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# Brain imaging patterns by magnetic resonance imaging in pediatric population using automatic segmentation by VolBrain

**Congress:**

ECR 2022

**Poster Number:**

C-21620

**Type:**

Scientific Exhibit

**Keywords:**

Radiographers, MR, Segmentation, Tissue characterisation

**Authors:**

M. Silvério, M. Pragosa, M. M. C. P. Ribeiro

**DOI:**

10.26044/ecr2022/C-21620

**DOI-Link:**

<https://dx.doi.org/10.26044/ecr2022/C-21620>

## Purpose

The interpretation of the pediatric brain is challenging due to the fact that its development is a dynamic process that continuously and rapidly changes in the macro- and microstructural level[1-4], especially in the first 2 years of life[5]. Another issue that makes interpretation difficult is the small size of brain structures and the limited experience of radiologists with the pattern and variability of maturation's activity[4]. Consequently, there is some difficulty in distinguishing what is normal from what is pathological. The Magnetic Resonance allows characterization of..

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## Methods and materials

An observational study was conducted, and a retrospective quantitative methodology was followed. All brain MRI scans performed at a University and Paediatric Hospital between 1st January and 31 December 2021, were analyzed. Examinations of children aged between 0 and 5 years at the time of the examination were included. Exclusion criteria were images with low quality, resulting from movement artefacts, or when they presented any pathology. The sample selection was carried out according to a systematic random sampling[27], where the examinations whose last file number...

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## Results

The 103 scans were analysed in order to obtain quantitative data of the structures under study. The correlation analysis allowed concluding that there is a relationship between the total volume of the structures (brain:  $P=0.824$ ,  $p<0.01$ ; cerebellum:  $P= 0.748$ ,  $p<0.01$ ; lateral ventricles:  $P= 0.305$ ,  $p<0.01$ ; caudate nucleus:  $P= 0.709$ ,  $p<0.01$ ; putamen:  $P= 0.799$ ,  $p<0.01$ ; thalamus:  $P= 0.663$ ,  $p<0.01$ ; globus pallidus:  $P= 0.604$ ,  $p<0.01$ ; hippocampus:  $P= 0.763$ ,  $p<0.01$ ; amygdala:  $P= 0.677$ ,  $p<0.01$ ; nucleus accumbens:  $P=0.530$ ,  $p<0.01$ ) and age, and between GM volume in the brain and...

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## Conclusion

Some studies report that the cerebellum develops significantly in the first year of life, with a 15% increase by the age of 2 years[16,17,22]. This increase is supported by the

statistical differences found in the age groups [0-1[ and [1-2[, which are not found in the other age groups. These data also confirm what is described in the literature, namely the rapid growth of brain structures after birth and in the first 3 months[23]. Gilmore et. al. [23] and Knickmeyer et. al. [16] describe that...

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## Personal information and conflict of interest

M. Silvério: Nothing to disclose M. Pragosa: Nothing to disclose M. C. P. Ribeiro: Nothing to disclose

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## References

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Age range	Sequence	slice	Thickness (mm)	TR (ms)	TE (ms)	Field Of View (mm)
[0-1[	T1	Axial	0,7-2	9-7	2	140-230
	T1 FLAIR	Axial + Sagittal	0,8-4	1800-3000	6-10	140-230
[1-2[	T1	Axial	0	6	2	140-230
	T1 FLAIR	Axial + Sagittal	4	2300-11000	6-10	140-230
[2-3[	T1	Axial	0,8-2	6	2	200-240
	T1 FLAIR	Sagittal	4	2000-2600	7-8	200-240
[3-4[	T1	Axial	0,8-2	6,0-6,7	2,5-2,8	-
	T1 FLAIR	Sagittal	4	2700-3000	6-8	200-240
[4-5[	T1	Axial	0,8-2	6,0-6,8	2,5-2,8	-
	T1 FLAIR	Sagittal	4	2700	6	240
[6-8[	T1	Axial	0,8-2	6,0-6,8	2,5-2,8	-
	T1 FLAIR	Sagittal	4	2700-3100	6-8	200-240

Fig 1: MR Protocols applied.

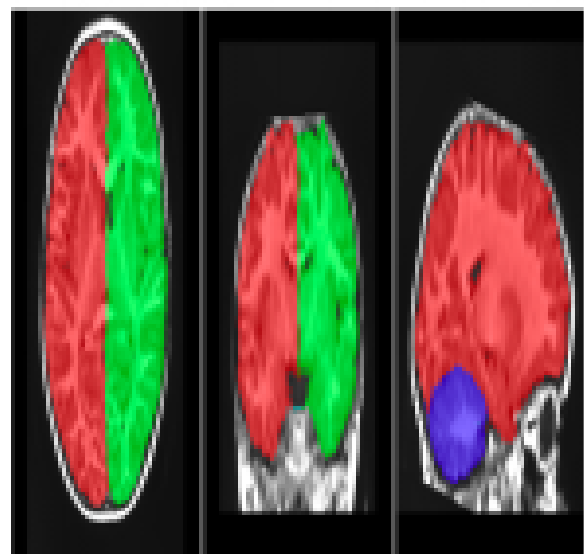
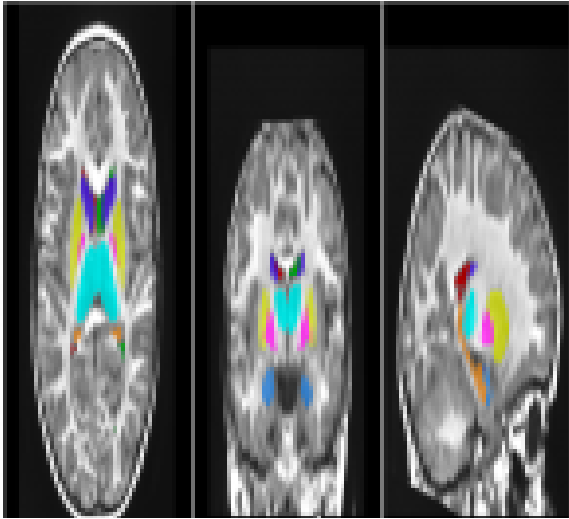


Fig 2: Segmentation of cerebrum (right hemisphere in red and left hemisphere in green)...



*Fig 3: Segmentation of structures in the 3 orthogonal planes.*

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