Sub-aponeurotic fluid collection (SFC) is a rare but a diagnostic dilemma where a scalp swelling appears in young infants. This condition is poorly described in literature with less than 20 cases reported worldwide. (1) Usual age of presentation of SFC is early infancy. The etiology of SFCs remains largely uncertain. (2) Previous studies suggest that SFC, like sub-aponeurotic haemorrhage (SH), may be linked to birth trauma, disruption of scalp lymphatic drainage or venous drainage or cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leakage. (3) However, analysis of several aspirates from these patients showed that CSF was found in all samples. The origin of this CSF is uncertain. Aspirations have no therapeutic benefit with swelling reappearing immediately (2,3) which was also observed in our patient. Treatment is conservative with spontaneous resolution of the swelling occurring over time. It is therefore vital that clinicians are aware of this condition and manage these patients appropriately.

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References:

From: Department of Paediatrics, Dr DY Patil Medical College, Pimpri, Pune.

Address for Correspondence: Dr Shiji Chalipat, Assistant Professor, Department of Paediatrics, Dr DY Patil Medical College, Pimpri, Pune, India.

Email: dr_shiji@yahoo.co.in

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