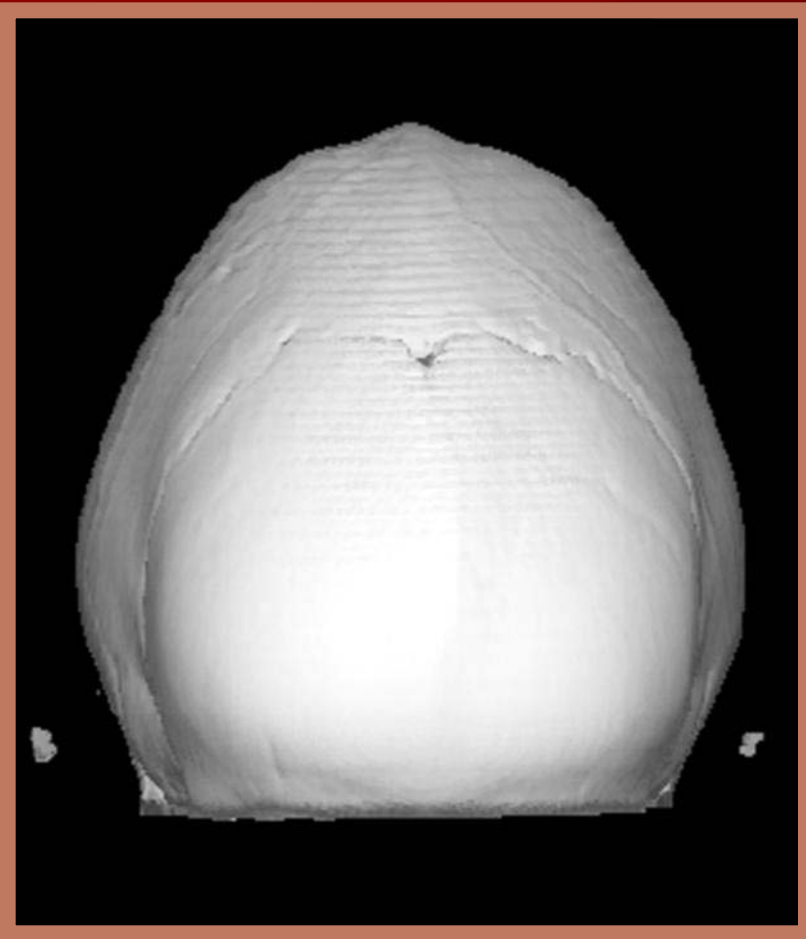


1. Skaphocephalia - dolichocephalia

- Premature sagittal suture synostosis
- Výskyt 40-60 %



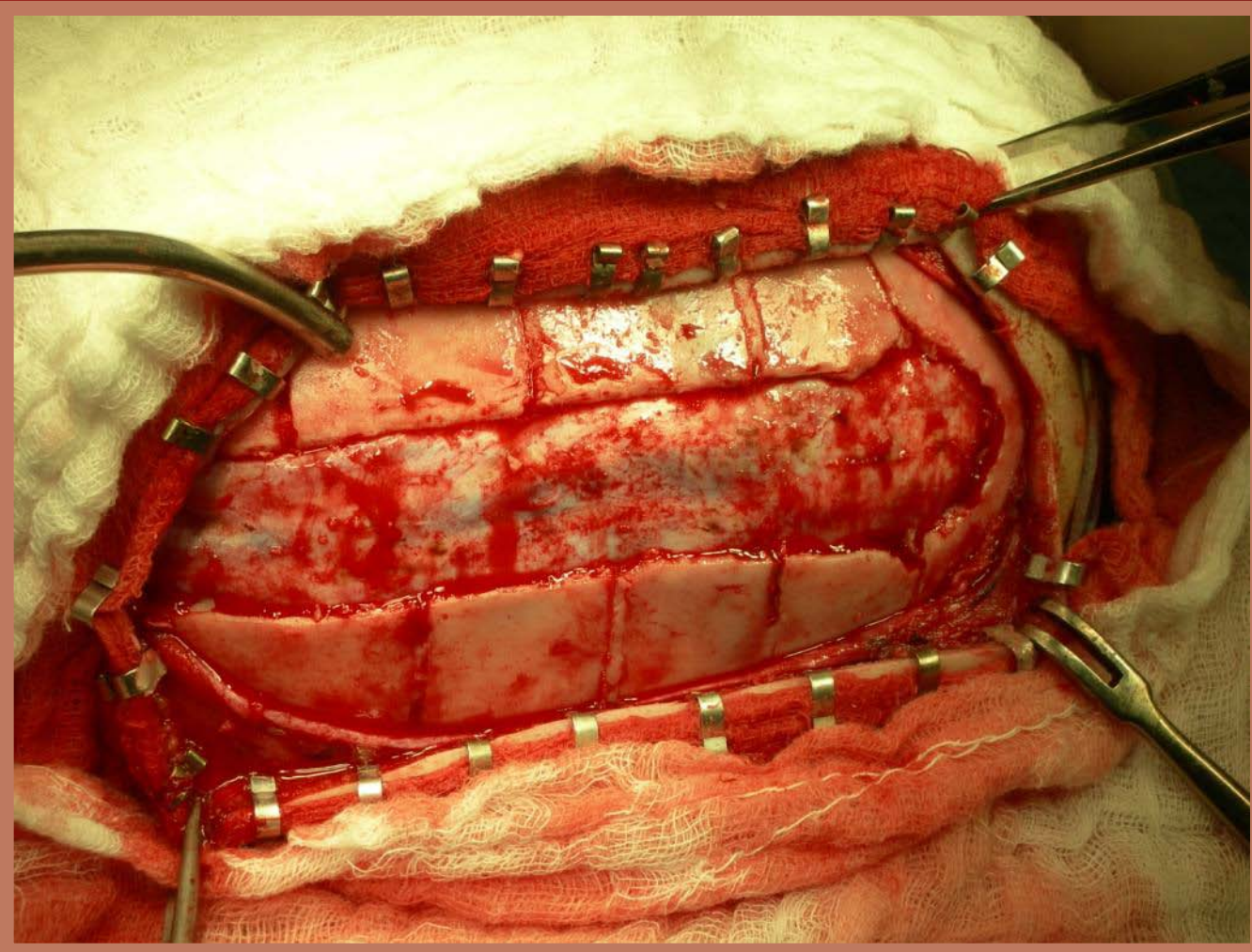
Skaphocephalia - dolichocephalia



Skaphocephalia - dolichocephalia



Skaphocephalia - dolichocephalia



2. Brachycephalia

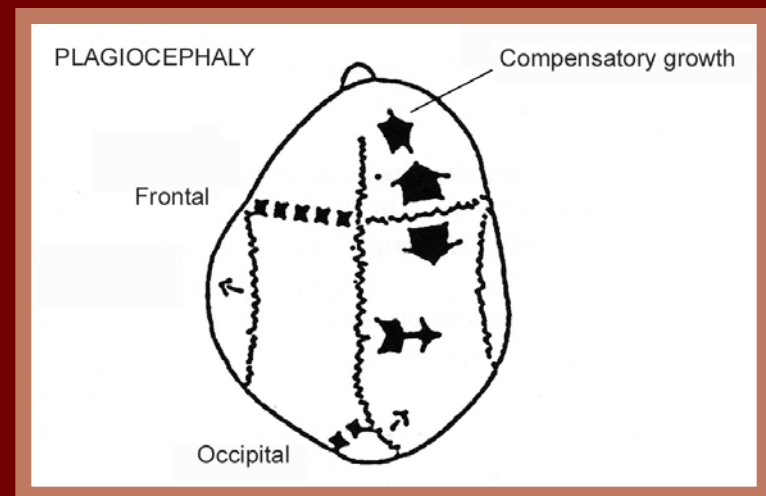
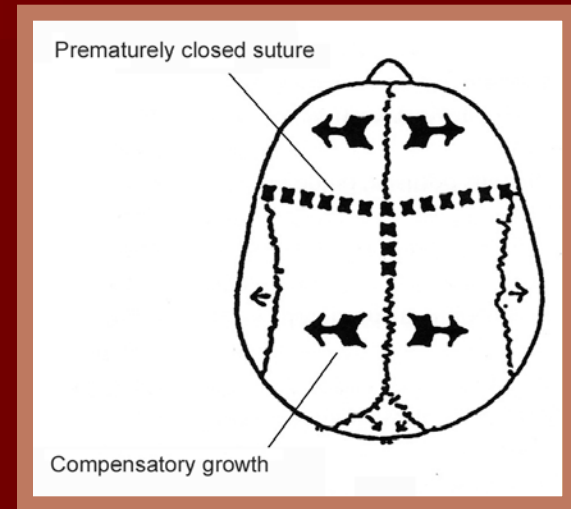
- Premature coronar suture synostosis
- 20-30 %

a) Frontal plagiocephalia

- one side coronar suture

b) Occipital plagiocephalia

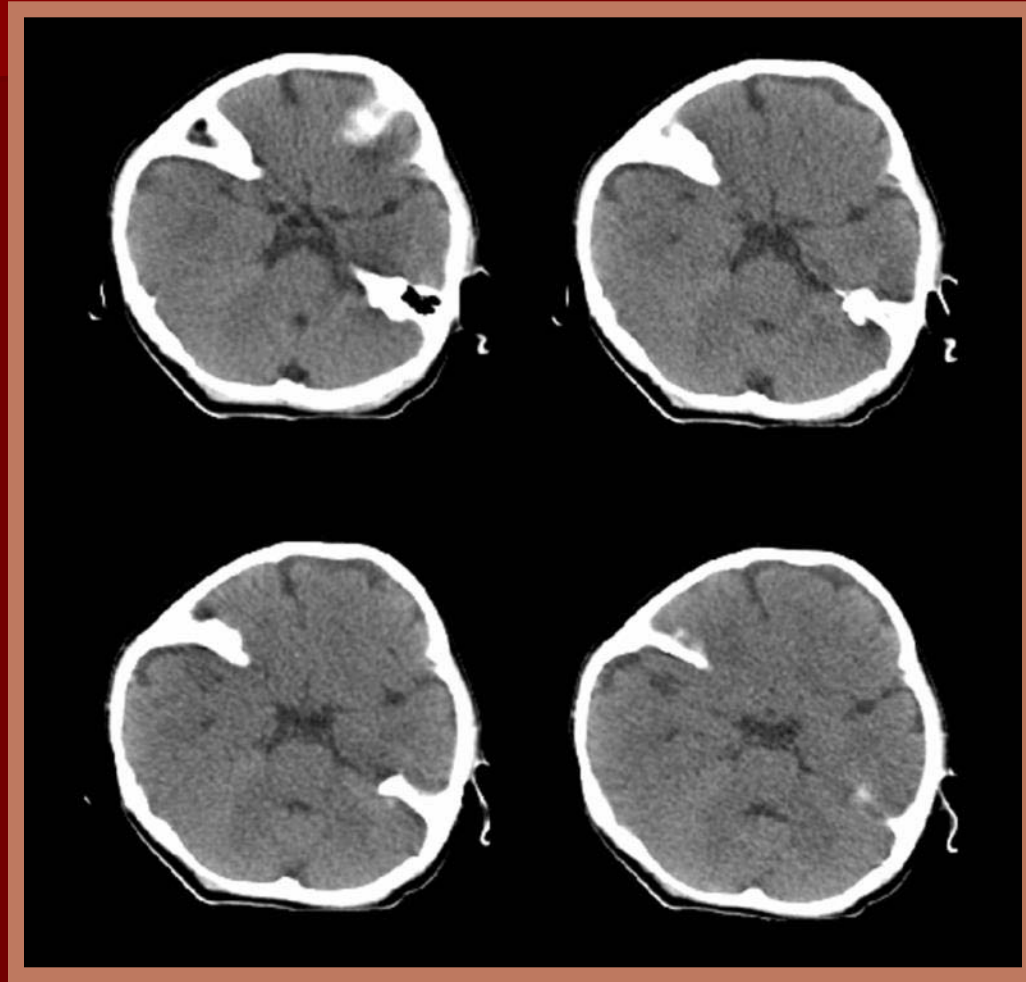
- one side lambdoid suture



Brachycephalia

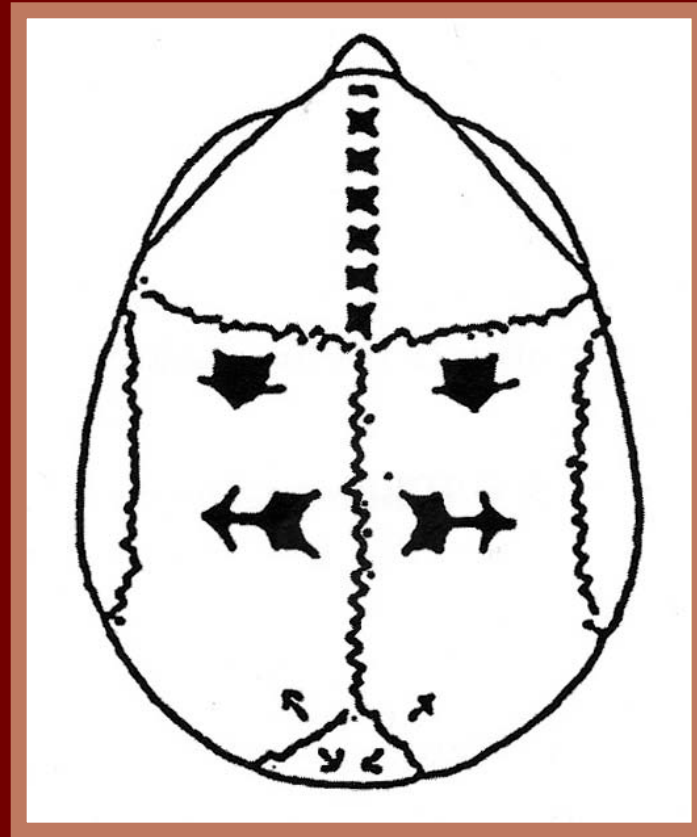


Brachycephalia

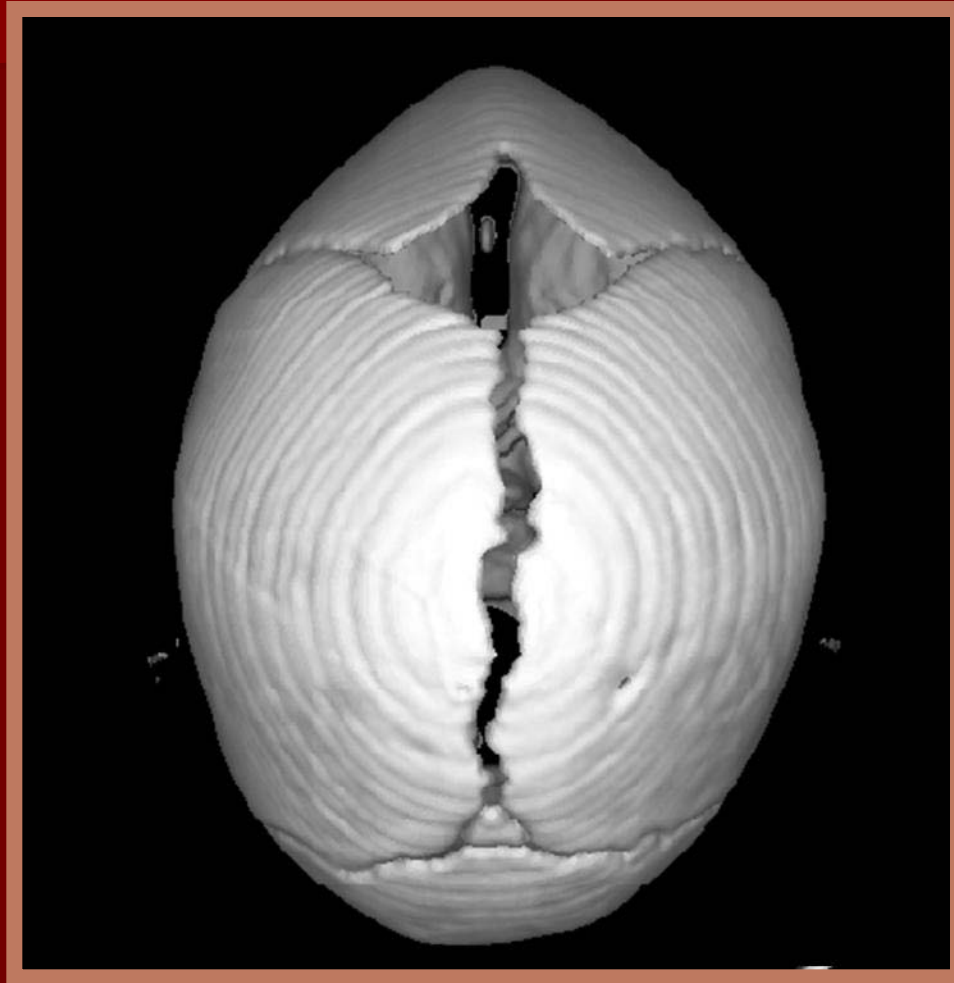


3. Trigonocephalia

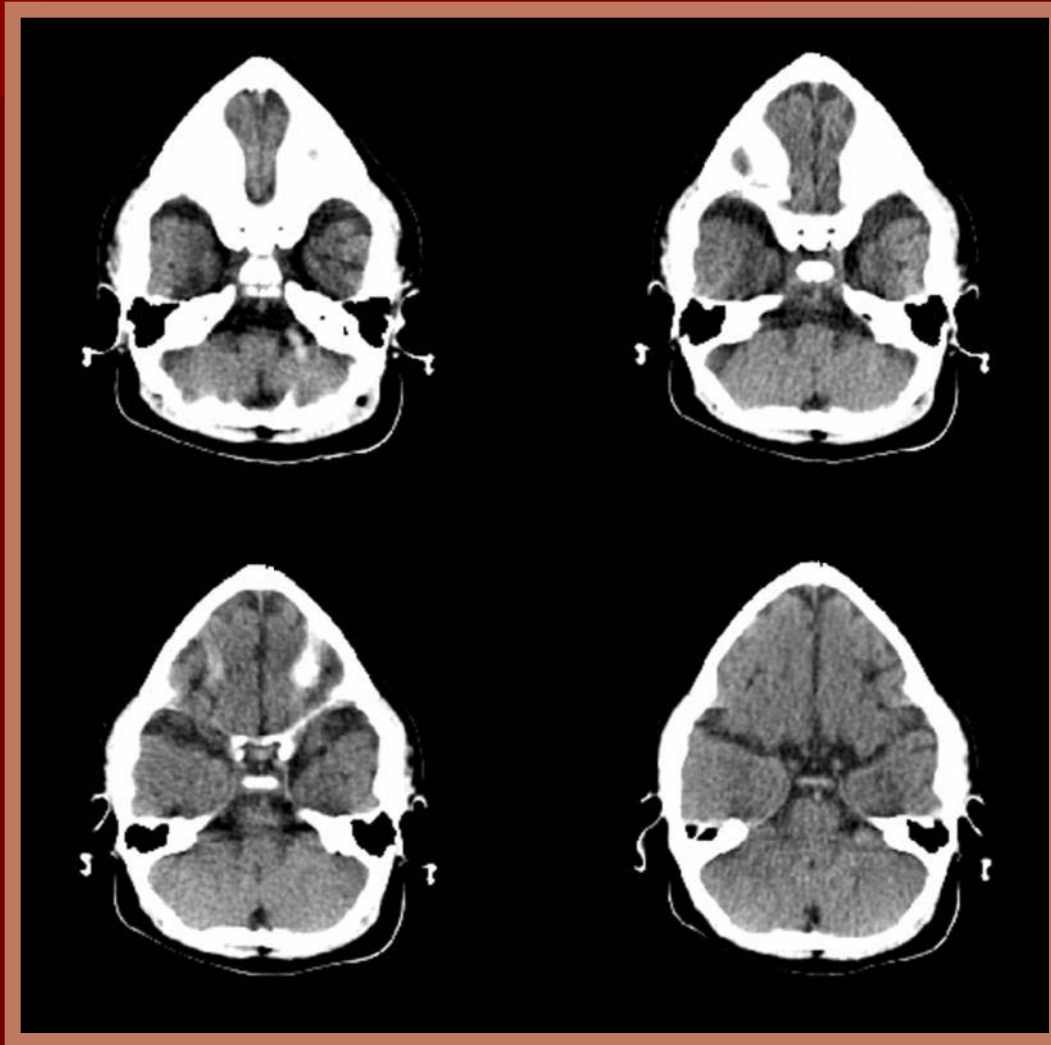
- Premature sutura metopica synostosis
- 10%



Trigonocephalia



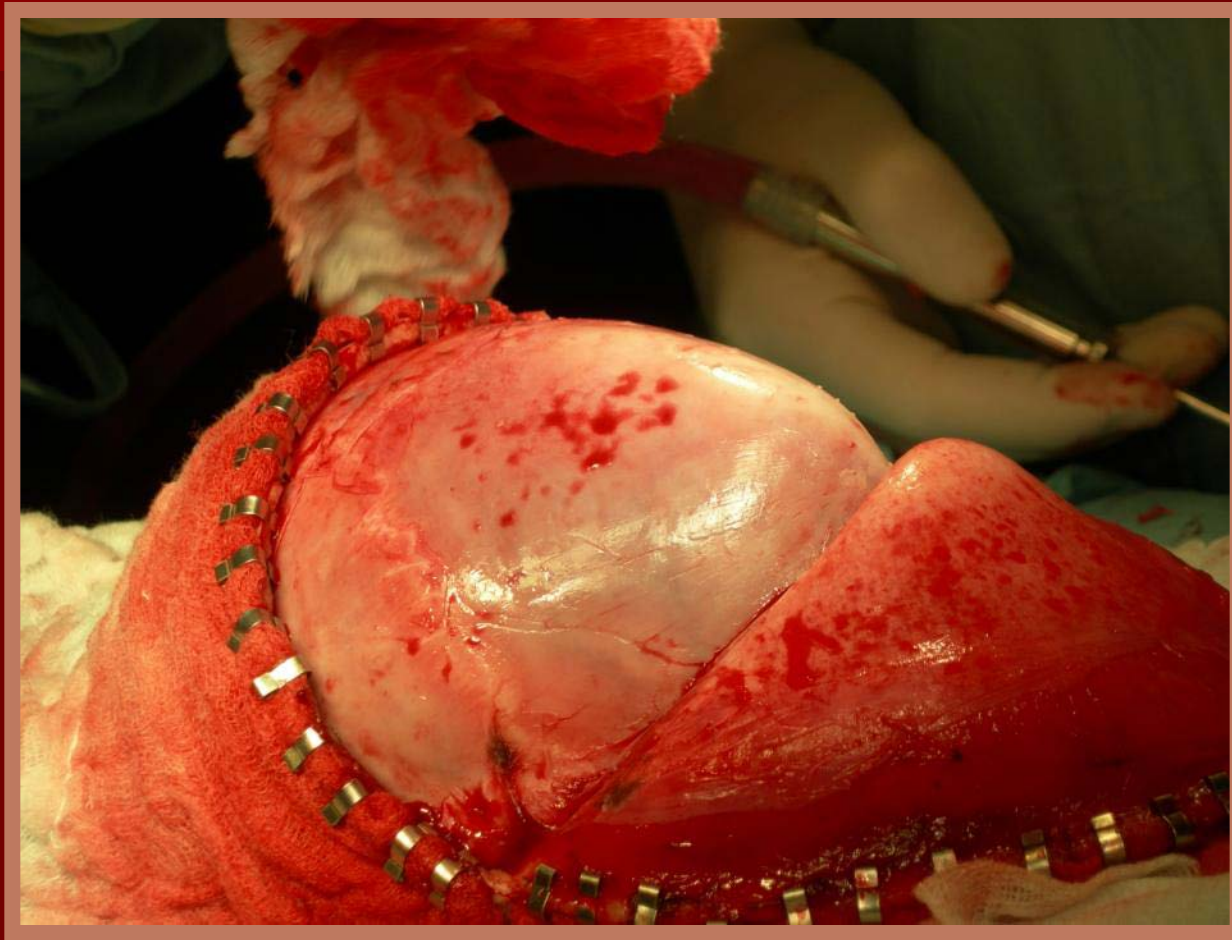
Trigonocephalia



Trigonocephalia



Trigonocephalia



Trigonocephalia



Trigonocephalia



4. Morbus Crouzon - dysostosis craniofacialis (1912)

- Turricephaly
- Shallow orbits
- Exophthalmos
- Hypertelorism
- Hypoplasia of middle facial skelet

- 1 from 25 000 children

Morbus Crouzon



Morbus Crouzon



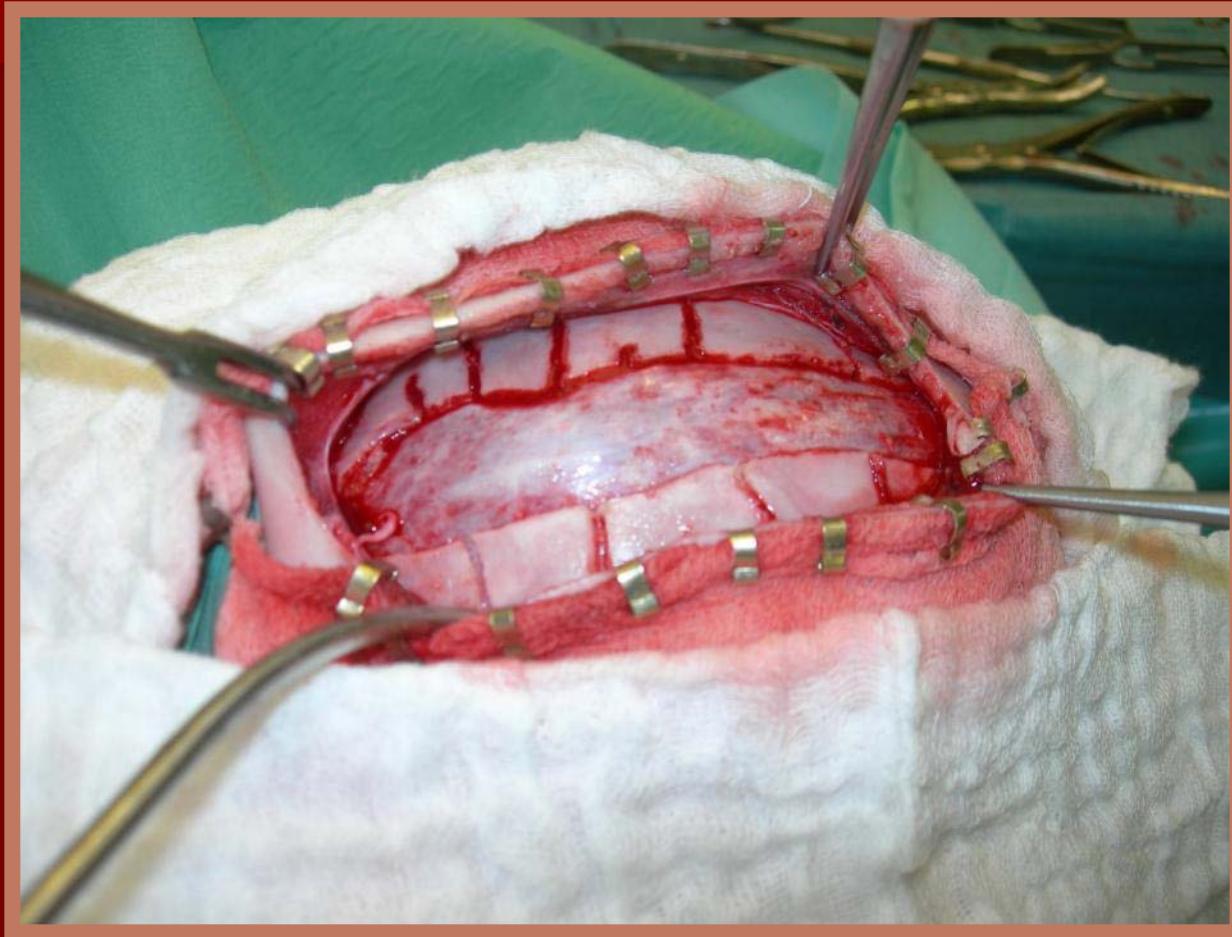
Morbus Crouzon



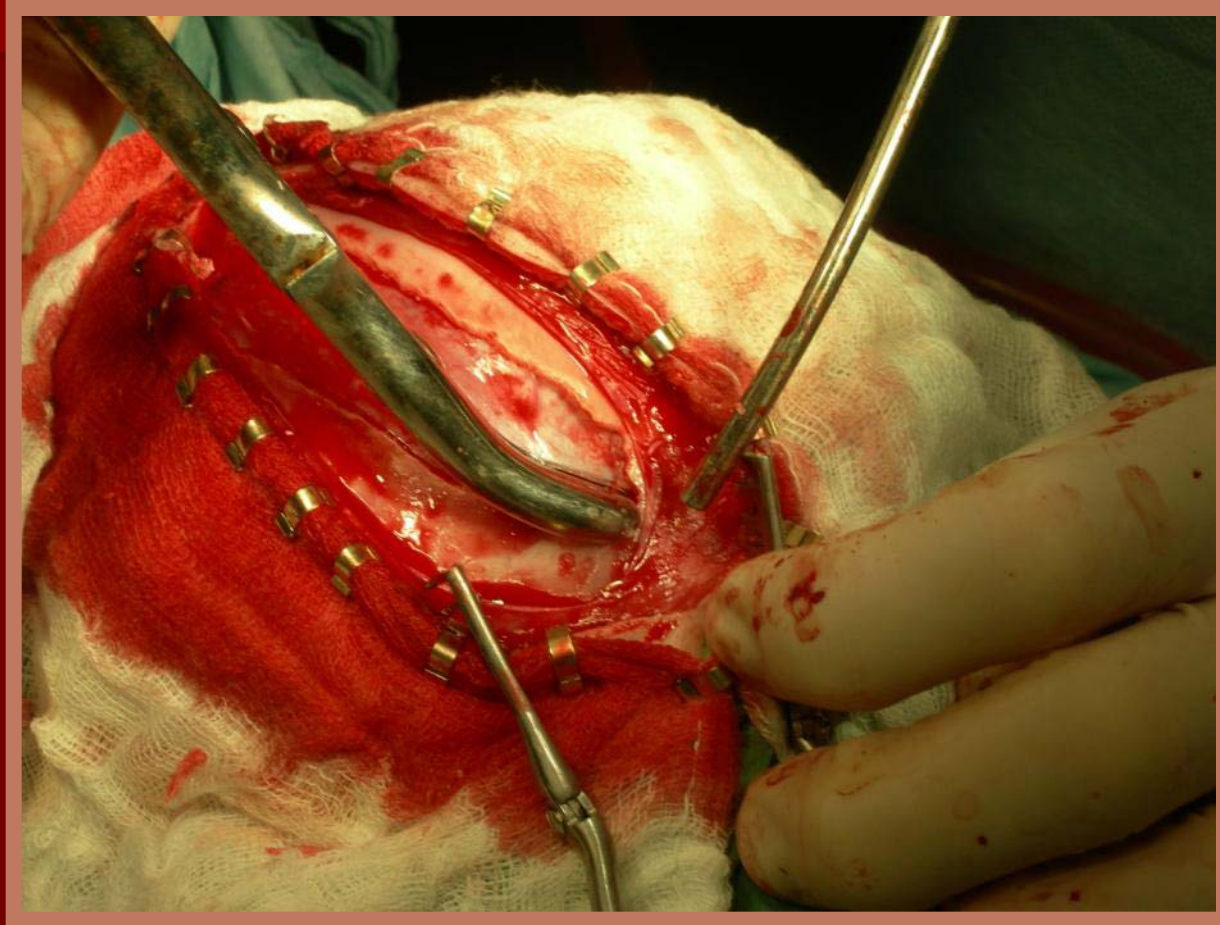
Morbus Crouzon



Morbus Crouzon



Morbus Crouzon



Post surgery care

Preventive protective helmets

