Effects of growth hormone therapy in pediatric patients with growth hormone deficiency and Chiari I malformation: a retrospective study

Gregory W. Albert^{1,2}

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While reviewing our Chiari I database for a separate project, we identified an error in our recently accepted manuscript. In our paper, we described 20 patients with Chiari I malformation (CIM) and growth hormone deficiency (GHD). Fourteen patients received growth hormone replacement therapy (GHRT) and 6 patients did not. Our original manuscript indicated that “no patient became symptomatic, developed syringomyelia, or required surgical intervention for CIM.”

In fact, there is one patient in the cohort who had surgery for CIM. He was originally diagnosed with CIM at the age of

6 years. He had headaches on presentation. The headaches seemed to worsen after the initiation of GHRT. MRI was not repeated prior to surgery. His symptoms did improve after Chiari decompression.

We apologize for this error. However, even with this information, we would not change our ultimate conclusion that neurosurgeons should not hesitate to clear a patient with CIM and GHD for GHRT although follow-up is likely warranted.

✉ Gregory W. Albert
GAlbert2@uams.edu

¹ Division of Neurosurgery, Arkansas Children's Hospital, Little Rock, AR, USA

² Department of Neurosurgery, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR, USA