Q



## Pediatric Orbital Cellulitis

 In a child with orbital cellulitis, whether s/he is older or younger than 9 years is important. Why?

## A/Q

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Which bug(s) are most often implicated?

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- --Older children:
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Assuming no hx of penetrating orbital trauma, where do the bugs come from, ie, what is the original nidus of infection?

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What proportion of orbital cellulitis cases are secondary to sinus dz? A whopping 90%!

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Which sinus is most often implicated, and which comes in a distant second?

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The ethmoid is #1; the frontal, 2



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The sinuses are not yet aerated in very young infants, and thus cannot be a source of infection. Infection of what structure should be considered if a very young infant presents with orbital cellulitis?

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The lacrimal sac, ie, dacryocystitis. (Saw, and missed, one as a resident myself very embarrassing. Thankfully, the baby recovered fully.)

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- --Lid edema
- --Chemosis
- --Orbital pain and tenderness
- --Globe displacement
- -- Elevated IOP
- --Decreased visual function (ie, acuity, VF, color)
- --An RAPD

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Globe displacement suggests the presence of what? A subperiosteal abscess

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What is the mechanism responsible for increasing IOP?

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Orbital congestion → compression of two words → increased IOP

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What is the mechanism responsible for increasing IOP?

Orbital congestion → compression of vortex veins → increased EVP → increased IOP

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What does EVP stand for in this context?

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> What does EVP stand for in this context? Episcleral venous pressure

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What is the Goldmann equation? (Meaning, write it out)

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- Orbital ophth

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What is the Goldmann equation? (Meaning, write it out)

$$IOP = \frac{\text{Rate of aqueous formation}}{\text{Rate of aqueous outflow}} + EVP$$

Note: In the interest of simplicity, I fudged a little on the denominator—technically, it's outflow facility, not outflow rate

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  USUAlly poly: It implies a 1:1 relationship; ie, that every 1mm
- In what clinic increase in EVP will produce a 1mm increase in IOP orbital cellulitis? When s/he is immunocompromised

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These findings indicate what?

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What does (ON) involvement indicate about the clinical status?

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What management is indicated?

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Before we get to this question...In addition to proptosis and ophthalmoplegia, what other ophthalmic signs/symptoms are associated with orbital cellulitis?

- --Lid edema
- --Chemosis
- --Orbital pain and tenderness
- --Globe displacement
- --Elevated IOP
- --Decreased visual function (ie, acuity, VF, color)
- --An RAPD

These findings indicate what? Optic nerve (ON) involvement

What does (ON) involvement indicate about the clinical status? It's an ophthalmic emergency

What management is indicated? Emergent surgery

# Q

# 45

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What nonocular signs/symptoms (including vitals, lab findings) might the child display?

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- --Leukocytosis
- --Fever
- --Headache
- --Fussiness, or lethargy

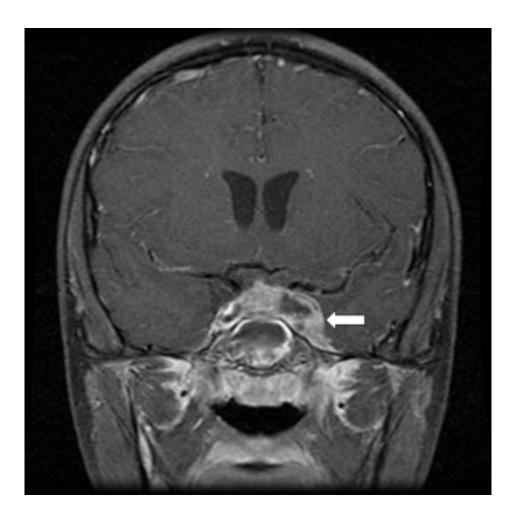
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# 49

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Three signs/symptoms of cavernous sinus involvement:

- 1) Ophthalmoplegia out of proportion to proptosis
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Caveat 2: Per the Peds book the distribution is V2; per the Orbit book, it's both V1 and V2

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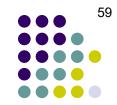
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- What other entity—uncommon but not unknown in children—can present with what looks like a bilateral orbital cellulitis?

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   Uveitis is common, and can even be the dominant manifestation chief concern? Cavernous sinus thrombosis
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- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4) Image the patient

- 1) Admit
- 2) Broad-spectrum IV antibiotics
- 3) Consider pan-culturing
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- Pediatric Orbital Cellulitis: Management
  - 1) Admit
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    - What is the preferred imaging study?

65

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You have to do 4 things for your patient—other than imaging, what are they?

 What is the preferred imaging study? CT is probably superior, although some clinicians are understandably reluctant to irradiate the rapidly-developing head of a very young child

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# 66

## Pediatric Orbital Cellulitis: Management

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CT showing a medial orbital subperiosteal abscess on the left side associated with ethmoid and sphenoid sinusitis

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