

## FP65

**Treatment of pediatric vertebral hemangiomas with absolute alcohol (ethanol) embolization, cord decompression and single level instrumentation: a single institute experience**

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**Introduction:** To evaluate the role of intra-operative ethanol embolization, surgical decompression and instrumented fusion in paediatric vertebral hemangiomas (VH) presenting with myelopathy.

**Methods:** Retrospective analysis of single level symptomatic paediatric VH (age <18 years) with cord compression. Surgery consisted of intra operative bilateral pedicular absolute alcohol injection and laminectomy at the level of pathology followed by a short segment instrumented fusion using pedicle screws and rod.

**Results:** 7 patients (Mean age of 14 years, range: 12 to 17 years, 5 females and 2 males) were treated using this technique. Clinical features included myelopathy with motor and sensory involvement in all (5 were paraplegic). The pre-operative American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA) scores were B(3), C(1), and D(1). All had pan vertebral body VH with severe cord compression. Immediate embolization was achieved in all patients allowing laminectomy and soft tissue hemangioma removal easily. Post-surgery, all patients showed improvement at a follow up ranging from 1 to 78 months. Post surgery ASIA scores were D(1) and E(6) at the last follow up.

**Conclusion:** This procedure seems to be a safe, efficient method to treat paediatric VH with severe cord compression. It seems to serve the purpose of providing embolization, cord decompression, rigid fusion at the same sitting.