

Blake's Pouch Cyst

Patient Packet



Diagnosis: Blake's Pouch Cyst



What is it?

It's a fluid-filled area in the back of the brain that forms before birth as the brain and fluid spaces develop. It's usually detected during pregnancy but typically disappears by the end of the first trimester.

Who does it affect?

It is seen in infants and children, and it's typically spotted during a prenatal ultrasound or MRI.



How did my child get it?

It happens during early brain development in the womb and is not caused by anything a parent did or did not do.



Most children with this condition develop normally (95%). Sometimes, it might lead to extra fluid in the brain (hydrocephalus) or other brain changes.





What is the **Treatment?**

If there are no symptoms, we'll simply keep an eye on it. However, if the cyst leads to fluid buildup or pressure, surgery like an ETV or VP Shunt might be necessary to help fluid flow return to normal.

Follow-Up



ACTIVITY RESTRICTIONS

No activity restrictions—let your baby play and explore like any other child. Be sure to encourage plenty of tummy time.

HOME CARE

Keep an eye out for signs like a swollen soft spot, being very fussy, very sleepy, or throwing up a lot.

FOLLOW-UP

- Keep up with regular pediatrician visits for your child's well-being.
- If you're worried about increased brain pressure, consult a neurosurgeon.

LONG-TERM CARE

- Most kids won't ever need any medical help.
- Only a few might need surgery for fluid buildup, known as hydrocephalus.
- As your child grows, look out for signs of high pressure like severe headaches or vision changes. It's a good idea to have yearly eye exams to monitor this.