

A Randomized Controlled Trial of Anterior versus Posterior Entry Site for CSF Shunt Insertion (Entry Site Trial)

- The purpose of this study is to determine if shunt entry site (anterior or posterior) has a significant effect on the subsequent risk of shunt failure.

Specific Aim 1: To determine if shunt entry site (anterior or posterior) significantly affects the risk of subsequent shunt failure in pediatric patients.

Specific Aim 2: To determine, from a parent perspective, if shunt entry site affects quality of life acutely (within 7 days of surgery) and chronically (one year after shunt insertion).

Specific Aim 3: To compare length of surgery, number of catheter passes, location of the ventricular catheter tip, length of stay, major peri-operative complications, delayed post-operative complications (e.g. shunt infection), and number of shunt revisions for anterior entry site with posterior entry site.