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Is ONSF an effective intervention in... --Idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH)?



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Is ONSF an effective intervention in... --Idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH)? **Yes**



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Is ONSF an effective intervention in... --Idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH)? Yes --Cryptococcal meningitis? ----Yes if vision loss is due to... ----No if loss is due to...



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What is the name of the study that looked at ONSF in NAION?



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What is the name of the study that looked at ONSF in NAION? The Ischemic Optic Neuropathy Decompression Trial (IONDT)



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What's up with the 'Oh hell no!'? What did the IONDT find that was so bad?



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What is the name of the study that looked at ONSF in NAION? The **Ischemic Optic Neuropathy Decompression Trial** (IONDT)

What's up with the 'Oh hell no!'? What did the IONDT find that was so bad? It found that not only was ONSF ineffective in ameliorating vision loss in NAION, it actually **increased** the risk of vision loss--the results were so bad, the study was **stopped early**

Before we delve into ONSF, some preliminaries:



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Optic Nerve Sheath Fenestration

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Before we delve into ONSF, some preliminaries: *How many so-called 'surgical spaces' are there within the orbit?*

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What are the five surgical spaces of the orbit?

- ---
- --
- ___
- __
- ----
- --

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Before we delve into ONSF, some preliminaries: *How many so-called 'surgical spaces' are there within the orbit?* **Five**

What are the five surgical spaces of the orbit?

- --Subperiosteal
- --Sub-Tenon's
- --Extraconal

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- --Intraconal
- --Subarachnoid



Before we delve into ONSF, some preliminaries: How many so-called 'surgical spaces' are there within the orbit? Five

Where is the subperiosteal space?

What are the five s

--Subperiosteal

- --Sub-Tenon's
- --Extraconal
- --Intraconal
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Before we delve into ONSF, some preliminaries: How many so-called 'surgical spaces' are there within the orbit? Five

Where is the subperiosteal space? Between the bone and its periosteal lining

What are the five s

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in what clinical situation is the subperiosteal space often of critical import?



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in what clinical situation is the subperiosteal space often of critical import? Orbital cellulitis



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What is the potential role of the subperiosteal space in orbital cellulitis?

Between the bone and its periosteal lining



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in what clinical situation is the subperiosteal space often of critical import? Orbital cellulitis

What is the potential role of the subperiosteal space in orbital cellulitis? It is the space in which an abscess may be located--an abscess that may necessitate surgical drainage for the infection to resolve

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Where is sub-Tenon's space?



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Where is sub-Tenon's space? Between Tenon's capsule and the globe





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- --Subperiosteal
- --Sub-Tenon's (ie, between Tenon's capsule and the globe)
- --Extraconal What structures comprise the orbital 'cone'?
- --Intraconal

--Subarachnoid (ie, between the optic nerve's dural sheath and the nerve proper)



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What are the five surgical spaces of the orbit?

--Subperiosteal

- --Sub-Tenon's (ie, between Tenon's capsule and the globe)
- --Extraconal What structures comprise the orbital 'cone'?
- --Intraconal The rectus muscles, along with the intermuscular septa connecting them

--Subarachnoid (ie, between the optic nerve's dural sheath and the nerve proper)

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Where is the (orbital) subarachnoid space located?



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Where is the (orbital) subarachnoid space located? Between the optic nerve's dural sheath and the nerve proper



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In which spaces is one working when performing an ONSF?



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In which spaces is one working when performing an ONSF? The intraconal, and sub-arachnoid

























Note that all three approaches get us where we need to go!



Advantages

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Optic Nerve Sheath Fenestration



What is the mechanism by which ONSF arrests loss of visual function?



What is the mechanism by which ONSF arrests loss of visual function?

This is controversial. The obvious answer is that the fenestration allows CSF to percolate out of the subarachnoid space, thereby reducing pressure--the brain-equivalent of a trab. (It's not for nothing that IIH has been called 'glaucoma of the brain.') However, this explanation is problematic, as studies indicate **many fenestrations scar down, thereby precluding long-term CSF egress**. If the fenestration closes, ongoing CSF egress cannot explain the *long-term* effectiveness of ONSF.

That said, the phenomenon of scarring provides an alternative explanation--specifically, that circumferential **scarring prevents CSF from reaching the ONH**, thereby moving the pressure head from the vulnerable circulatory watershed zone that is the ONH to the robustly-perfused retrobulbar region of the nerve. (See the slide-set on *idiopathic intracranial hypertension* for further discussion of this issue.)