

Anatomical analysis of the variations of human occipital bone

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Human occipital bone variations has been related in the literature almost two centuries. These variations are expressed through the presence of interparietal, pre-interparietal and sutural bones. Genetic defects and metabolic alterations have been given as the cause of these variations. The presence of these changes is already reported to many populations groups. This study aimed to evaluate the types and frequency of these variations in human skulls. It was macroscopically analyzed 104 adult humans macerated skulls from both sexes and unknown ethnic origins. The bone variations occurred in 45.2% of the cases. There was a higher incidence of sutural bones equivalent to the presence of interparietal and pre-interparietal bones. The interparietal bone had rare occurrence, representing only 1.92% of the cases. The same percentage (1.92%) was observed to the pre-interparietal bone. The sutural bone occurred in 89.7% on the lambdoide suture region and 10.26% in the lambda region. These parameters are consistent with those presented for the frequency of these variations in mundial populations so far evaluated. Other interesting approaches would be the study of these variations in vivo, by radiographic techniques or other, which would correlate datas with sex, race, color and overall health status of the individual.

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