10. Don't forget the bone window: incidental findings in the cranial vault

- T. Simelane¹
- V. Georgieva²
- N. El Saeity²
- N. Ramesh²
- 1. Radiology Department, Kerry Hospital, Tralee,
- 2. Radiology Department, Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise

Purpose

The purpose of the presentation is to briefly review the various changes in the cranial vault seen on CT scan of the Brain

Methods and Materials

The skull vault {calvaria} consists of two cortical layers with the marrow in between. The skull vault consists of frontal, parietal, occipital, temporal and sphenoid bones separated by sutures. A wide variety of calvarial lesions are seen on CT scans particularly whilst assessing the images on bone windows

Results

The changes noted on the cranial vault include congenital, {traumatic}, inflammatory, benign and malignant lesions, normal variants, post surgical {burr holes, craniotomy, metabolic, hormonal and idiopathic {fibrous dysplasia} Most of these findings are incidental and asymptomatic. The radiological features depend on the site, size, shape, pattern, margins, periosteal reaction and associated findings.

Conclusions

It is important that radiologists recognize normal and abnormal changes in the cranial vault and not forget to review the bone windows whilst reporting CT brain scans as some changes can point to a remote cause or a systemic problem