INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF THE WORK

Hydrocephalus is a pathological condition which has long attracted the attention of clinicians. At the begening the clinical interest in hydrocephalus was without comprehension of the origin of cerebrospinal fluid or of its circulation. Since the begening of this century , basic investigations of the anatomy and physiology of the third circulation have hinged around the study of hydrocephalus. In recent years ; information concerning hydrocephalus and cerebrospinal fluid has accumulated rapidly. This has resulted in ample knowledge of its causes , its effects , its diag nosis and treatment.

According to the site of obstruction hydrocephlaus was divided into communicating and non-communicating hydrocephalus , with a wide variety of congenital and acquired lesions and diseases that may cause the obstruction of the cerebro spinal fluid pathway with its pathological and clinical manifestations. The efforts in treatment have been principally focused on either direct attack of the obstructing lesion., or to reduce fluid formation by choroid plexectomy , or surgical by passing which is either intracranial i.e. , ventriculo-cisternostomy or extracranial i.e. external shunt tubing.

More recently , genious types of extracranial shunting and excellent mechanical devices have had extensive use, with very encouraging results. The aim of this work is to assess the incidence of congenital hydrocephalus and the results of ventriculo-atrial shunt in our unit druing the last threeyears.