

Evaluating Quality of Life in Pediatric Chiari Malformation

Rationale and Specific Aims

Understanding quality of life in pediatric CIM is particularly important because many of the symptoms are related to subjective complaints such as neck pain, headache, and sensory deficits[13]. The CHIP will further facilitate the increasingly common use of patient-reported outcomes in neurosurgery to explore patient care, especially in comparative effectiveness research[15].

- Specific Aim 1:** Design a health-related quality of life instrument that can be administered in children with Chiari I malformation
- Specific Aim 2:** Evaluate the survey with regard to its reliability, validity, and clinical responsiveness.
- Specific Aim 3:** Determine quality of life response to surgical decompression with this survey
- Specific Aim 4:** Gather normative data and compare the properties of the CHIP in Chiari patients vs. healthy controls