

CT 1

2 3

:
: CT 1mm 16 CT 114
(high spatial frequency algorithm) CT
anterior presphenoidal foramen(APF), posterior presphenoidal foramen(PPF), rostro-orbital pseudofoamen(ROP), intralateromedial postsphenoidal pseudo-foramen(LPP), intrapostsphenoidal pseudofoamen(IPP), spheno-occipital pseudofoamen(SOP), canalis basilaris medianus(CBM) intrasynchondral ossified bodies(IOB)
2
가 IOB (spheno-occipital synchondrosis)
: APF 1 (16/17, 94%), PPF 2 (27/37, 73%), ROP 2-5 (31/34, 91%), LPP 1 (9/17, 53%)
IPP 6-12 (20/37, 54%) SOP 13
(3/6, 50%) IOB 13 8
CBM 20%

(basicranium) (membranous bone)
(cartilagenous bone) 25
(ossification center)
, 18 (suture) (synchondrosis)
(central skull base)
(foramina)
(foramen ovale)
(1,2)
CT
114 CT
1 17, 1-2 가 20, 2-5 가 34
, 6-12 가 37, 13-16 가 6 CT GE Hi-Speed Advantage(GE Medical System, Milwaukee, WI, U.S.A.)
(high spatial frequency algorithm)
(orbitomeatal line)
1mm (foramen magnum)
(orbital roof)

CT anterior presphenoidal foramen(APF), posterior presphenoidal foramen(PPF), rostro-orbital pseudofoamen(ROP), intralateromedial postsphenoidal pseudofoamen(IPP), intrapost-

CT

sphenoidal pseudofoamen(IPP), spheno-occipital pseudofoamen(SOP), canalis basilaris medianus(CBM), intrasynchondral ossified bodies(IOB) 8

(Table 2). 1

2-5 67%, 6-12 100%

가

PPF (Fig. 1) 5 70%

6-12 22% 13

가 (spheno-occipital synchondro-

PPF

ROP (Fig. 2) 2 50%

2-5 34 31 (91%)

6-12 27%

APF (Fig. 1) 1 17 16 (94%) ROP ROP

1 2 35% 25%(15/59) 75%(44/59) 가

가

13

(Table 1). APF 48%(15/31) LPP (Fig. 3) 1 53%

Table 1. Detection of Normal Variants Shown by CT According to Age of Population

Variants	No. of Patients According to Age(%)				
	< 1y n= 17	< 2y n= 20	2-5y n= 34	6-12y n= 37	> 13y n= 6
Anterior presphenoidal foramen	16(94)	7(35)	6(18)	2(5)	0
Posterior presphenoidal foramen	12(71)	15(75)	24(71)	8(22)	0
Rostro-orbital pseudofoamen	7(41)	11(55)	31(91)	10(27)	0
Intralateromedial postsphenoidal pseudofoamen	9(53)	7(35)	8(24)	6(16)	0
Intrapostsphenoidal pseudofoamen	0	6(36)	9(26)	20(54)	1(17)
Spheno-occipital pseudofoamen	0	0	0	4(11)	3(50)
Canalis basilaris medianus	5(29)	4(20)	10(29)	9(24)	1(17)
Intrasynchondral ossified bodies	0	0	0	12(32)	4(67)



Fig. 1. Anterior and posterior presphenoidal foramina. Axial CT scans in a 10-month-old boy(A) and a 2-month-old boy(B) show anterior presphenoidal foramen(black arrow) identified between the corporal middle and main centers of the presphenoid and posterior presphenoidal foramen(white arrow) located between the main centers of the presphenoid and postsphenoid.

(spheno-occipital synchondrosis)

(3) (Fig. 8).

(4).

(5,6).

(7),

(8).

(9).

(10).

(11).

(12).

(13).

(14).

(15).

(16).

(17).

(18).

(19).

(20).

(21).

(22).

(23).

(24).

(25).

(26).

(27).

(28).

(29).

(30).

(31).

(32).

(33).

(34).

(35).

(36).

(37).

(38).

(39).

(40).

(41).

(42).

(43).

(44).

(45).

(46).

(47).

(48).

(49).

(50).

(51).

(52).

(53).

(54).

(55).

(56).

(57).

(58).

(59).

(60).

(61).

(62).

(63).

(64).

(65).

(66).

(67).

(68).

(69).

(70).

(71).

(72).

(73).

(74).

(75).

(76).

(77).

(78).

(79).

(80).

(81).

(82).

(83).

(84).

(85).

(86).

(87).

(88).

(89).

(90).

(91).

(92).

(93).

(94).

(95).

(96).

(97).

(98).

(99).

(100).

(101).

(102).

(103).

(104).

(105).

(106).

(107).

(108).

(109).

(110).

(111).

(112).

(113).

(114).

(115).

(116).

(117).

(118).

(119).

(120).

(121).

(122).

(123).

(124).

(125).

(126).

(127).

(128).

(129).

(130).

(131).

(132).

(133).

(134).

(135).

(136).

(137).

(138).

(139).

(140).

(141).

(142).

(143).

(144).

(145).

(146).

(147).

(148).

(149).

(150).

(151).

(152).

(153).

(154).

(155).

(156).

(157).

(158).

(159).

(160).

(161).

(162).

(163).

(164).

(165).

(166).

(167).

(168).

(169).

(170).

(171).

(172).

(173).

(174).

(175).

(176).

(177).

(178).

(179).

(180).

(181).

(182).

(183).

(184).

(185).

(186).

(187).

(188).

(189).

(190).

(191).

(192).

(193).

(194).

(195).

(196).

(197).

(198).

(199).

(200).

(201).

(202).

(203).

(204).

(205).

(206).

(207).

(208).

(209).

(210).

(211).

(212).

(213).

(214).

(215).

(216).

(217).

(218).

(219).

(220).

(221).

(222).

(223).

(224).

(225).

(226).

(227).

(228).

(229).

(230).

(231).

(232).

(233).

(234).

(235).

(236).

(237).

(238).

(239).

(240).

(241).

(242).

(243).

(244).

(245).

(246).

(247).

(248).

(249).

(250).

(251).

(252).

(253).

(254).

(255).

(256).

(257).

(258).

(259).

(260).

(261).

(262).

(263).

(264).

(265).

(266).

(267).

(268).

(269).

(270).

(271).

(272).

(273).

(274).

(275).

(276).

(277).

(278).

(279).

(280).

(281).

(282).

(283).

(284).

(285).

(286).

(287).

(288).

(289).

(290).

(291).

(292).

(293).

(294).

(295).

(296).

(297).

(298).

(299).

(300).

(301).

(302).

(303).

(304).

(305).

(306).

(307).

(308).

(309).

(310).

(311).

(312).

(313).

(314).

(315).

(316).

(317).

(318).

(319).

(320).

(321).

(322).

(323).

(324).

(325).

(326).

(327).

(328).

(329).

(330).

(331).

(332).

(333).

(334).

(335).

(336).

(337).

(338).

(339).

(340).

(341).

(342).

(343).

(344).

(345).

(346).

(347).

(348).

(349).

(350).

(351).

(352).

(353).

(354).

(355).

(356).

(357).

(358).

(359).

(360).

(361).

(362).

(363).

(364).

(365).

(366).

(367).

(368).

(369).

(370).

(371).

(372).

(373).

(374).

(375).

(376).

(377).

(378).

(379).

(380).

(381).

(382).

(383).

(384).

(385).

(386).

(387).

(388).

(389).

(390).

(391).

(392).

(393).

(394).

(395).

(396).

(397).

(398).

(399).

(400).

(401).

(402).

(403).

(404).

(405).

(406).

(407).

(408).

(409).

(410).

(411).

(412).

(413).

(414).

(415).

(416).

(417).

(418).

(419).

(420).

(421).

(422).

(423).

(424).

(425).

(426).

(427).

(428).

(429).

(430).

(431).

(432).

(433).

(434).

(435).

(436).

(437).

(438).

(439).

(440).

(441).

(442).

(443).

(444).

(445).

(446).

(447).

(448).

(449).

(450).

(451).

(452).

(453).

(454).

(455).

(456).

(457).

(458).

(459).

(460).

(461).

(462).

(463).

(464).

(465).

(466).

(467).

(468).

(469).

(470).

(471).

(472).

(473).

(474).

(475).

(476).

(477).

(478).

(479).

(480).

(481).

(482).

(483).

(484).

(485).

(486).

(487).

(488).

(489).

(490).

(491).

(492).

(493).

(494).

(495).

(496).

(497).

(498).

(499).

(500).

(501).

(502).

(503).

(504).

(505).

(506).

(507).

(508).

(509).

(510).

(511).

(512).

(513).

(514).

(515).

(516).

(517).

(518).

(519).

(520).

(521).

(522).

(523).

(524).

(525).</

Table 2 . Shape of Anterior Presphenoidal Foramen According to Age of Population

	No. of Patients According to Foraminal Shape(%)				
Shape	1y n= 16	< 2y n= 7	2-5y n= 6	6-12y n= 2	> 13y n= 0
Round or Ovoid	5(31)	4(57)	4(67)	2(100)	0
Triangular	11(69)	3(43)	2(33)	0	0

Table 3. Bilaterality of Intralateromedial Postsphenoidal Pseudofoamen According to Age of Population

	No. of Patients According to Age(%)				
Bilaterality	< 1y n = 9	< 2y n = 7	2-5y n = 8	6-12y n = 6	> 13y n = 0
Bilateral	9(100)	5(71)	6(75)	2 (33)	0
Only Left	0	2(29)	2(25)	4 (67)	0

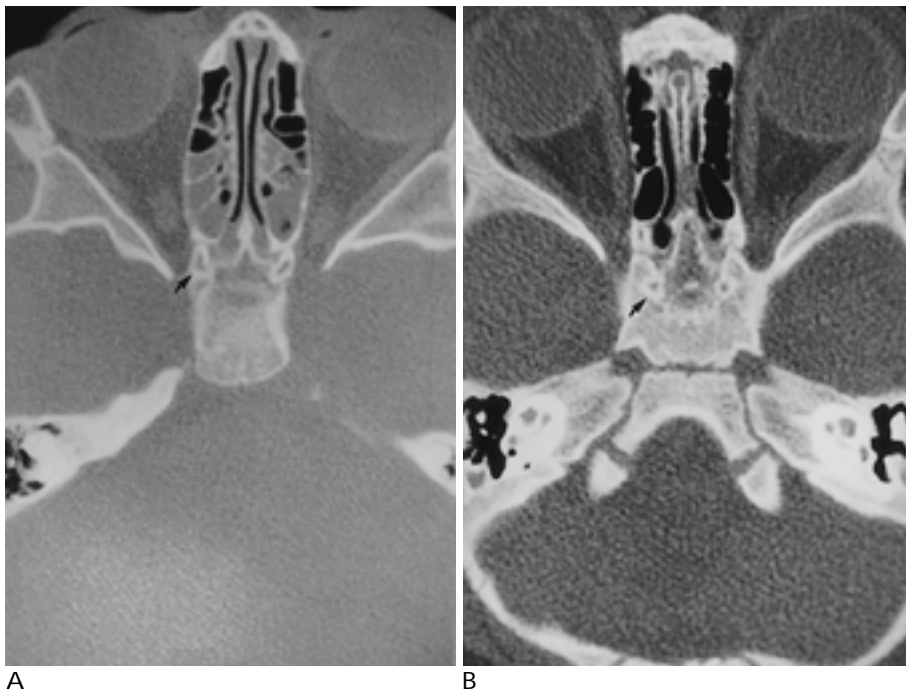
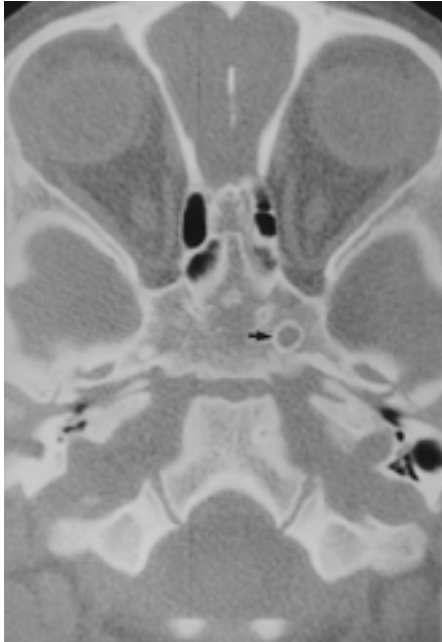
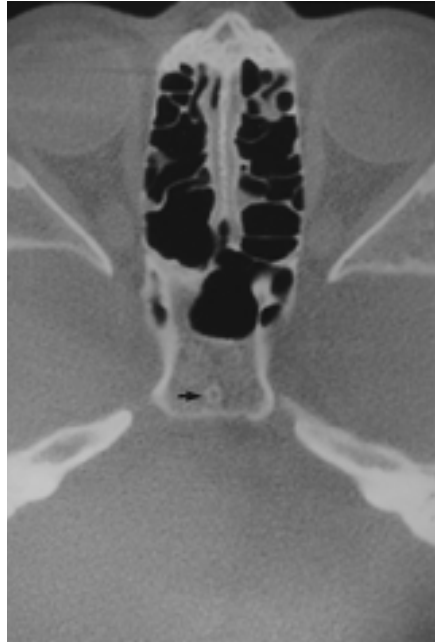


Fig. 2. Paired rostro-orbital pseudo-foramina. Axial CT scans in a 3-year-old boy(A) and a 9-month-old boy(B) show bilateral rostro-orbital pseudo-foramina(arrows) located between the lateral walls of the enlarging rostrum coapt and the medial walls of the adjacent enlarging orbitosphenoid.

Madelin (8) 1 12 4 . APF 1
 APF 9 가 , 1
 가 APF 가 가 6-12 ,
 가 , 1 . APF



3



4

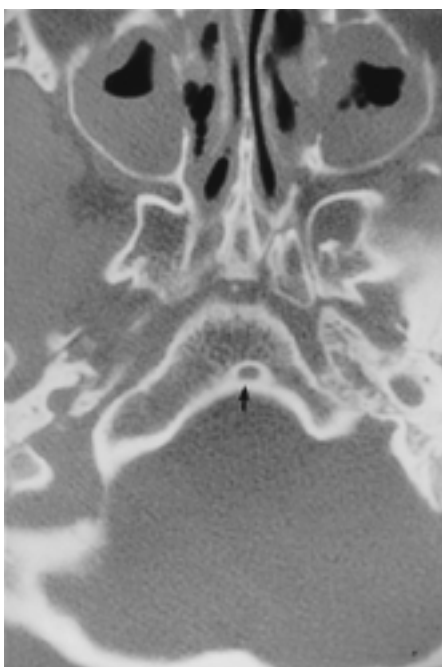


5

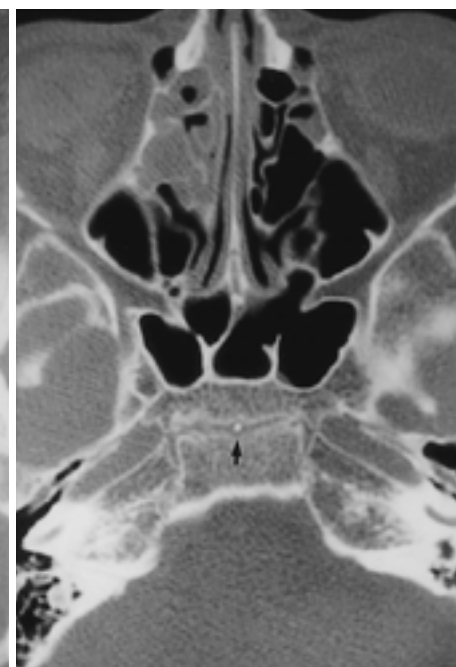
Fig. 3. Intralateromedial postsphenoidal pseudoforamen. Axial CT scan in a 2-year-old girl shows unilateral intralateromedial postsphenoidal pseudoforamen(arrow) located in posterior portion of the fused lateromedial postsphenoidal synchondrosis.

Fig. 4. Intrapostsphenoidal pseudoforamen. Axial CT scan in a 6-year-old boy shows Intrapostsphenoidal pseudoforamen(arrow) located in the midline at the fused intrapostsphenoidal synchondrosis.

Fig. 5. Spheno-occipital pseudoforamen. Axial CT scan in a 7-year-old boy shows spheno-occipital pseudoforamen(arrow). Spheno-occipital pseudoforamen represents an ovoid rest of cartilage that persists in the midline after closure of the lateral aspects of the spheno-occipital synchondrosis.



6



7

Fig. 6. Canalis basilaris medianus. Axial CT scan in a 11-year-old girl shows canalis basilaris medianus(arrow). Canalis basilaris medianus represent a remnant of the cephalic end of the notochordal canal and lies in the midline of the basiocciput.

Fig. 7. Intrasynchondral ossified bodies. Axial CT scan in a 10-year-old girl shows intrasynchondral ossified bodies(arrow) as separated dot-like structures with high attenuation in spheno-occipital synchondrosis.

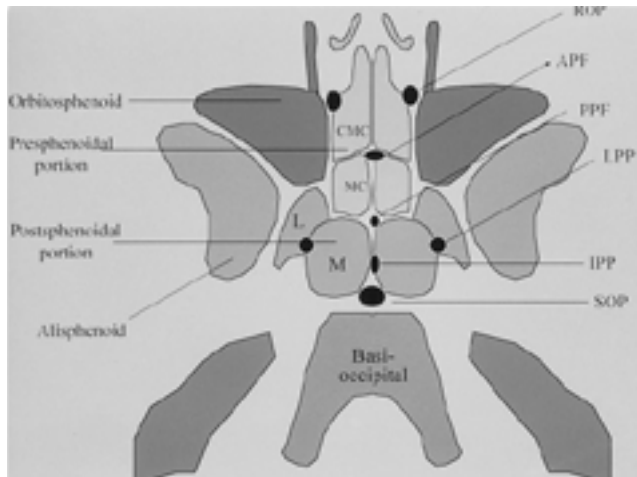


Fig. 8. Schematic drawing of normal variations of the minute central skull base foramina. The presphenoid portion contains the main(MC), corporal middle(CMC), and anterior accessory centers. The postsphenoid portion includes the medial(M) and lateral centers(L). ROP : rostrum-orbitosphenoid pseudoforamen, APF : anterior presphenoidal foramen, PPF : posterior presphenoidal foramen, LPP : intralateromedial postsphenoidal pseudoforamen, IPP : intrapostsphenoidal pseudoforamen, and SOP : spheno-occipital pseudoforamen.

(8).

PPF (craniopharyngeal canal)

Madeline (8) PPF APF 가

2 가

PPF APF 가

PPF (Rathke pouch)

(9).

ROP 가 , rostrum

(orbitosphenoid)

Madelin (8) ROP

2-5

ROP 2-5

91% 13

가

IPP

LPP

LPP 1 가

13 , IPP 1

, 6-12 가

가

LPP 1 6

가 , 6-12

67%

가 가

16-18 95%

(3)

SOP SOP 가 6 가

13

(basiocciput) CBM (notochord)

Currarino (10)

CBM

Currarino , , (superior, inferior, and bifurcate)

Martinez Hemphill (11,12)

(subarachnoid space)

CBM

IOB (ossification center)

Okamoto (13) 8 13 40 22

IOB 8

IOB 7 13 가

1. Laine FJ, Nadel L, Braun IF. CT and MR imaging of the central skull base. Techniques, embryologic development, and anatomy. *RadioGraphics* 1990;10:591-602
2. Ginsberg LE, Pruett SW, Chen MYM, Elster AD. Skull-base foramina of the middle cranial fossa: reassessment of normal variation with high-resolution CT. *AJNR* 1994;15:283-291
3. Madeline LA, Elster AD. Suture closure in the human chondrocranium: CT assessment. *Radiology* 1995;196:747-756
4. Warwick R, Williams PL. *Gray's anatomy*. 35th British ed. Philadelphia, Pa: Saunders, 1973;285-288
5. Orion GL. Roentgen determination of the time of closure of the spheno-occipital synchondrosis. *Radiology* 1960;75:450-453
6. Shopfner CE, Wolfe TW, O'Kell RT. The intersphenoid synchondrosis. *AJR* 1968;104:184-193
7. Dorland I, Newman WA. *Dorland's illustrated medical dictionary*. 27th ed. Philadelphia, Pa: Saunders, 1988;1628
8. Madeline LA, Elster AD. Postnatal development of the central skull base: normal variants. *Radiology* 1995;196:757-763
9. Lowman RM, Robinson F, McAllister WB. The craniopharyngeal canal. *Acta Radiol* 1966;5:41-53
10. Currarino G. Canalis basilaris medianus and related defects of the basiocciput. *AJNR* 1988;9:208-211

11. Martinez CR, Hemphill JM, Hodges FJ, et al. Basioccipital meningocele. *AJNR* 1981;2:100-102
12. Hemphill M, Freeman JM, Martinez CR, Nager GT, Long DM, Crumrine P. A new treatable source of recurrent meningitis: ba-

- sioccipital meningocele. *Pediatrics* 1982;70:941-943
13. Okamoto K, Ito J, Tokiguchi S. HRCT findings in the development of the sphenoccipital synchondrosis. *AJNR* 1996;17:117-120

J Korean Radiol Soc 1999;41:1209-1214

CT of Normal Variations of the Minute Central Skull Base Foramina¹

Jee Hee Kang, M.D., Hyung-Jin Kim, M.D., Choong-Kun Ha, M.D.², Jae Woo Yeon, M.D.,
Cheol Su Ok, M.D., Young Kook Cho, M.D., Myung Kwan Lim, M.D.,
Eul Hye Seok, M.D., Han Heon, M.D.³, Chang Hae Suh, M.D.

¹Department of Radiology, College of Medicine, Inha University

²Department of Neurology, College of Medicine, Inha University

Purpose : To evaluate the CT appearance of normal variations in the minute central skull base foramina in infants and children.

Materials and Methods : One hundred and fourteen children under the age of 17 years without skull base abnormality underwent CT scanning. A high spatial frequency algorithm was used, and contiguous axial scanning parallel to the orbitomeatal line was performed from the foramen magnum to the orbital roof, with a 1-mm slice thickness. The presence or absence of eight foramina, pseudoforamina, or ossification centers including anterior presphenoidal foramen, posterior presphenoidal foramen, rostro-orbital pseudoforamen, intralateromedial postsphenoidal pseudoforamen, intrapostsphenoidal pseudoforamen, sphenoccipital pseudoforamen, canalis basilaris medianus and intrasynchondral ossified bodies was analysed according to age. The presence of foramina or pseudoforamina was indicated if a ring-shaped structure was seen on two or more CT scans at the location anatomically predicted, and intrasynchondral ossified bodies were indicated if linear or dot-like structures with high attenuation accompanied sphenoccipital synchondrosis.

Results : CT indicated that within a certain age range, various kinds of foramina, pseudoforamina, and ossification centers were frequent. The anterior presphenoidal foramen was most commonly seen in infants aged 1-12 months (16/17, 94 %); the posterior presphenoidal foramen in children less than 2 years old (27/37, 73 %); the rostro-orbital pseudoforamen in children aged 2-5 years (9/17, 53 %); intrapostsphenoidal pseudoforamen in children 6-12 years old (20/37, 54 %) and sphenoccipital pseudoforamen and intrasynchondral ossified bodies in children aged 13-16 years. The canalis basilaris medianus was identified in about 20 % of all subjects regardless of age.

Conclusion : Development of the minute central skull base foramina varied greatly according to age. Knowledge of the CT appearances of such embryologic variants of the central skull base should not only help Provide an understanding of complex skull base anatomy but also identify abnormal skull base development.

Index words : Skull, CT

Computed tomography (CT), in infants and children
Normal variant

Address reprint requests to : Hyung-Jin Kim, M.D., Department of Radiology, Inha University Hospital
#7-206, 3rd St. Shinheung-dong, Choong-gu, Incheon 400-103, Korea.
Tel. 82-32-890-2767 Fax. 82-32-890-2743