

Hydrocephalus

HYDROCEPHALUS

Increased content of liquor at those sites in which it is normally contained

Onset: Congenital / acquired

Sites: Internal (intra-ventricular)

External (subarachnoideal)

Non-communicating (internal only)

Communicating (internal + external)

Clinical presentation:

Hypertensive (headache, vomiting, oedema of the papilla)

Normotensive (ex vacuo)

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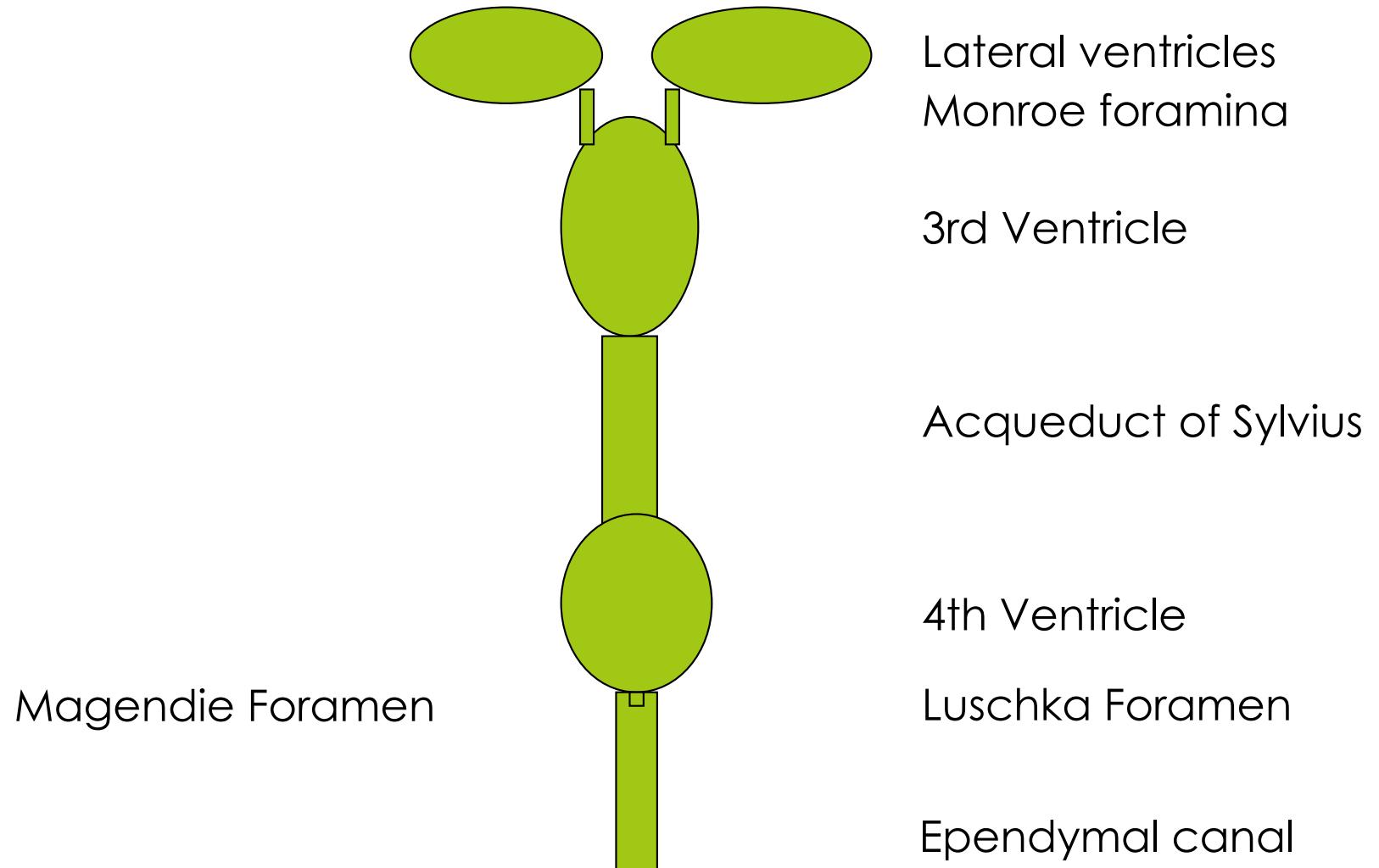
Pathogenesis

- Increased production
- Altered circulation
- Decreased resorption

Cephalo-rachidean liquor

Secretion: choroid plexuses

Resorption: Pacchioni's granules & arachnoideal villi



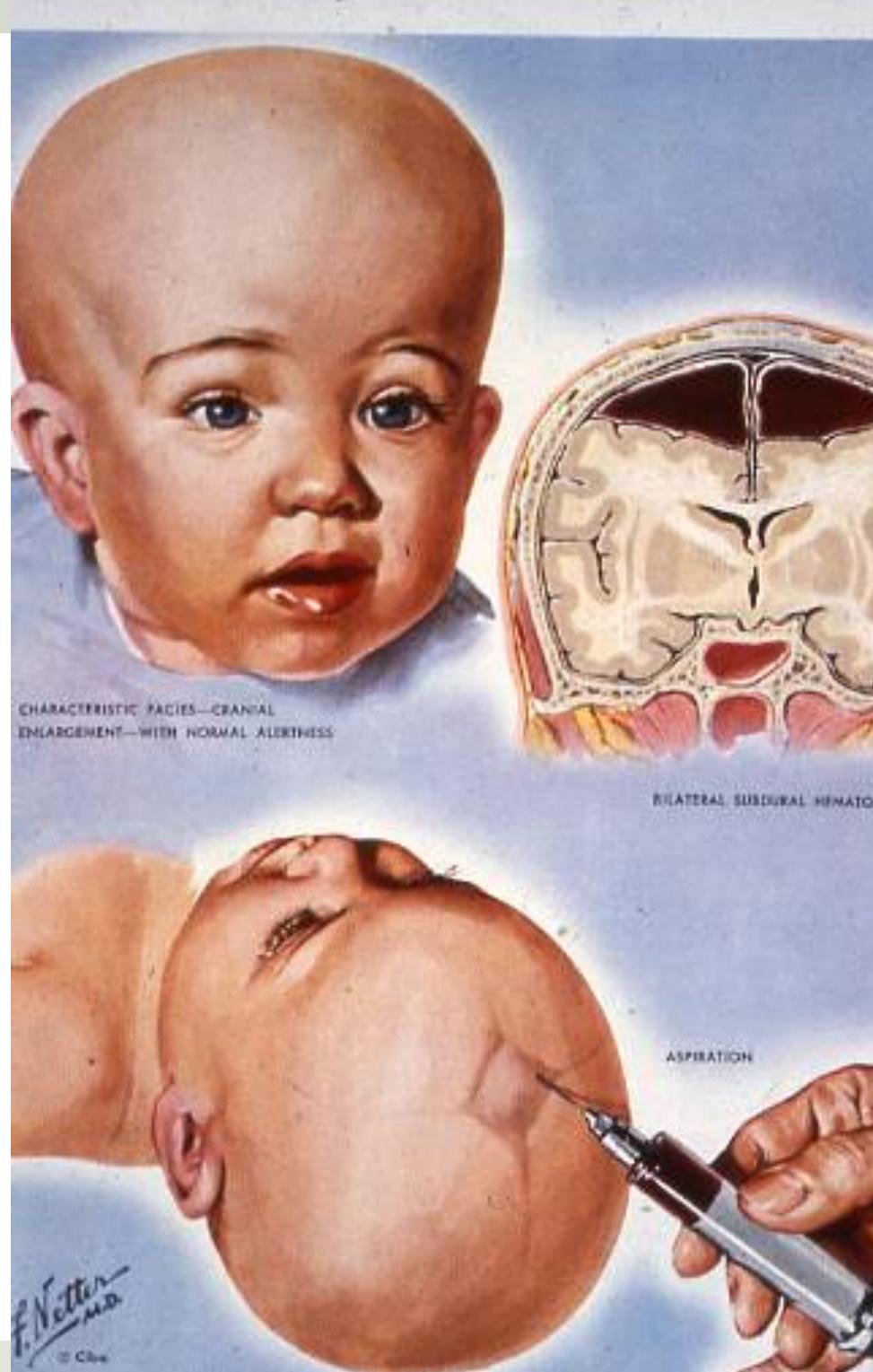
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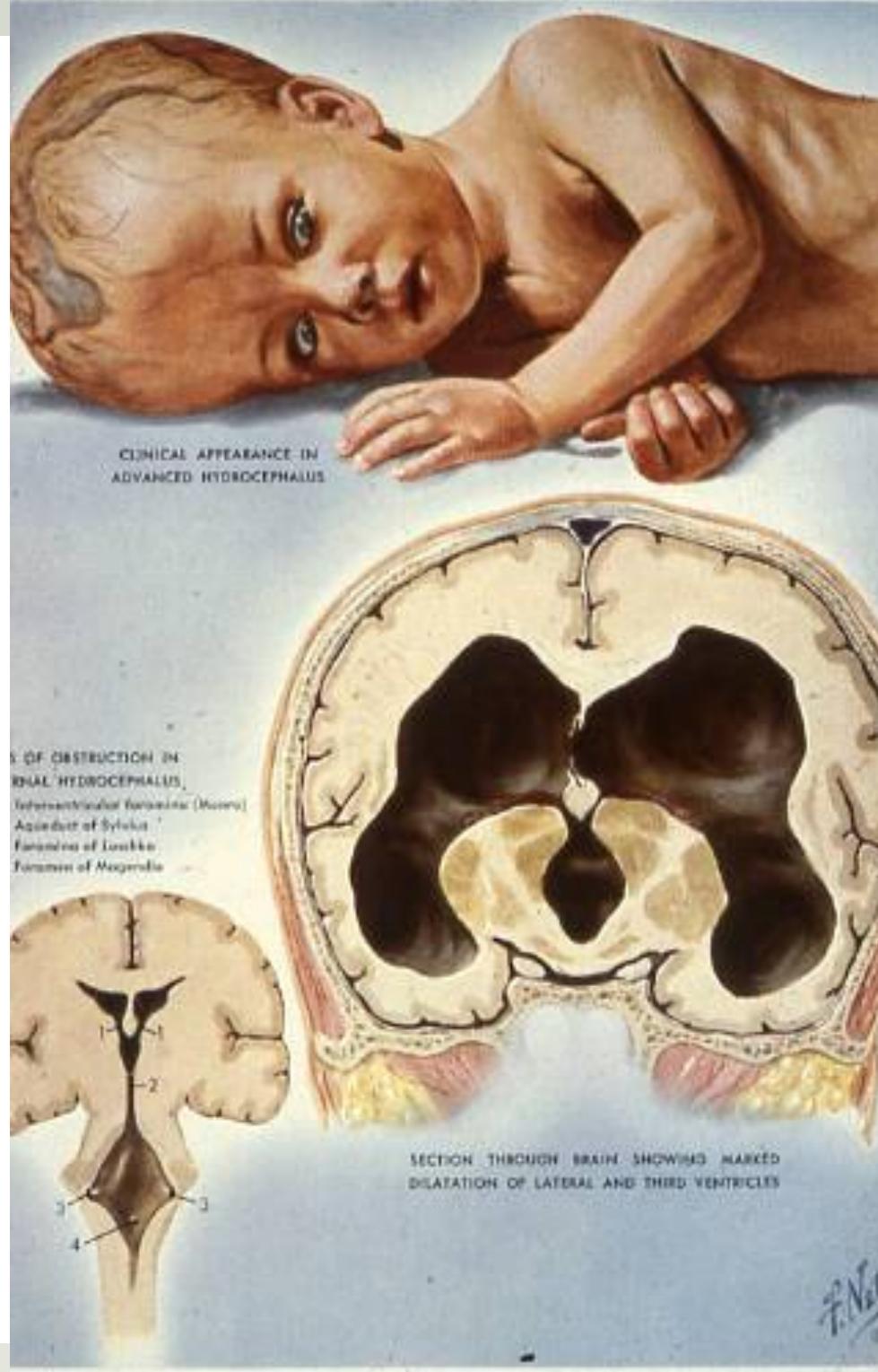
Congenital → Malformations

Stenosis

Atresia

- Aqueductus of Sylvius
- Magendie & Luschka foramina





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Acquired:

- Post-inflammatory (encephalitis, abscess)
- Post-ischaemic (infarct, haemorrhage)
- Neoplastic
 - Hyperproduction = plexus papilloma
 - Obstructive = ventricular-paraventricular neoplasms (astrocytoma, haemangioblastoma, medulloblastoma)
- Degenerative (ex vacuo) = brain atrophy

