

## STUDY OF DORSAL SACRAL TRIANGLE IN HUMAN SACRA

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### Abstract

#### Introduction:

Sacrum is a triangular bone shaped by combination of five sacral vertebrae. It is embedded as a wedge between the two innominate bones at the upper and back portion of pelvic bone. The opening show at the caudal conclusion of sacral canal is known as sacral rest. It is shaped due to the disappointment of combination of laminae of the fifth (every so often 4th) sacral vertebra. It is situated inferior to the 4th (or 3rd) fused sacral spines or lower end of median sacral crest. Sacrum is a vital bone for recognizable proof of sex in human skeletal framework. Since it may be a component of hub skeleton and pelvic support, it has an applied significance in deciding sexual orientation with the assistance of estimation carried upon it. The well-known strategy for assurance of male and female sacra has been the Sacral file (SI). The varieties within the structure of dorsal divider of sacral canal are various. It may be open all through its whole length or there may be moo lying lamina of to begin with sacral vertebra. Other varieties incorporate lacks between its predominant and second rate limits, pulverization of lumen of sacral canal and hard abundance annihilating the break. The nearness of any gaps may allow the needle to elude the canal coming about in subcutaneous statement of anesthetic operator. The sacral hiatus has been used for administration of caudal epidural anesthesia in obstetrics as well as orthopedic practice for treatment and diagnosis. The foremost visit issue experienced in caudal epidural square is needle situation as in some cases it is troublesome to decide the anatomical area of sacral rest particularly in grown-ups. Clinical assessment of needle arrangement can be done with ultrasonography or fluoroscopy. In any case, it isn't continuously doable to do so since of time and cost limitations. Varieties have been found within the shape and level of sacral break. Anatomical points of interest and the information of real shape and size of sacral rest and its varieties play a major part within the victory of needle situation.

**Aim:** The main of this study is to find out the anatomical variations of sacral hiatus of the cadaver in human.

**Material and Methods:** This is a Cross-sectional study carried out on dry human sacra to study the anatomical variations of sacral hiatus. Total 80 human sacra were collected from Department of Anatomy. Only dry sacra with complete sacral hiatus were included in this study. Damaged sacra were excluded in this study. For the study various parameters and measurement were used for the study. With the help of naked eye the shape of the sacral hiatus was noted. The length of sacral hiatus was measured from apex to the midpoint of base; the antero-posterior depth of sacral hiatus at the apex was measured with the help of vernier calipers and recorded as data. With the help of vernier caliper the transverse width of sacral hiatus at the base was also measured between the inner aspects of inferior limit of the sacral cornu with the help of divider and then adjusted and calculated.

**Result:** In this all the sacrum studied was composed of five segments in 80 cases. There were many variations in the shape of sacral hiatus. In 38 (47.5%) sacra the shape was Inverted-U whereas sacra Inverted V was seen in 21(26.3%). Both the over sorts were considered as ordinary and the sacral break was show against 4th and 5th sacral sections. The irregular shaped of sacral hiatus was observed in 12(15%) cases. A "Dumbbell" shaped sacral hiatus was observed in 5(6.3%) cases with a nodular bony growth projecting medially from both margins. The dorsal wall of sacral canal was entirely absence in 3(3.8%) cases. a rare phenomenon, absence of sacral hiatus was observed in 1(1.3%) only.

**Conclusion:** There was variability in the anatomical structure of the sacral hiatus. The inverted U shape of sacral hiatus was most commonly seen. Apex and base of the hiatus were most commonly seen at the level of S4 and S5 respectively. These estimations will be of colossal esteem in administration of caudal epidural anesthesia and variations in shape and estimate of sacral rest will help in preoperative assessment of patients. There are anatomical varieties within the sacral break, which may relate to the complication to caudal epidural anesthesia. Understanding of these varieties may progress the victory rate of caudal epidural anesthesia.

**Keywords:** Sacrum, Sacral hiatus, apex, base, caudal epidural anaesthesia

## Introduction

Sacrum is a triangular bone shaped by combination of five sacral vertebrae. It is embedded as a wedge between the two innominate bones at the upper and back portion of pelvic bone. The opening show at the caudal conclusion of sacral canal is known as sacral rest. It is shaped due to the disappointment of combination of laminae of the fifth (every so often 4th) sacral vertebra. It is situated inferior to the 4th (or 3rd) fused sacral spines or lower end of median sacral crest<sup>i</sup>. On the surface the hiatus lies about two inches above the hip of coccyx beneath the skin of natal cleft. The structures of Sacrum passing through sacral hiatus are a pair of 5th sacral nerves, a pair of coccygeal nerves, filum terminale externam, which passes to coccyx and fibro-fatty tissue<sup>ii</sup>.

Sacrum is a vital bone for recognizable proof of sex in human skeletal framework. Since it may be a component of hub skeleton and pelvic support, it has an applied significance in deciding sexual orientation with the assistance of estimation carried upon it. The well-known strategy for assurance of male and female sacra has been the Sacral file (SI).<sup>iii</sup> The varieties within the structure of dorsal divider of sacral canal are various. It may be open all through its whole length or there may be moo lying lamina of to begin with sacral vertebra.

Other varieties incorporate lacks between its predominant and second-rate limits, pulverization of lumen of sacral canal and hard abundance annihilating the break. The nearness of any gaps may allow the needle to elude the canal coming about in subcutaneous statement of anesthetic operator.<sup>iv</sup> The sacral hiatus has been used for administration of caudal epidural anesthesia in obstetrics as well as orthopedic practice for treatment and diagnosis. The foremost visit issue experienced in caudal epidural square is needle situation as in some cases it is troublesome to decide the anatomical area of sacral rest particularly in grown-ups. Clinical assessment of needle arrangement can be done with ultrasonography or fluoroscopy. In any case, it isn't continuously doable to do so since of time and cost limitations. Varieties have been found within the shape and level of sacral break. Anatomical points of interest and the information of real shape and size of sacral rest and its varieties play a major part within the victory of needle situation<sup>v,vi&vii</sup>.

CEB is broadly utilized in urology, orthopaedics, proctology and common surgery separated from obstetrics for the determination and treatment. Subsequently intensive information of the anatomical highlights within the dorsal locale of sacrum in male and female sex will definitely lead to the decrease within

the number of disappointments of the talented clinician within the organization of caudal absense of pain. The show ponder is attempted to clarify the anatomic varieties of sacral break in male and female sex which may offer assistance for making strides the unwavering quality of caudal epidural piece<sup>viii</sup>. The nearness of abnormally huge rest may demonstrate perilous to life, owing to the chance of puncturing the dural sac and making an intradural infusion.

The total agenesis of the dorsal divider may be one of the uncommon contraindication to CEB since of the plausibility of puncturing the dura<sup>ix</sup>. It is also utilized for three-dimensional color visualization of lumbosacral epidural space<sup>x</sup>. The distal-most parcel of the dural sac ends at the level of S2—keeping in intellect the significance of deciding the anatomic area of the SH amid CEB. The equilateral triangle between summit of SH and superolateral sacral peaks or back predominant iliac spines is certainly of utilize in deciding the area of SH amid CEB<sup>xi</sup>. The main of this study is to find out the anatomical variations of sacral hiatus of the cadaver in human.

## Material and Methods:

This study was carried out in the department of Anatomy Saraswati Medical College and hospital, Unnao. This is a Cross-sectional study carried out on dry human sacra to study the anatomical variations of sacral hiatus. Total 80 human sacra were collected from Department of Anatomy. Only dry sacra with complete sacral hiatus were included in this study. Damaged sacra were excluded in this study. For the study various parameters and measurement were used for the study. With the help of naked eye the shape of the sacral hiatus was noted. The length of sacral hiatus was measured from apex to the midpoint of base; the antero-posterior depth of sacral hiatus at the apex was measured with the help of vernier calipers and recorded as data. With the help of vernier caliper the transverse width of sacral hiatus at the base was also measured between the inner aspects of inferior limit of the sacral cornu with the help of divider and then adjusted and calculated. The data were analysed with the help of SPSS version 15.0.

## Result:

In this all the sacrum studied was composed of five segments in 80 cases. There were many variations in the shape of sacral hiatus and is shown in table 1. In 38 (47.5%) sacra the shape was Inverted-U whereas sacra Inverted V was seen in 21(26.3%).

Both the over sorts were considered as ordinary and the sacral break was show against 4th and 5th sacral

sections. The irregular shaped of sacral hiatus was observed in 12(15%) cases. A “Dumbbell” shaped sacral hiatus was observed in 5(6.3%) cases with a nodular bony growth projecting medially from both margins. The dorsal wall of sacral canal was entirely absence in 3(3.8%) cases. a rare phenomenon, absence of sacral hiatus was observed in 1(1.3%) only.

**Table 1:** Showing the shape of sacral hiatus

Shape	Number	Percentage
Inverted- U	38	47.5
Inverted- V	21	26.3
Dumbbell	5	6.3
Irregular	12	15.0
Absence of dorsal wall	3	3.8
Absence of sacral hiatus	1	1.3
Total	80	100

In this study there showed variable between the levels of the apex of SH and that of base as shown in table no 2 and 3 below. The level of the apex of SH extended between middle of 3rd to middle of 5th sacral segments.

**Table 2:** Showing the level of Apex of Sacral hiatus with respect to level of sacral vertebra

Level of Apex	Number	Percentage
5th Sacral Vertebra	3	4.1
4th Sacral Vertebra	39	52.7
3rd Sacral Vertebra	32	43.2
Total	74	100

**Table 3:** Showing level of Base of Sacral hiatus with respect to level of sacral vertebra

Level of Base	Number	Percentage
5th Sacral Vertebra	66	89.2
4th Sacral Vertebra	3	4.1
1stcoccyx vertebra	5	6.8
Total	74	100.0

The antero-posterior depth of sacral canal at the apex ranged between 2mm to 9mm

**Table 4:** Length of Sacral hiatus from apex to midpoint of base

Length of sacral hiatus (mm)	Number (n= 74)	Percentage
0-10	8	10.8
11-20	31	41.9
21-30	21	28.4
31-40	13	17.6
41-50	1	1.4

**Table 5:** Transverse width of sacral hiatus at the base measured between the inner aspect of inferior limit of sacral cornua

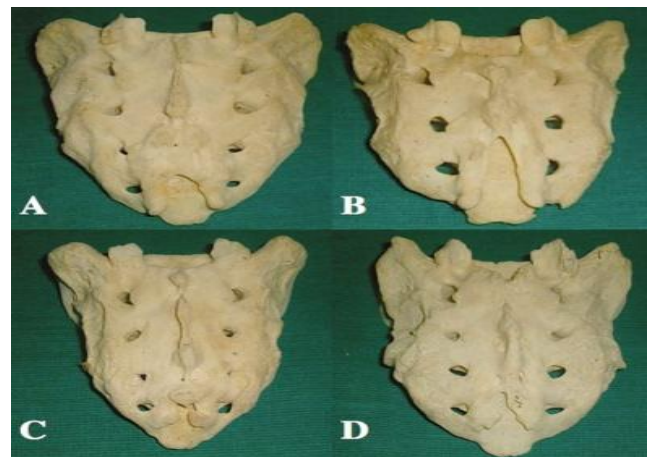
Transverse width (mm)	Number (n= 74)	Percentage
0-5	1	1.4
6-10	12	16.2
11-15	45	60.8
16-20	16	21.6

**Table 6:** Antero-posterior depth of sacral canal at the level of apex

AP depth (mm)	Number (n= 74)	Percentage
0-3	18	24.3
4-6	46	62.2
7-9	10	13.5



**Figure 1:** showing Type-III bifida on dorsal surface of sacrum. S1, S2, S3, S4 and S5 show sacral spine1 to spine 5, SSBO stands for sacral spina bifida occulta.



**Figure 2:** Shape of sacral hiatus. A) Inverted U shaped. B) Inverted V shaped. C) Dumbbell shaped, and D) Irregular shaped.

**Discussion:**

Varieties in anatomical highlights of sacral rest have clinical suggestions in strategy of caudal epidural anesthesia. With this foundation, morphometric think about of sacral break was carried out with reference to population of Maharashtra state of India as geological and racial factors have been seen to influence estimations. Three hundred dry sacra from different therapeutic colleges were included in this think about. Different pertinent measurements of sacral rest were taken and analyzed. The nitty gritty morphometric think about of sacral rest is of incredible pertinence, since this course is regularly utilized for caudal epidural anesthesia in perineal surgery and caudal absense of pain for a effortless conveyance<sup>xii</sup>.

In this study showed the shapes of sacral hiatus were mostly inverted-U shaped 47.5% and inverted-V 26.3% in which both type are consider as normal. Studied of Nagar et al<sup>xiii</sup> and Kumar et al<sup>xiv</sup> showed dumb-bell shape in 13.3% and 7.43% cases respectively which showed little bit more than this study. In a studied of Trotter et al<sup>xv</sup> showed cases of complete agenesis of sacral hiatus was 1.8% whereas in this study it was 1.3%. According to the studied of Kiran. V. et al<sup>xvi</sup> showed 1 sacrum as agenesis of sacral hiatus due to absence of dorsal wall of sacral canal out of 50 sacra (2%). Suma H Y et al<sup>xvii</sup> studied showed out of 150 sacra, inverted -U as 44%, inverted 28.27%, irregular 10.1%, dumbbell 12.3% and complete spina bifida 5.33%. In this study Length of sacral hiatus varied from 4mm to 43 mm and the arithmetic mean was 19.7mm and median was 19.1mm and reference range was between 6.7 to 38.6mm which showed similar to the study of Kumar V et al. Anteroposterior profundity of sacral canal at pinnacle of sacral break is imperative because it should be adequately huge to confess a needle.

Different diameters leads to subcutaneous testimony of soporific medicate. Within the display consider the antero-posterior profundity extended from 2 to 9 mm with number-crunching cruel of 4.0mm and middle of 4.0mm which is similar to the study of Edwards WB et al, Kumar V et al, Sekiguchi M et al and Lanier VS et al<sup>xviii</sup>. The study of Lanier et al<sup>xix</sup> showed bigger transverse width at base to be 19.3mm and Sekiguchi M et al<sup>xx</sup> showed a lower arithmetic mean of transverse width to be 10.2mm among.

**Conclusion:**

There was variability in the anatomical structure of the sacral hiatus. The inverted U shape of sacral hiatus was most commonly seen. Apex and base of the hiatus were most commonly seen at the level of S4 and S5

respectively. These estimations will be of colossal esteem in administration of caudal epidural anesthesia and variations in shape and estimate of sacral rest will help in preoperative assessment of patients. There are anatomical varieties within the sacral break, which may relate to the complication to caudal epidural anesthesia. Understanding of these varieties may progress the victory rate of caudal epidural anesthesia.

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