

Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum (ACC) has no common name, mainly because it's an uncommon, little-known-of disease. The discoverer and circumstances of the discovery are also unknown. (answers questions 1 through 3)

What is Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum?

ACC is the absence (or partial absence) of the Corpus Callosum, which is the area in the brain that is between and connects the brain's two hemispheres. The Corpus Callosum is mostly composed of transverse fibers. (answers question 4)

What does Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum do to you?

ACC may cause intellectual retardation, seizures, hydrocephalus (accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid in the brain, which can increase pressure and damage the brain), and spasticity (spasmodic movement). (answers question 5)

What causes Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum?

ACC is inherited as either an autosomal (not a sex chromosome) recessive trait or an X-linked (on the X chromosome) dominant trait. Causes include trisomies 8, 13, and 18, metabolic disturbances, drug misuse or abuse of the mother, and the flu in mothers. In my research I have found no references to a frequency of the disease in certain populations. (answers question 6)

How can Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum be cured?

ACC has no permanent treatment. However, you can treat the symptoms and seizures if and when they occur. (answers question 7)

How is Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum detected?

ACC can be detected at 18 weeks into the pregnancy. A missing section of the brain is obvious when a scan is done. If a scan is not conclusive, the symptoms will show themselves after the child is born. (answers question 8)

What research on ACC is being done?

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (part of the United States' National Institutes of Health) has conducted and supports many studies to learn more about brain development. When we know all about the brain's development, we can learn why problems such as ACC occur and cure them eventually. (answers question 11)

ACC Vocabulary Definitions from Answers.com: (number 12)

1. Agenesis: Absence or incomplete development of an organ or body part.
2. Corpus: The main part of a bodily structure or organ.
3. Corpus Callosum: The arched bridge of nervous tissue that connects the two cerebral hemispheres, allowing communication between the right and left sides of the brain.
4. Pre-natal: Existing or occurring before birth.
5. A chromosome that is not a sex chromosome.
6. Hydrocephalus: An abnormal accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) in the brain. The fluid (the CSF) is often under increased pressure which can compress (squeeze) and damage the brain.
7. Spasticity: The quality of moving or acting in spasms.
8. microcephaly: Abnormal smallness of the head.
9. camptodactyly: Permanent flexion of one or more of the finger joints.
10. bronchopneumonia: A pneumonia involving inflammation of the lungs that spreads from and after infection of the bronchi.
11. Recessive gene: A gene that is phenotypically expressed in the homozygous state but has its expression masked in the presence of a dominant gene.
12. Aicardi's syndrome: Aicardi Syndrome is a rare genetic disorder caused by the Aicardi gene. Dr. Jean Aicardi, a French neurologist, identified this gene in 1965.
13. Vertebra: Any of the bones or cartilaginous segments forming the spinal column.
14. Lesion: A localized pathological change in a bodily organ or tissue.
15. Epileptic: Affected with epilepsy (sudden recurring attacks of motor, sensory, or psychic malfunction with or without loss of consciousness or convulsive seizures).