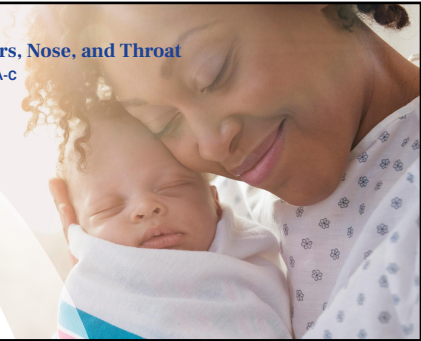



Head, Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Throat
Whitney Hammond, PA-C





Ascension

I have no conflict of interest to disclose

 Ascension 2

Objectives

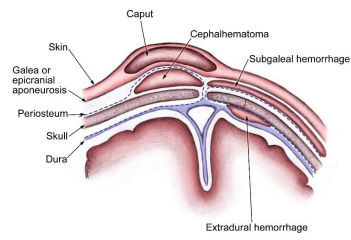
- At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to
- Explain importance of eye prophylaxis
- Understand the presentation, management, and complications of common NICU problems including but not limited to: cephalhematoma, choanal atresia, cleft palate/lip, ROP, and esophageal atresia.

 Ascension 3

Eye Prophylaxis

- Rationale: prevention of gonococcal ophthalmia
 - Occurs in approximately 28% of newborns delivered to women with gonorrhea
 - If untreated, can cause scarring and blindness
- Erythromycin 0.5% ophthalmic ointment
- Indicated in all newborns
- Timing: within 24 hours of birth
- Recommended by the U.S. Preventative Service Task Force (USPSTF)
- Infants at increased risk
 - Maternal history of sexually transmitted disease
 - Substance abuse
 - Poor or no prenatal care

Birth Trauma



Caput Succedaneum

- Presentation
 - Diffuse edematous swelling of soft tissues of the scalp that may extend across suture lines but is usually unilateral
 - Can elicit pitting edema by putting firm pressure to area
 - Can have overlying petechiae, purpura, or ecchymosis
- Etiology
 - Secondary to pressure of the uterus or vaginal wall during delivery, affecting the presenting portion of the scalp that was presenting part during delivery.
- Management
 - Observation, resolves in few days to week
 - Imaging should be considered in large caput that doesn't diminish in 48-72 hrs or with enlargement of swelling after 24 hrs of delivery
- Complications
 - Rarely, a hemorrhagic caput may result in shock and require a blood transfusion

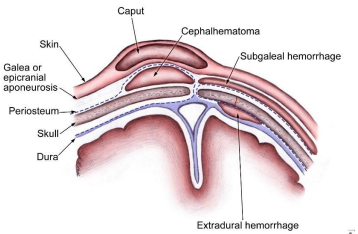
Cephalhematoma

- Presentation
 - Swelling of the scalp that is fixed and does not cross suture lines
 - Usually occurs over one or both parietal bones
 - Subperiosteal bleeding is slow, swelling may not be apparent for several hours or days after birth
- Etiology
 - Bleeding between the skull and periosteum
 - Secondary to fetal skull against the maternal pelvis during prolonged or difficult labor and/or trauma caused by use of forceps or vacuum
- Management
 - Close observation
 - Most resolve spontaneously in 3-4 weeks
- Complications
 - Hyperkalemia and hyperbilirubinemia
 - < 5% are associated with skull fractures
 - Intracranial hemorrhage
 - When hematoma doesn't spontaneously resolve, it may organize and calcify which can prolong resolution

Subgaleal Hemorrhage

- Presentation
 - Diffuse edematous swelling of the scalp
 - Can cross suture lines and spread to neck or ear
 - Progresses after birth
 - When pressure is placed, a fluid wave can be appreciated
- Etiology
 - Bleeding in the area between to scalp and the skull (very large space which can accommodate the entire neonatal blood volume)
 - Occurs between the cranial aponeurosis and periosteum
 - Can be caused by asphyxia, vacuum extraction, forceps, or coagulopathy
- Management
 - Very close observation
 - Replace blood volume
 - Correct any coagulopathy
- Complications
 - Can be life-threatening (hypovolemic shock, DIC, multisystem organ failure, and death in 25% of cases)

Birth Trauma



Choanal Atresia

- Presentation
 - Respiratory distress, cyanosis
 - Degree of distress varies, from severe asphyxia to cyanosis only with sucking
 - Diagnose via inability to pass a 6 F catheter into the nasopharynx
 - CT scan is needed to determine stenosis vs. atresia and bony vs. soft tissue membrane
- Etiology
 - True atresia is complete and bilateral
 - Congenital blockage of the posterior nares caused by either a bony septum (80%) or soft tissue membrane (10%)
 - Blockage can be a total upper airway obstruction or partial (stenosis)
- Management
 - Making baby cry will cause mouth breathing and temporarily relieve respiratory distress
 - If severe, an oral airway
 - Definitive management is surgical (resection of the obstruction, stenting)

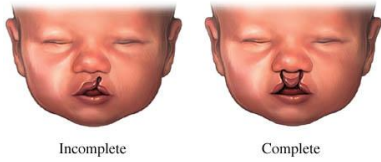
Choanal Atresia

- Complications/Associations
 - CHARGE syndrome
 - Autosomal dominant
 - Coloboma, heart defects, choanal atresia, restricted growth, genital abnormalities, ear anomalies

Cleft Palate and/or Lip

- Presentation
 - Opening or a split in the roof of the mouth or the lip
- Etiology
 - Failure of midline fusion
 - Unilateral clefts are usually an isolated finding
 - Bilateral or midline are sometimes associated with midline defects (brain)
 - Isolated cleft palate is different genetically from cleft lip
- Management
 - Haberman nipple (activated by tongue and gum pressure)
 - Obturator (temporarily closes cleft palate)
 - Surgery
- Complications
 - Feeding issues, speech problems, and frequent ear infections

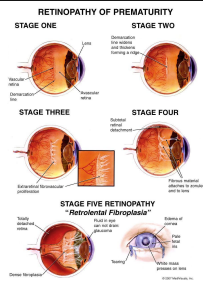
Cleft Palate and/or Lip - Complete vs. Incomplete

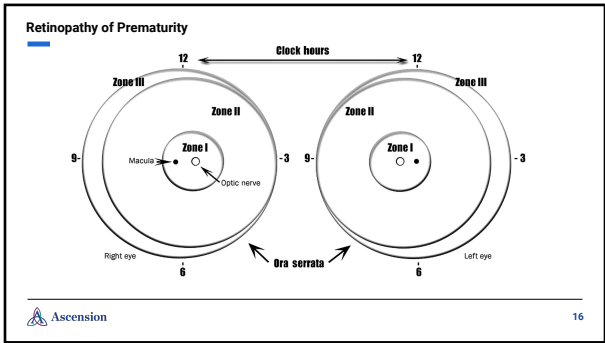


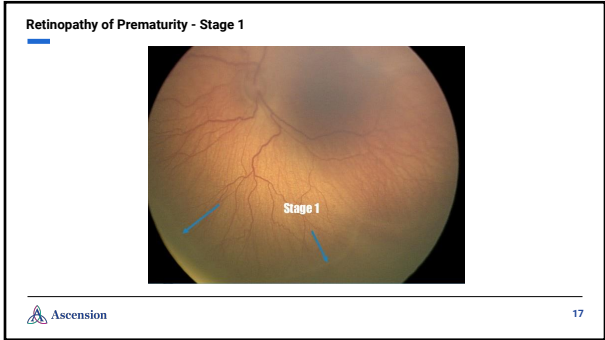
Retinopathy of Prematurity

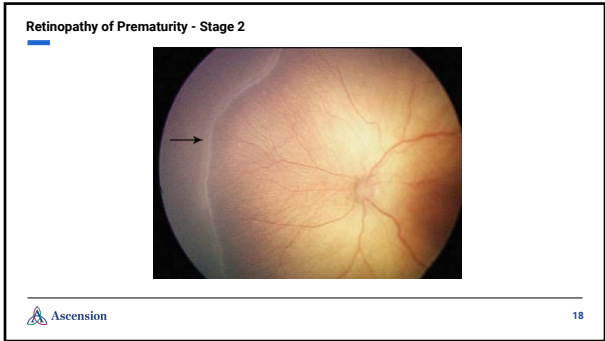
- Presentation
 - Asymptomatic disease
- Risk factors
 - Extreme prematurity, low birth weight, oxygen therapy, hypoxia
 - Screening in all infants <30.6 weeks gestation or <1500 grams
- Etiology
 - There are two phases of development of ROP
 - Vasoconstriction (occurs in response to high oxygen and low IGF)
 - Vasoproliferation (development of new vessels)
- Management
 - Prevention: oxygen target saturations
 - Screening eye exams
 - Treatments available to prevent progression: laser treatment, cryotherapy, intravitreal bevacizumab injection
- Complications
 - Strabismus, visual disturbances, blindness

Retinopathy of Prematurity





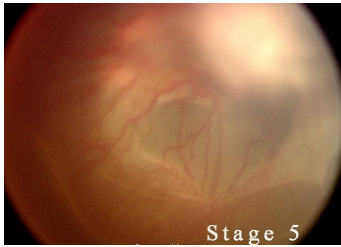




Retinopathy of Prematurity - Stage 3



Retinopathy of Prematurity - Retinal Detachment



Retinopathy of Prematurity

- Outcomes
 - 90% of stage 1 and stage 2 will regress spontaneously
 - Current literature suggests ~50% of stage 3 will regress spontaneously

Tracheal Stenosis and Atresia

- Presentation
 - Respiratory distress, stridor, cyanosis, apnea
- Etiology
 - Can be acquired stenosis (due to ET tube trauma), congenital stenosis due to a web, abnormal cartilage, or tracheal ring
- Management
 - Balloon dilation
 - Laser ablation
 - Surgical resection
- Complications
 - Tracheal atresia is uniformly fatal
- Outcomes
 - Infants with pulmonary abnormalities have poorer outcomes

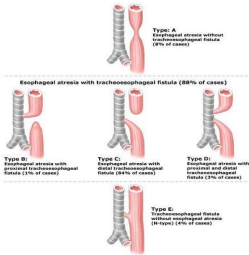
Tracheomalacia

- Presentation
 - Expiratory stridor and/or wheezing
- Etiology
 - Defective cartilage support that causes expiratory collapse of the airway
- Management
 - Close observation if mild, usually resolves with time and growth
 - In severe cases, tracheal stents, aortopexy, or tracheostomies

Vocal Cord Paralysis

- Presentation
 - Weak cry, stridor, poor feeding and/or aspiration
- Etiology
 - Due to injury or damage to the nerve that innervates the vocal cord
 - Can be unilateral or bilateral
 - Most commonly due to nerve injury with heart surgery or TEF repair
 - Can occur with traumatic delivery
- Management
 - If mild, conservative management, most will resolve with growth and time
 - Thickening oral feedings or alternative feeding tube
 - Severe cases, surgery
- Complications
 - Most infants fully recover and have no long term issues with their voice
 - If severe and untreated, can have lifelong communication issues

Tracheoesophageal Fistula (TEF)



Tracheoesophageal Fistula (TEF)

- Presentation
 - Prenatally, mother may have polyhydramnios (fetus unable to swallow amniotic fluid)
 - Infant unable to manage oral secretions, frequent suctioning
 - Oral feedings result in coughing, choking, and cyanosis
 - Diagnosis: Inability to pass nasogastric tube beyond 10-12 cm. Chest x-ray will show coiling of the nasogastric tube. Air in the GI tract confirms distal fistula
- Etiology
 - Abnormal embryological development
 - The trachea and esophagus share a common foregut precursor which become separated during development

Tracheoesophageal Fistula (TEF)

- Management
 - Place replegic to low intermittent suction to evacuate proximal pouch
 - Obtain echocardiogram to assess for any cardiac or aortic arch anomalies
 - Surgery via thoracotomy with fistula ligation and esophageal anastomosis
- Complications
 - Stricture
 - Increase risk for reflux
 - VATER/VACTERL
 - Vertebral defects, anal atresia, tracheoesophageal fistula, and radial or renal dysplasia
 - Vertebral defects, anal atresia, cardiac anomalies, tracheoesophageal fistula, renal dysplasia, limb anomalies

Esophageal Atresia

- Type A or "pure" esophageal atresia
- No fistula
- Similar presentation, without distal air in the GI tract

-Management

- Higher risk for a long gap between the proximal and distal esophageal pouches
- If long gap is present, surgical correction is usually delayed to allow growth of the segments
- A gastrostomy tube is placed for enteral nutrition

Micrognathia

- Presentation
 - Excessively small/recessed mandible
- Etiology
 - Familial
 - Genetic disorders (trisomies, Turner Syndrome, Progeria, Treacher-Collins)
 - Pierre Robin Sequence (micrognathia, glossoptosis, and cleft palate)
 - Stickler Syndrome (can occur in conjunction with Pierre Robin) –visual issues, hearing defects, skeletal abnormalities, flattened face
- Management
 - Prone positioning
 - Nasopharyngeal airway
 - Mandibular distraction
 - Tracheostomy
- Complications
 - Respiratory distress, abnormal tooth alignment, feeding difficulties

Tracheostomy

- Indications
 - Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia (BPD), subglottic stenosis, tracheomalacia, Pierre Robin Syndrome, tumors such as cystic hygroma
- Types
 - Double-cannula tubes
 - Single -cannula tubes
 - Used most commonly for infants and small children
- Humidification must be provided
 - Tracheostomy bypasses nose and mouth, which provides warmth
 - Humidification keeps secretions thin and helps previous plugs

Tracheostomy

- Management
 - Daily skin care around site
 - If dressing is present, change daily
 - Change tracheostomy ties as needed—when soiled, wet, or loose
 - Change tracheostomy tube every 1-4 weeks
- Complications
 - Respiratory distress due to mucus plug
 - Tissue pressure or necrosis
 - Bleeding
 - Infection
 - Tracheitis (infection that develops due to inadequate humidification)

References

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