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MR Imaging of Malformations of Cortical Development

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List of Abbreviations	
CC	Corpus Callosum
CINCA	Chronic Infantile Neurological, Cutaneous and Articular syndrome
CNS	Central nervous system
CSF	CerebroSpinal Fluid
DNET	Dysembryoplastic neuroepithelial tumors
DTI	Diffusion Tensor Imaging
FCD	Focal cortical dysplasia
FSE	Fast spin echo
GDD	Global developmental delay
GG	Ganglioglioma
HMEG	Hemimegalencephaly
НТР	Heterotopia
IVM	Isolated ventriculomegaly
LIS	Lissencephaly
MCD	Malformations of Cortical Development
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging

List of Abbreviations		
MRS	Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy	
NAA	N-acetyl acetate	
PMG	Polymicrogyria	
P-value	Probability value	
PVH	Periventricular heterotopia	
SCZ	Schizencephaly	
SD	Standard Deviation	
SGP	Simplified gyral pattern	
TS	Tuberous sclerosis	
VM	Ventriculomegaly	

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Introduction

Malformations of cortical development (MCDs) can be defined as structural abnormalities of the cerebral cortex caused by derangements in the developmental process due to various underlying etiologies, that could be genetic mutations, environmental factors (*Mischel et al.*, 1995) occured during antenatal, perinatal, or postnatal period, during corticogenesis or after corticogenesis (*Kumar et al.*, 2016).

MCDs are classified based on the earliest disruption of the developmental process, which include abnormal neuronal and glial proliferation or apoptosis, neuronal migration, postmigrational development and finally MCDs not otherwise classified. Malformations resulting from abnormalities of cell proliferation are microcephaly, megalencephaly, and cortical dysgeneses with abnormal cell proliferation. Disorders of neuronal migration may cause heterotopia, lissencephaly, subcortical heterotopia sublobar dysplasia also and and cobblestone malformations. Malformations secondary to abnormal postmigrational development can result in polymicrogyria,

schizencephaly, focal cortical dysplasias and postmigrational microcephaly (*Barkovich et al.*, 2012).

Disorders could be also classified according to their mode of inheritance (autosomal recessive, autosomal dominant, X-linked, polygenic in rare cases, etc.) and whether the disorder is clinically or genetically defined. therefore, this could help clinicians to classify their patients more easily, specially in complicated disorders (*Barkovich et al.*, 2012).

MCDs usually clinically present in childhood with epilepsy, developmental delay and focal neurological signs, while other patients may have normal or almost normal cognitive function with no seizures (*Montenegro et al.*, 2007).

Structural imaging findings of brain, especially magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) findings are the most important non-invasive technique for its diagnosis, which has greatly improved with the progress in the neuroimaging techniques, thus smaller lesions have been described (Alayón S, 2007). Many studies have found that underlying MCDs could be present in 23-26% cases of intractable or medication-

resistant childhood epilepsy in children and adolescents. So, MCDs should be excluded in every case of developmental delay, epilepsy or congenital neurological deficits by neuroimaging techniques (*Kumar et al., 2016*).