

Role of Endoscopic Third Ventriculostomy in Tuberculous Meningitis with Hydrocephalus

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Abbreviations

CISS	Constructive interference in steady state
CSF	Cerebrospinal fluid
CT	Computed tomography
ETV	Endoscopic third ventriculostomy
EVD	External ventricular drainage
ICP	Intracranial pressure
MR	Magnetic resonance
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
PC	Phase contrast
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
TBM	Tuberculous meningitis

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30.1 Introduction

Tuberculous meningitis (TBM) involves infection in the lung, regional lymph nodes, and meninges or brain parenchyma. There is development of subpial or subependymal foci of lesions, called Rich foci, which rupture into the subarachnoid space or ventricle. It continues to remain great public health challenge especially in developing world. TBM remains a diagnostic dilemma. There is a need for high index of clinical suspicion and better diagnostic tests for early detection of disease. Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) studies for detection of organism or biochemical examination

helps in diagnosis. CSF centrifugation optimizes the diagnostic performance [1]. The existence of high density within the basal cisterns in non-contrast computed tomography (CT) and basal enhancement after contrast administration is a good sign for the diagnosis of TBM [2]. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) can be an efficient method for diagnosis of TBM [3]. Presence of tuberculoma on choroid plexus or ventricle wall, though rare, may help in diagnosis [4].

Hydrocephalus is very common in TBM [5–7]. Early diagnosis of TBM hydrocephalus should be done by early follow-up CT scan (in first 7 days of first CT scan and at 1 month on one's discretion) [8]. Hydrocephalus can be categorized as obstructive, communicating, or due to union of both varieties [9]. Effective and early treatment of hydrocephalus can improve prognosis and decrease incidence of infarct. Shunt procedures and endoscopic third ventriculostomy (ETV) are being used to manage hydrocephalus in TBM. Endoscopic techniques are increasingly used in spine [10–14], cranial [15, 16], and skull base lesions [17–20] in recent times due to the minimally invasive nature, safety, and better outcome. Endoscopic procedures are being used in various types of pathologies such as hematomas [21, 22], congenital lesions [23–25], infective pathologies [26, 27], and tumors [28–30] with encouraging results.

Although role of ETV is controversial in communicating hydrocephalus and in acute phase of disease, its role is established as an alternative to shunt procedures for obstructive hydrocephalus in TBM [31–43]. Comparatively poor results of hydrocephalus due to TBM stress the need for early diagnosis and prompt treatment. Although many factors are related to final outcome, clinical stage of disease at diagnosis and presence of hydrocephalus play an important role in prognosis.

30.2 Indications of Endoscopic Third Ventriculostomy

Although hydrocephalus in early stages of TBM with mild ventriculomegaly may resolve completely in some cases, especially of communicating variety [7], majority of them need some kind

of surgery. Modified external ventricular drainage (EVD) and Ommaya reservoir implantation of about 2 weeks can avoid possible complications and long-term indwelling shunt in majority (66%) of patients in early TBM who have mild or moderate hydrocephalus [44, 45].

ETV is indicated in obstructive hydrocephalus in TBM. Although there are reports of ETV being performed in communicating hydrocephalus [35], lumbar peritoneal shunts have been found to be better option in such cases [46, 47]. Selected patients of communicating hydrocephalus with inferior bulging of third ventricle floor or anterior bulging of lamina terminalis can show improvement after ETV. This procedure of ETV not only relieves raised pressure in TBM hydrocephalus (38) but it also helps in making correct diagnosis in suspected cases by detecting tubercles on the wall of the ventricle during surgery. Endoscopy is now treated as the first choice compared to shunt surgery in TBM hydrocephalus especially in chronic stage of disease [40].

Although there was some doubts whether shunt should be done in severe form of TBM hydrocephalus, there are now reports that all patients should be treated with shunts even in poor grades [48–50]. Likewise ETV is also indicated in good as well as in poor grades in TBM as some patients in poor grades could show delayed recovery [36, 39]. Although ETV can be done in the presence of thick exudates and even in patients with preoperative suprasellar tuberculoma especially in expert hands [51], it should be avoided in the acute stage especially in untreated patients [31, 52], because of variable success [5]. ETV in subacute and chronic cases looks to be a rationale for first-line treatment [31, 34, 39, 43, 53].

EVD or Ommaya reservoir after ETV may be useful when there is evidence of doubtful functioning of stoma (poor pulsations at stoma margin, exudates in basal cistern, acute phase of TBM, evidence of intraventricular bleed, multiple shunt failure, poor flow of dye across stoma, and poor disappearance of contrast) or cisternal scarring. Intraoperative decision about shunt surgery is indicated in technically difficult case due to thick and inflamed floor with poor differentiation of anatomy, cisternal scarring,

poor pulsations of stoma margin, poor flow of dye across stoma, and delayed clearance of contrast from the basal cisterns.

30.3 Preoperative Workup and Patient Selection

Patients undergoing ETV in TBM hydrocephalus should have sufficiently large lateral or third ventricles and enlarged foramen of Monro to accommodate endoscopic set; otherwise, it could cause injury to ventricle walls or the fornix. It is important to know whether third ventricle floor is thin or thick. Thin third ventricle floor patients are good candidates for ETV, surgery is comparatively simple technically, and the ETV success rate is also good in such cases. Good prepontine space and the absence of basal exudate also favor ETV. There should be sufficient space between brain stem and dorsum sellae and also between basilar artery and dorsum sellae. The distance between midline and posterior communicating artery or third cranial nerve should be known, as small distance predisposes artery or nerve injury during procedure. Presence of large interthalamic adhesions can also create difficulty during the procedure. Although one can observe the presence of any additional membrane such as Liliequist membrane or other membranes after fenestration of third ventricle floor and such membrane can be dealt appropriately intraoperatively, preoperative knowledge prepares surgeon to deal it better. Liliequist membrane if present may be attached to the third nerve, which can risk nerve injury during fenestration. Cistern status is also a critical factor in patient outcome; scarred basal cistern not only adds in the technical difficulty during surgery but also associated with poor outcome.

Patent distal subarachnoid spaces and proper CSF absorption are also necessary for good outcome after ETV. Although it is challenging to measure lumbar outflow resistance preoperatively in a patient requiring ETV, low lumbar outflow resistance suggests good CSF absorption and patent subarachnoid space. Increased outflow resistance could be due to compression of sub-

arachnoid space secondary to dilated ventricle, obliterated subarachnoid space, and/or defective CSF absorption. Although low lumbar outflow resistance generally suggests favorable subarachnoid space, good CSF absorption, and good outcome after ETV, high resistance may not be associated with poor outcome. High resistance could also be due to compression of subarachnoid space secondary to dilated ventricles.

Complex hydrocephalus (combination of both obstructive and communicating hydrocephalus) is quite common in TBM cases [9, 39]. This is due to obliterated basal cisterns or subarachnoid space and/or defective CSF absorption. Cine phase-contrast (PC) magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) can be used for detection of any abnormality in basal cisterns. Detection of early CSF stroke volume in interpeduncular and prepontine cisterns can predict patency of basal cisterns and CSF flow through these cisterns. Good CSF flows in basal cistern alone do not give surety of successful outcome following ETV; distal CSF pathways ahead of the basal cisterns also play crucial role in ETV successfulness [54].

30.4 Surgical Procedure

TBM hydrocephalus is technically demanding to manage endoscopically as compared to other types and needs good skill and training, especially in acute cases [31, 55]. ETV procedure has been depicted elsewhere in our publication [56]. Although semi-sitting position has been described, ETV is generally operated in supine position with head flexed so that the burr hole site is at the uppermost point. Highest site of burr hole averts excessive drainage of CSF and an entrance of air in the ventricles and subdural space, especially in large ventricles. Although ETV can be done free hand without using any telescope holder, use of scope holder is helpful when procedure is prolonged and during introduction and removal of instruments. It can also give rest to the hand, which is holding the assembly. Telescope holder can be tightened or loosened when required. We used holder in a loose knob position during most of the procedure.



Fig. 30.1 Training lab photographs showing (a) assistant supporting joints of telescope holder with loosened knob, which prevents strain on surgeon's hand. It also prevents time loss in loosening or tightening. (b) Left hand of sur-

geon holding endoscope sheath while well-supported right hand being used for surgical maneuver. (c) Camera can be supported by body part

Assistant is supporting the holder at tightening knob area and near the joint regions to allow better control and to decrease strain on the hand of the surgeon which is holding endoscope assembly (Fig. 30.1). Excessive drainage of CSF may also precipitate for postoperative subdural hematoma formation. Lateral and third ventricle along with foramen of Monro should be sufficiently large. If there is a slit ventricle secondary to overdrainage in already shunted patient, it is necessary to externalize the shunt to adequately dilate ventricles. Stereotactic guidance along with smaller size of the scope or flexible scope can be used in such patients. Although ETV can be done by flexible scope, we use rigid scope because of better visualization.

A line spanning from interpeduncular cistern and foramen of Monro onto the cranium in preoperative MRI scan accurately determines an exact site of burr hole. Incision just in front to the coronal suture and approximately 2.5–3 cm lateral to the midline on the right side is usually adequate for ETV. Proper direction of brain penetration should be used to reach lateral ventricle at foramen of Monro. Although facility of image guidance can help, marking on the skin near the incision in the direction toward external auditory meatus before patient is draped helps when image guidance facility is not available (Fig. 30.2). Brain cannula is used to perforate ventricle, and then endoscope protected by the sheath is introduced. Peel-away sheath of slightly larger diameter than the endoscope is generally used if the scope does not have sheath. Some systems have sheaths with scope; in such cases peel-away sheath is not required. Peel-



Fig. 30.2 Thick and short arrow pointing skin incision. Marking on the skin in the direction toward external auditory meatus (thin and long arrow), which guides brain penetration toward foramen of Monro

away sheath or other sheath avoids lens soiling and brain injury due to repeated scope introduction. It also helps in egress of irrigation fluid and avoids pressure built up. Lactate solution irrigation of normal body temperature implying gravity pressure as against to any pressure procedure is good which avoids any barotraumas to the brain.

Telescope is introduced through the foramen of Monro into the third ventricle after identification of junction of thalamostriate vein, septal vein, and choroid plexus. Perforation in the third ventricle floor is made between mammillary bodies and infundibular recess, at the most translucent site. Identification of basilar artery should be done to avoid trauma and hemorrhage during the procedure. Perforation should be done anterior to the basilar artery or its branches. Trajectory in ETV in

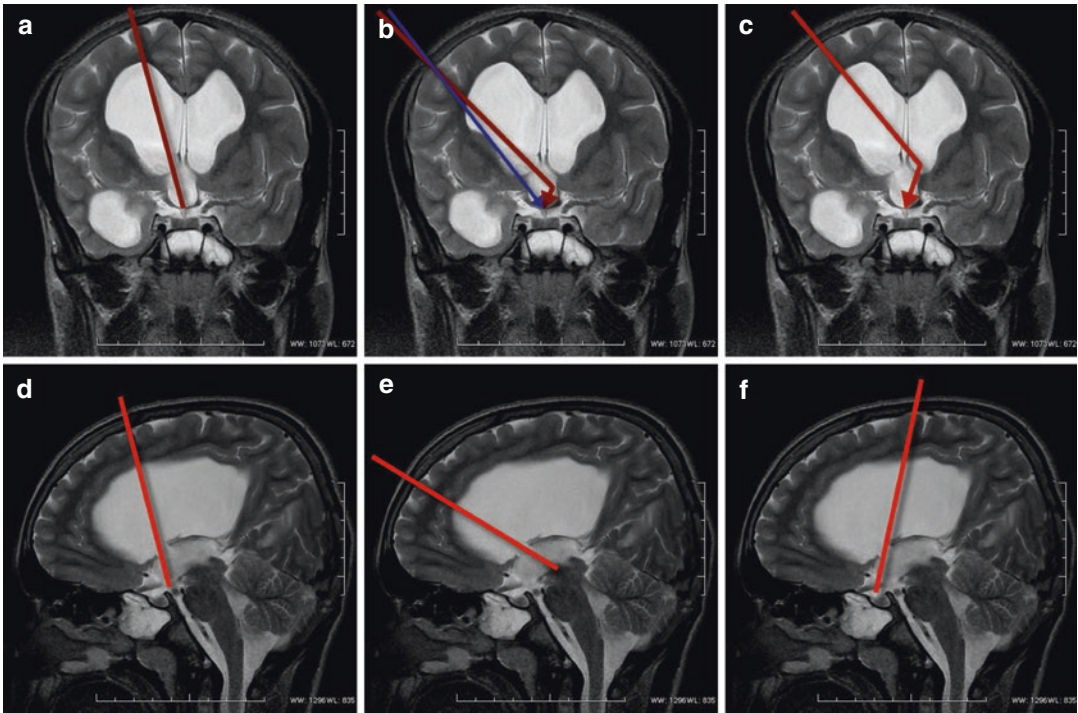


Fig. 30.3 Showing (a) correct trajectory in ETV in coronal plane as medial as possible to reach third ventricle floor in midline using rigid scope. (b) Wrong lateral trajectory and (c) entry through contralateral foramen of Monro risking unilateral and bilateral fornix injury,

respectively. (d) Correct trajectory in sagittal plane to reach third ventricle floor in between mammillary bodies and infundibular recess. Wrong (e) anterior and (f) posterior trajectory risking fornix injury

sagittal and coronal plane using rigid scope should be properly planned to avoid fornix injury (Fig. 30.3). Although slow and gentle movement up to about 5 mm has been found to be safe [57], such movements generally should be desisted to avoid fornix injury. If working channel is not opposite to the desired site of interest in the floor of third ventricle, rotation of assembly in desired direction should be done (Fig. 30.4). Microvascular Doppler probe could be effective to see basilar artery and its subdivisions if these structures are not visualized endoscopically. Disciplined probing with the round equipment, if the facility of Doppler is not accessible, can identify position of dorsum sellae. Water-jet dissection approach can be utilized to avoid vascular injury or hemorrhage in thick and opaque third ventricle floor [32, 58]. Fenestration in thin third ventricle floor is just behind the dorsum sellae, and in front of basilar artery while in thick floor, it should be made

partly on dorsum sellae and partly just posterior to dorsum sellae. Perforation on the bony part in thick floor prevents stretch of third ventricle wall and related complications. Such stretch in already bulging third ventricle wall can cause third cranial nerve injury apart from bleeding from distant site. Blunt instruments should be used preferably to fenestrate third ventricle floor to prevent vascular injury. Although we do not prefer thermal coagulation especially in thin floor, initial use of low bipolar current helps in making fenestration in thick floor and also to avoid excessive stretch on floor. Original perforation is enlarged to about 5 mm or more size by utilizing Fogarty catheter or ventriculostomy forceps. Liliequist membrane or other membrane can be found in some cases, lying below the third ventricle floor. Such membrane should be perforated under endoscopic control. Septum pellucidum perforation along with ETV could be technically difficult as the proper

Fig. 30.4 Line diagram showing that if working channel is not opposite to the desired site of perforation in third ventricle floor, clockwise or counterclockwise rotation of assembly in desired direction should be done rather than linear movement to prevent fornix injury

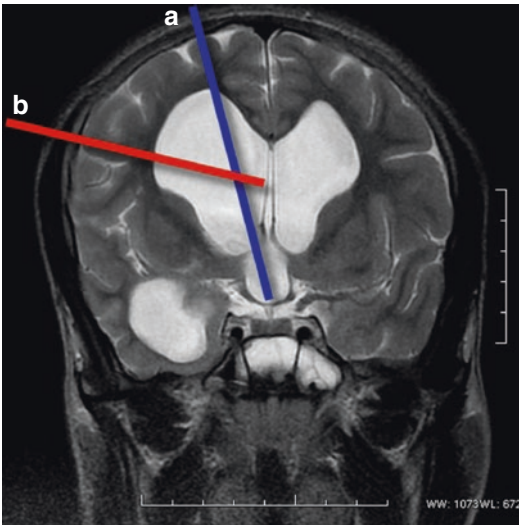
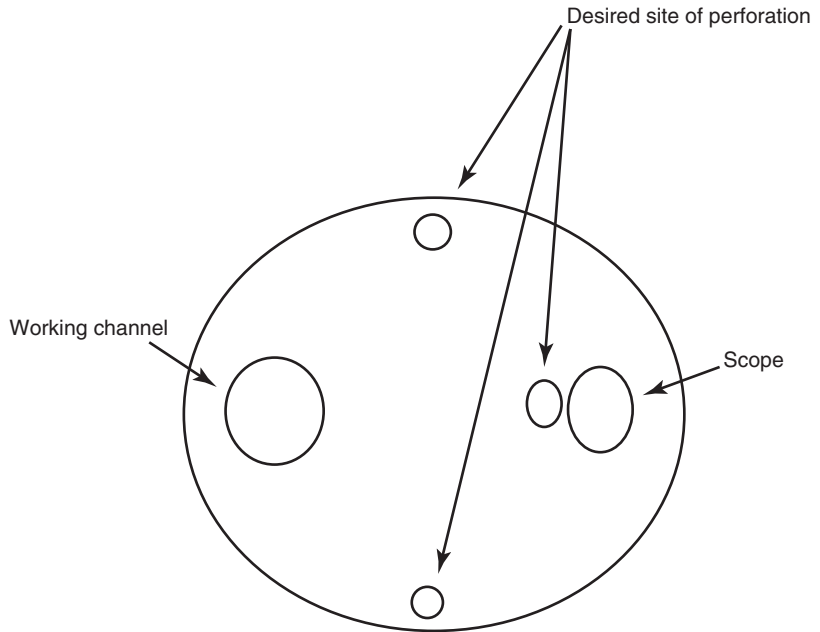


Fig. 30.5 Showing proper trajectory for (a) ETV and (b) septum perforation is different in coronal plane. It is technically difficult to do both procedures using single trajectory

trajectory for ETV and septum perforation is different in coronal plane (Fig. 30.5). Using gentle bipolar coagulation and grasping forceps with one limb side opening can make ETV and septum perforation possible by single trajectory (Fig. 30.6).

All the procedure should be done under constant visualization; if any part of the instrument is not seen, it is either due to very high magnification, scope too close to target area, or when scope and the two limbs of instrument are in straight line. Decreasing magnification, slight withdrawal of scope away from target area, and rotation of instrument in such a way that the scope and the two limbs of instrument make triangular orientation allow proper visualization (Fig. 30.7).

Good pulsations of stoma margin are a good indicator of stoma opening and cisternal status. If there is any doubt about the patency of stoma or basal cisterns after ETV during surgery, an intra-operative evaluation by ventriculo-stomography can provide valuable information [59]. Contrast flow through the stoma and its disappearance from subarachnoid spaces can be observed. Fast disappearance of contrast is a good indicator of stoma and cisternal patency. This simple and effective method can help in verifying the competency of endoscopic approach, thereby helping in taking decision about further management during surgery, such as requirement for shunt if there is slow disappearance of contrast [59, 60].

ETV is likely to be effective if there is favorable anatomy of third ventricle floor, good pulsations of

Fig. 30.6 There are generally two types of forceps: (a) both limbs opening and (b) single limb opening. Technical difficulty using single trajectory for ETV and septum perforation can be overcome by (b) one limb side opening forceps, which helps in septum perforation

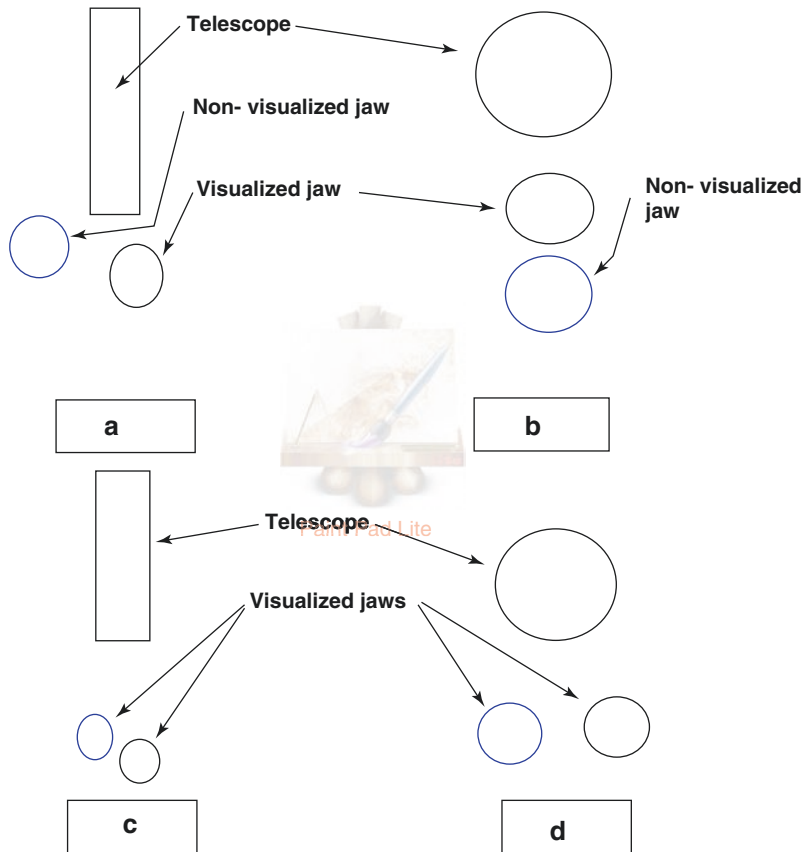
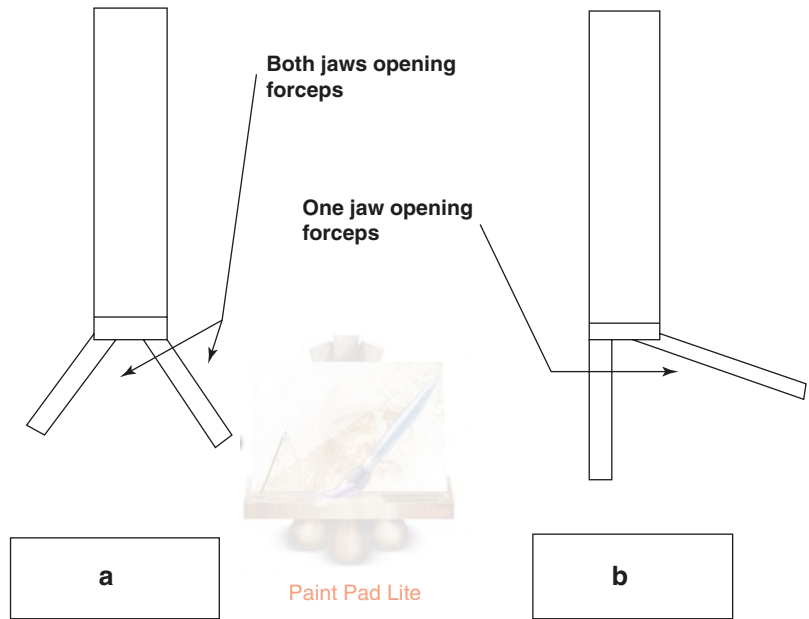


Fig. 30.7 Nonvisualization of instrument is due to very high magnification, (a) scope too close to target area, or (b) when scope and the two limbs of instrument are in straight line. Decreasing magnification, (c) slight withdrawal of scope away from target area, and (d) rotation of instrument in such a way that the scope and the two limbs of instrument make triangular orientation allow proper visualization

stoma margins, and good basal cistern without any exudates or scarring. If there is any doubt about stoma or cisternal patency due to not so good stoma pulsations or slow disappearance of dye during intraoperative period, EVD or Ommaya reservoir can be kept which can be used to assess stoma patency in postoperative period. An EVD is also left if there is any small bleeding during procedure. Although some researchers practice use of reservoir routinely, it is useful in certain high-risk patients [61–63] for ETV failure with poor stoma pulsations, patients with repeated shunt malfunctions, cisternal scarring, and acute phase of disease if one opt for ETV. Intraoperative decision of shunt placement can be taken if there is unfavorable third ventricle floor anatomy increasing risk of ETV, other technical difficulties due to thick floor, abnormally enlarged interthalamic adhesions, inflamed floor, poor stoma pulsations, prolonged hold of dye in cistern, etc. (Fig. 30.8).

Choroid plexus coagulation can improve success rate of ETV especially in infants. Any hemorrhage from cortical surface should be stopped by electrocautery. If there is any bleeding from perforation margin, instrument used for fenestra-

tion (Fogarty catheter or ventriculostomy forceps) should be used for tamponade effect. It is not desirable to remove that instrument and bring cautery to stop that bleeding point (by the time cautery forceps is brought near the point, visualization of bleeding point may become difficult). Intermittent closure of outflow channel could help in visualization of bleeding point.

ETV after slit ventricle syndrome in TBM hydrocephalus could be challenging. It is difficult to hit small ventricle; the use of small flexible scope, stereotactic guidance using small scope, dilatation of ventricle by exteriorization, and blockage of shunt tube can be used to help ETV procedure. Endoscopic lamina terminalis fenestration as an alternative site of perforation has been described for treatment of hydrocephalus in TBM when the usual site in third ventricle floor is not favorable for perforation [64]. Endoscopic subfrontal approach to the lamina terminalis fenestration has also been described in cadavers by Spena et al. [65].

30.4.1 Results of ETV

Overall, clinical improvement after ETV alone ranges from 58% to 80% in various series [34, 36, 39, 40, 66]. We reported 58% improvement after ETV alone that improved to 80% when lumbar peritoneal shunt was added [39]. Outcome after ETV is superior in without cisternal exudate patients compared to those with exudates [34, 39]. Good nutritional status patients generally have better outcome compared to poor nutritional status patients [39]. ETV is reasonably effective and safe in full-term normal birth weight infants as compared to low birth weight premature infants [39]. Thin and identifiable third ventricle floor patients have better outcome after ETV as compared to thick and opaque floor (Fig. 30.9) [39, 67]. Although age did not make any difference in clinical outcome in most studies [33, 68], adult patients could fair slightly well compared to children [39]. Outcome is superior in better grade compared to patients in poor grade [34, 39].

Majority of patients show early improvement [36, 39]; delayed improvement is also observed. Patients in superior grades generally improve early as compared to poor grade who show delayed

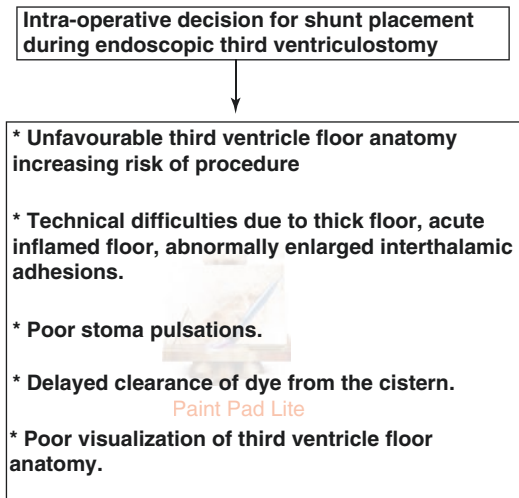


Fig. 30.8 Intraoperative decision of shunt placement can be taken if there is unfavorable third ventricle floor anatomy increasing risk of ETV, other technical difficulties due to thick floor, abnormally enlarged interthalamic adhesions, inflamed floor, poor stoma pulsations, prolonged hold of dye in cistern, poor visualization of third ventricle floor, etc.

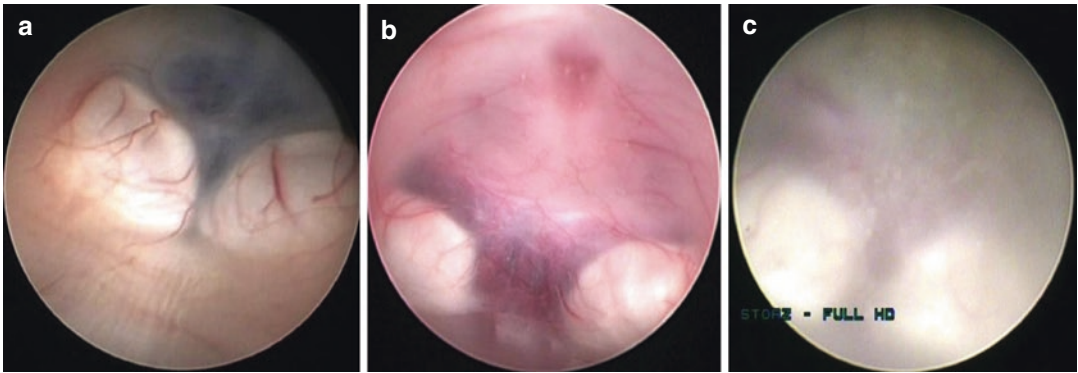


Fig. 30.9 Third ventricle floor can be (a) thin (usually in subacute and chronic phase) or (b, c) thick variety (generally in acute phase or following hemorrhage)

recovery [39]. Outcome after ETV in the chronic phase is superior compared to acute phase [39, 69]. Poor results in acute phase is due to higher incidence of complex hydrocephalus compared to chronic stage [39] which is among significant factor as causes of failure to improve after ETV.

Outcome of ETV in TBM hydrocephalus is poor compared to aqueductal stenosis secondary to congenital cause. The comparatively poor outcome after ETV in TBM compared to aqueductal stenosis is secondary to high prevalence of complex hydrocephalus [9, 39]. The obliteration of CSF pathways and defective absorption of CSF from arachnoid villi can result in persistently elevated intracranial pressure (ICP) in TBM after ETV. Faulty absorption and/or obliteration of CSF pathways in complex hydrocephalus can be temporary or permanent [9]. Most of the patients have temporary defect of absorption, and these patients can be managed by repeated lumbar puncture after ETV before labeling them as failed ETV patients [39, 70]. Repeated lumbar puncture supports by augmenting compliance, improving buffering capacities of the spinal subarachnoid spaces, and decreasing the CSF outflow resistance from the ventricular system. It also promotes reduction in the ventricular volume and allows accelerated permeation of CSF in the intracranial subarachnoid spaces. The chances of complex hydrocephalus in acute phase of disease are more as compared to chronic phase [39]. It is therefore better to do shunt surgery and avoid ETV in acute phase of the disease [31].

The advanced age, neurological status at admission, vaccine status, ischemia, etc. determine prognosis [71]. BCG vaccination might be protective from advance disease as most patients who were vaccinated were seen in early stage of TBM disease [72].

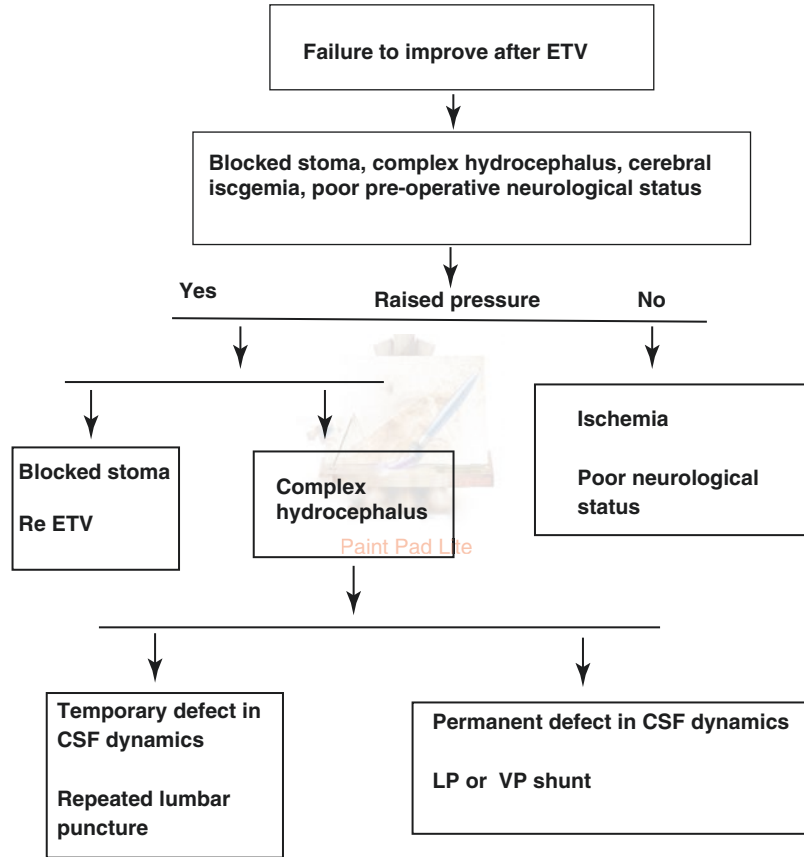
30.4.2 Radiological Outcome

The size of ventricle does not reduce in 3 weeks in about 50% individuals [39]. There may not be any interrelationship between clinical and radiological recovery. Clinical recovery is earlier than the radiological recovery in most patients. In some individuals there may be clinical recovery without any radiological recovery. On the other hand, there may be radiological recovery without any clinical recovery, in few patients, mainly due to associated ischemic infarcts.

30.4.3 Causes of Failure to Improve After ETV and Its Management

There can be many causes of failure to improve after ETV such as block stoma, ischemia, complex hydrocephalus, advanced age, poor neurological status at the time of surgery, etc. (Fig. 30.10). Deterioration after ETV does not always imply that the ETV is not working. Stoma patency does not always suggest that the ETV is efficient

Fig. 30.10 Flow diagram showing various causes of failure to improve after ETV in TBM hydrocephalus and their management



in decreasing ICP. Complex hydrocephalus is one of the significant causes of failure to improve after surgery. Complex hydrocephalus could be due to temporary or permanent defect in the CSF dynamics. Repeated lumbar puncture can manage temporary defect in CSF dynamic abnormality, while lumbar peritoneal shunt could be required when there is a persistently raised ICP even after repeated lumbar puncture. One should be very careful in selecting lumbar peritoneal shunt surgery in TB as there may be associated TB compression at various levels in the spine [73–78]. Repeat ETV is required to treat blocked stoma.

30.4.4 Complications and Its Avoidance

Although endoscopic techniques are having many advantages, procedure could be associated

with many limitations. Such complications should be anticipated to improve results [79, 80]. Although ETV procedure is fairly simple, learning curve of the procedure can be improved by microsurgical skills training, practice on cadaver or models, watching expert surgeons, and visiting other departments [81].

ETV technique could be associated with various complications such as hypothermia or disturbance in temperature regulation, intraventricular bleeding, pneumocephalus, bradycardia, fornix injury, hypothalamic injury, cranial nerve injury, failed ETV, endoscopic blind spot, delayed awakening, block stoma, subdural hematoma, intracerebral hemorrhage, CSF leak, chronic subdural hematoma or subdural hygroma, etc. Although rare, mortalities due to fatal hemorrhage have been reported. Details of these complications are described in Table 30.1 and in our earlier publications [79, 80].

Table 30.1 Various complications, avoidance of complications, and its management in endoscopic third ventriculostomy

Complications with their etiologies	Complication avoidance and management
<p><i>Hypothermia or disturbance in temperature regulation:</i> Small children Exchanges of large amount of irrigation fluid with ventricular cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) Wetting of drapes Hypothalamic injury Use of electrocautery for fenestration of third ventricle floor</p>	<p>Pre-warmed irrigation fluid and blankets Use small amount of irrigation fluid especially in infants Avoid drape wetting by using drainage line connected to outflow channel Midline perforation in third ventricle floor Electrical energy should be avoided</p>
<p><i>Intraventricular bleeding:</i> Blood might dribble from the burr hole site into lateral ventricle Increased risk in postinfection and hemorrhage patients Excessive and jerky side movements in ventricle Flexible scope removed in curved tip position After incomplete removal or biopsy of intraventricular lesion Wrong entry (too far away from foramen of Monro: anterior or posterior) in the lateral ventricle and then surgeon trying to enter third ventricle by moving the scope Injury to intraventricular bands Repeated insertion of scope without the use of sheath Direct ventricular access by the telescope Use of sharp-edged sheath Injury to interthalamic adhesion</p>	<p>Achieve good hemostasis before penetrating the ventricle and by keeping patties around the sheath Water-jet dissection in opaque and thick floor of third ventricle Removal of flexible scope in a neutral position Peel-away sheath or other sheath should be used to maintain tract to avoid surrounding brain injury if repeated introduction of telescope is required Avoid sharp-edged sheaths Use proper trajectory for lateral ventricle toward external auditory meatus, reenter at a correct site if there is the wrong entry rather than too much movements to enter foramen of Monro Avoid stretching of the floor of third ventricle during perforation, by using initial sharp perforation or electrocautery, in tough third ventricle floor. Hemorrhage from distant vessel could be caused by stretching Hemorrhage and injury to the fornix can be prevented by avoiding significant side movement Proper inspection of underlying vessels before perforation or dilatation can avoid injury to vessels Avoid injury to any vessel during dilatation of stoma when closed ventriculostomy forceps is opened or inflated Fogarty is pulled in third ventricle. Retracting forceps should be partially withdrawn into the third ventricle before it is fully opened. Penetration in floor should be anterior to basilar artery and in midline Using blunt probe for perforation of thin floor Although direct penetration by scope tip should be abstained, angled part of scope should be facing posteriorly to push basilar artery if angled endoscope is used for perforation Use lactated Ringer irrigation for small bleeding It is detrimental to remove ventriculostomy forceps or catheter and to bring bipolar forceps for coagulation, as there is usually a no clear vision by the time the electrocautery forceps is brought in the field Gently keep the same equipment or reinflate catheter on the site of bleeding. Electrocauterization may be undertaken later on if the tamponade effect fails Better visualization of the bleeding point could be helped by intermittent closure of the outflow channel or by forceful irrigation</p>

(continued)

Table 30.1 (continued)

Complications with their etiologies	Complication avoidance and management
	<p>Scope should be kept in the field in severe bleeding, rather than taking it out. Telescope should be positioned in lateral ventricle rather than in third ventricle as even slight movement in the small cavity could produce more hemorrhage. Scope can be withdrawn, but the sheath should be kept in place</p> <p>Remove intraventricular blood before taking out the endoscope assembly</p> <p>Put ventricular drain in residual oozing</p> <p>Liquid can be carefully replaced by equal amount of air, and then bleeding point should be coagulated</p> <p>Rapid conversion to open surgery when hemorrhage is not controlled by any of these procedure</p>
<p><i>Pneumocephalus:</i></p> <p>More losing of CSF</p> <p>Wrong burr hole site (not on uppermost point)</p> <p>Nitrous oxide anesthesia</p>	<p>Burr hole at the uppermost site</p> <p>Small dural and brain opening</p> <p>Flushing out air from the irrigation tube, filling the burr hole site with liquid</p> <p>Minimize CSF loss</p> <p>Avoid nitrous oxide</p>
<p><i>Bradycardia:</i></p> <p>Raised intracranial pressure (ICP) such as forceful and rapid rate irrigation, blocked outflow channel, and both foramina of Monro are blocked by the scope</p> <p>Too cold fluid irrigation of different osmolarity as compared to plasma</p> <p>Pressure on the hypothalamus by balloon</p> <p>Saline irrigation</p> <p>Stretch on wall of third ventricle</p>	<p>Make sure that outflow is patent and the liquid is flowing out</p> <p>Volume of the cardiac monitor should be turned up, and the noise of the operating room should be low for detection of bradycardia</p> <p>Last action should be reversed when there is bradycardia or asystole</p> <p>Isotonic solution should be used at body temperature</p> <p>Sharp penetration when there is tough floor of third ventricle and initiation of hole in third ventricle by gentle bipolar coagulation</p> <p>Slow and judicious irrigation at a rate of 10 ml/min</p> <p>Avoid pressure by catheter on hypothalamus</p>
<p><i>Fornix injury:</i></p> <p>Small size of foramen of Monro</p> <p>Burr hole which is placed anteriorly, posteriorly, or laterally</p> <p>Entrance in contralateral lateral ventricle could injure both fornix</p> <p>Removal of flexible telescope in curved tip position</p> <p>Avoiding direct ventricular tap which extends more than 5–6 cm from the burr hole site</p> <p>Large diameter sheath</p> <p>Misdirected entry in ventricle</p>	<p>Burr hole at proper site</p> <p>Avoid substantial side movements</p> <p>Proper case selection with enlarge foramen of Monro</p> <p>Use of small dimension of scope</p> <p>Increasing size of the foramen of Monro by hydrodissection and decreasing size of the choroid plexus</p> <p>Keep scope tip near the foramen of Monro within lateral ventricle for making an opening in third ventricular floor when foramen is small</p> <p>Flexible scope should be removed in the neutral position</p> <p>Avoiding shifting in third ventricle; rotation can be done to reach targeted object</p> <p>Rotations or slight movement if needed can be done in the lateral ventricle (larger cavity) rather than the third ventricle</p>
<p><i>Hypothalamic injury:</i></p> <p>Off midline perforation</p> <p>Wrong site burr hole too lateral, anterior, or posterior compared to correct place</p> <p>Thick third ventricle floor</p> <p>Third ventricle perforation using blunt technique in the thick floor</p>	<p>Midline perforation</p> <p>Correct site of burr hole placement</p> <p>In cases with thick and tough floor, start perforation by either gentle bipolar coagulation or with sharp instrument</p>

Table 30.1 (continued)

Complications with their etiologies	Complication avoidance and management
<p><i>Cranial nerve injury:</i> Injury to oculomotor and abducens nerve can occur in downward bulging floor and also when penetration is made away from midline. Injuries to nerve can be produced by forcefully shifting an already downward stretched floor Blind introduction of penetrating equipment far below the floor Lilliequist membrane attached to third nerve Anomalous anatomy of the third cranial nerve near midline</p>	<p>Position burr hole as medially as possible Midline perforations in third ventricle floor Avoid downward shifting of already stretched floor of third ventricle, by usage of sharp equipment or by making initial perforation with the help of bipolar forceps Opening can be made on the dorsum sellae in thick and tough floor instead of posterior to dorsum Anticipate abnormal anatomy and take corrective steps</p>
<p><i>Failed ETV:</i> Little space between dorsum sellae and basilar artery Small prepontine space None or poor visualization of third ventricle floor Scarred cistern below floor Upward herniation of the basilar artery and its branch in floor of the ventricle Space-occupying lesion or crowding of posterior fossa structures Large interthalamic adhesion, small foramen of Monro, and a thick third ventricle floor</p>	<p>Proper case selection with sufficient space between dorsum sellae or basilar artery and brain stem Simple selection of case especially in initial learning curve</p>
<p><i>Endoscopic blind spot:</i> Endoscope can injure structures proximal to its tip (fornix, brain parenchyma, interthalamic adhesion, etc.) when movement is made in third ventricle</p>	<p>Surgeon should train himself to withdraw scope and change direction only under direct visual control Movement of scope in the third ventricle should be avoided; rotation of whole instrument in desired direction can purchase some distance</p>
<p><i>Delayed awakening:</i> Elevated ICP Anesthesia drugs with prolonged duration of action Hypothermia</p>	<p>Easily titratable short-acting general anesthesia drugs should be elected over long-acting drugs as the surgery may end suddenly Factors causing elevated cranial pressure and hypothermia should be prevented</p>
<p><i>Block stoma:</i> Inadequate stoma size of less than 5 mm Presence of unappreciated secondary membranes Intraventricular blood Tumor progression toward stoma Postinfective or posthemorrhagic hydrocephalus especially in acute phase</p>	<p>Comparatively larger stoma opening of more than 5 mm Perforation of second membrane present under the third ventricle floor Avoiding ventriculostomy in postinfective and posthemorrhagic lesions and when tumor is present near expected stoma opening Removal of intraventricular bleed</p>
<p><i>Subdural hematoma:</i> Quick drainage of large amount of CSF Separation of the brain from the dura mater during ventricular access especially when scope is introduced directly without the help of brain cannula Dural or extradural hemorrhage can flow in the subdural space</p>	<p>Avoid faster drainage of large amount of CSF. Replacement of drained fluid by lactated Ringer solution Placing patties by the side of sheath, especially in thin cortical mantle. This also prevents blood entering in subdural space. Controlling all points of bleeding before opening of dura mater Removal or ligation of functioning shunt after ETV Separation of the brain from dura should be prevented by making adequate size of cortical incision and by use of brain cannula for ventricular tap</p>
<p><i>Intracerebral hemorrhage:</i> Direct puncturing of ventricle by endoscope Overdrainage of ventricular CSF</p>	<p>Use of brain cannula for ventricle puncture rather than direct use of scope Amount of CSF drained should be reduced, packing of the cortical edges, and replenishment of the ventricle Coagulation of bleeding vessel in the tract</p>

(continued)

Table 30.1 (continued)

Complications with their etiologies	Complication avoidance and management
<i>CSF leak:</i> Raised ICP (blocked stoma or complex hydrocephalus) Larger cortical or dural opening, small cortical mantle	Proper management of raised ICP (repeated ventricular tap or lumbar puncture or shunt) Packing of the cortical margin and small dural opening Delayed suture removal Repair of dura in large ventriculomegaly in infants Galeal-pericranial flap
<i>Subdural hygroma:</i> Raised ICP secondary to blocked stoma, due to defective absorption of CSF or faulty permeation Need for Ommaya reservoir after ventriculostomy	Plugging of the cortical margin of ETV trajectory Majority of subdural collections disappear slowly; persistence of collections generally suggest raised pressure secondary to complex hydrocephalus or blockage of stoma Treat cause of raised ICP in persistent collection
<i>Chronic subdural hematoma:</i> Due to overdrained ventricle	Avoid ventricle collapse and expand it before removing the sheath especially in large ventriculomegaly

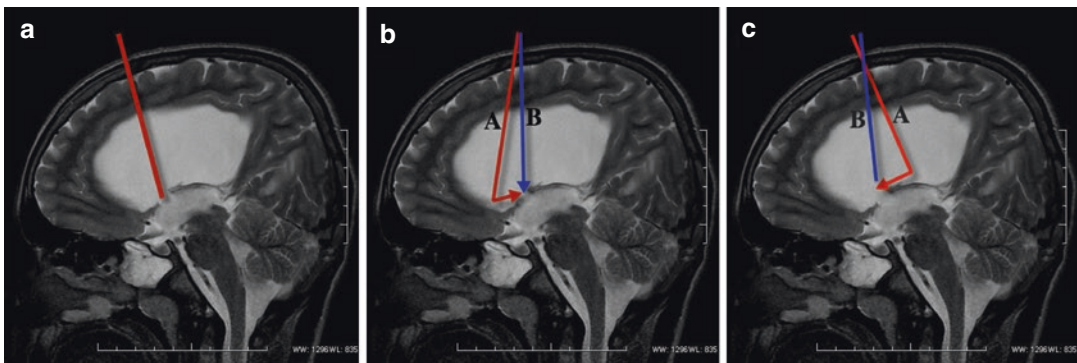


Fig. 30.11 Showing (a) proper, (b) wrong anterior, and (c) wrong posterior direction of brain penetration to reach foramen of Monro. Brain injury and bleeding from brain parenchyma or ependymal margin can occur if direction

of trajectory is not proper and surgeon tries to move from A position of wrong trajectory to B position to reach foramen of Monro

Fornix injury is an important complication in ETV, which should be prevented (Figs. 30.2 and 30.3). Brain injury and bleeding from brain parenchyma or ependymal margin can occur if direction of trajectory toward foramen of Monro is not proper and surgeon tries to enter foramen of Monro by moving the scope (Fig. 30.11). Stroke occurs in about 45% of individuals in TBM both in early and later stage, mainly in the region of basal ganglia. Risk of infarct is high when there is hydrocephalus in TBM [6]. Infarcts are considered to be associated with the involvement of medial striate, thalamotuberal, and thalamostriate arteries that are present in exudates, which are prone to be strained by a coexisting hydrocephalus [82]. Infarct predicts poor outcome at 3 months [83]. Brain ischemia in TBM

hydrocephalus is due to vasculitis and raised pressure secondary to hydrocephalus. Ideal management of raised ICP is necessary for improved outcome rather than simply preventing maximum increase in pressure [42].

30.5 Postoperative Imaging and Diagnosis of Stoma Patency

Majority of patients who improve after surgery do not need any investigation. Failure to improve after this surgical procedure can be secondary to the raised ICP (stoma blockage or complex hydrocephalus), vascular compromise, and poor preoperative neurological status. The raised ICP

in the early postoperative period could be related to complex hydrocephalus, which could be temporary or permanent.

Decrease in the size of the ventricular edema, decrease of periventricular edema, and widening of subarachnoid space after ETV are indirect evidences of stoma patency. These responses continue during the initial few months after ETV. The decrease in size is more marked in acute stage of hydrocephalus and in third ventricle width compared to lateral ventricle width. CSF flow as the flow-void sign could be qualitatively described. This is not very sensitive, as a flow-void sign has been seen in up to 50% of clinical failures. Cine PC MRI could be helpful even in no flow-void situation. This cine PC magnetic resonance (MR) may be helpful in determining the stoma patency and could be of value in follow-up [84]. Three-dimensional constructive interference in steady state (CISS) MR technique has been found to be sensitive to flow [85, 86]. MR ventriculography is useful in determining stoma patency after third ventriculostomy [35]. Ventriculography is helpful in providing accurate assessment of the stoma patency in the early days after surgery if EVD or Ommaya was kept during ETV. It also allows intermittent CSF drainage to relieve raised ICP.

Conclusion

The choice about the best management should be decided by many factors such as surgeon's expertise, stage and duration of disease, communicating or noncommunicating hydrocephalus, availability of resources for endoscopy, etc. Although most of the patients with hydrocephalus need surgical treatment, small-group patients in early and acute stage with mild hydrocephalus in neurologically intact and in fully conscious state can be observed with early repeat CT scans. Ventriculoperitoneal shunt is a better option in acute phase of TBM hydrocephalus in obstructive hydrocephalus, while ETV is an effective alternative in obstructed hydrocephalus in subacute or chronic phase (Fig. 30.12). Results of lumbar peritoneal shunt are better in communicating hydrocephalus.

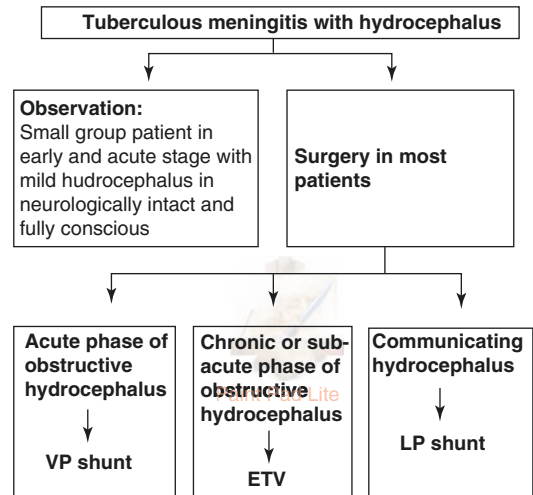


Fig. 30.12 Flowchart showing our recommendations in management of hydrocephalus in TBM

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