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3rd Ventricle in the Chiari Malformation

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Anatomical midsagittal section of a normal (A) and a Chiari II (B) third ventricle. A 1.2-mm endoscope is pointed at the location of a proposed 3rd-ventriculostomy site. Small arrows delineate the massa intermedia. F = Fornix; Q = quadrigeminal plate; m = mamillary body (large arrows) infundibular recess. In the Chiari II malformation, the short distance between the massa intermedia and the fornix at the foramen of Monroe limits access to the floor of the 3rd ventricle. This is further complicated by an extremely small floor between the mamillary bodies and the optic recess.