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Extremely rare multiple malformations: Split vertebral column and spinal cord

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A 5-year-old girl was presented with multiple malformations of her vertebral column and spinal cord. The following vertebral abnormalities were observed: C7 – agenesis of the left part of the body; T1 and T2 – an incomplete vertical cleft of the left pedicle; T3 – agenesis of the right arch; T4 – absence of the right pedicle, and a cleft of its arch; T5, T7 and T12 – agenesis of the right half of the body, hypoplasia of the right half, and defect of the left arch; T6 – a vertical cleft of the body, agenesis of its arch, and enlarged vertebral foramen; T8 – a defect of the left arch, and enlarged vertebral foramen; T10 and T11 – absence of the arches, a cleft of the right half of the body (T11), and duplication of the vertebral foramen; T12 – duplication of the vertebral foramen; L1 – small defect of the right half of the body, arch agenesis, and duplication of the vertebral foramen; L3 – a mediosagittal cleft of its arch; L4 – agenesis of the left arch; S3 – a mediosagittal cleft of the body; from L5 to S3 – a complete absence of their arches. A partial or complete agenesis of the ribs 5-7 and 12 was seen. The spinal cord was duplicated at the level between the T6 and T10. The embryologic basis of these extremely rare malformations was considered.

Biography

Slobodan Marinković has completed his PhD at the age of 31 years from Belgrade University and postdoctoral studies from Laboratory of Neurophysiology, Panum Institute in Copenhagen (Denmark). He spent 3 months at George Town University, Washington D.C., USA. He has published 2 international books, four chapters in 2 other books, 8 national books, more than 60 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an editorial board member of repute. He has about 1200 citations in the international publications. He has been a chairman person on three occasions. He is a Full Professor of Anatomy at University of Belgrade, and a Visiting Professor at Shinshu University, Matsumoto, Japan.

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