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Basifrontal checkpoint for lobar holoprosencephaly

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AIM

To identify the normal cleavage plane of the inferior part of the fetal frontal lobes resting on the floor of the anterior cranial fossa and use this information for antenatal detection of milder form of holoprosencephaly.

MATERIALS & METHODS

Evaluation was performed in an axial plane by modification of the standard transcerebellar plane (**Figure 1a**). The probe was angulated more caudally towards the bony floor of the anterior cranial fossa thereby, imaging the inferior most part of the frontal lobes (**Figure 1b**). 100 normal and 3 cases of lobar holoprosencephaly(HPE) were included.

RESULTS

The normal cleavage plane of the basifrontal region was identified as the linear, uninterrupted, echogenic interhemispheric fissure (**arrow in Figure 1b**). It was seen in all the 100 controls. In case of lobar HPE, this echogenic line was interrupted by the hypoechoic fused brain parenchyma of the basal part of frontal lobes (**arrow in Figures 1c-e**). This sign was identified in a fetus at 14 weeks of gestation (**Figure 1e**).

CONCLUSION

- Look at the basifrontal checkpoint to identify lobar holoprosencephaly when the standard axial planes of the brain show cerebral cleavage.
- Since it is an axial plane, it is easy to obtain and useful in day to day practice.

