

ECCHORDOSIS PHYSALIPHORA (big name for a benign entity)

Ecchordosis is a benign and incidental finding, seen in approximately 2% of the population. The entity is a result of non-neoplastic notochordal remnants and typically involves the mid-clivus at its dorsal aspect.

Characteristic features are areas of T1 hypointensity and T2 hyperintensity about a bony stalk. Lesions may be confined to the clivus or prepontine cistern.

Increased signal on FLAIR and diffusion sequences is seen.

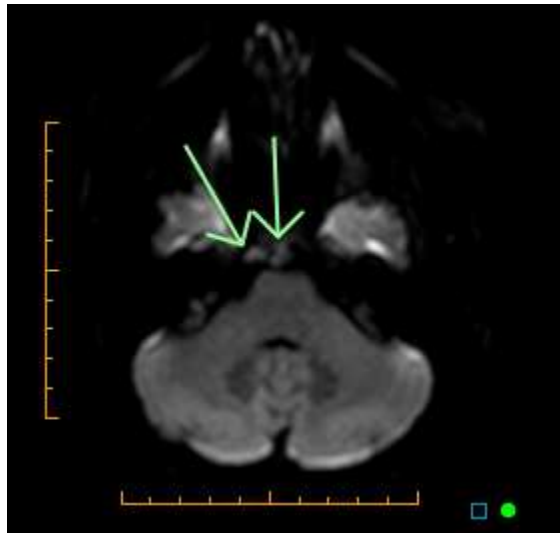
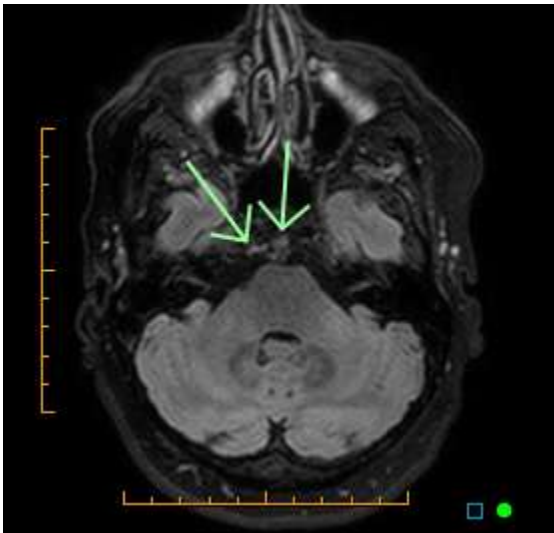
Unlike chordoma, there is no enhancement.

Unless there is symptomatic mass effect, these lesions do not require surgery.

Axial T2 image (below) shows osseous stalk (large arrow), with areas of T2 hyperintensity lying on either side (arrows). There is focal erosion of the clivus.



FLAIR (below left) and diffusion images (right) demonstrate some increased signal within the lesion (arrows).



Sagittal fat saturated post-contrast image (below) shows areas of low T1 signal (arrow) , but no abnormal enhancement.

