

## **THE 'HYPO FACE': CASE-CONTROL STUDY IN AN ITALIAN POPULATION**

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A large number of children affected by hypospadias and undescended testis (UDT) exhibit a face characterized by large forehead with frontal bossing, telecantus and broad flat nasal bridge. These facial traits are classically considered part of the clinical spectrum of the Opitz-GBBB and may be present in other syndromes. This study intends to show that the presence of these features in isolated hypospadias and UDT is not correlated with chromosomal anomalies and/or syndromes thus defining a distinct and peculiar morphology.

To demonstrate this association and its statistical relevance two hundred patients affected by isolated hypospadias and one hundred presenting with an UDT have been evaluated for facial biometric indexes. An age matched group of patients was used as control group. The following parameters were then calculated: Inter Pupillar / Inner Canthal Ratio (IP / ICR) and Glabella - Nose tip / Nasion Distance (GNND).

According to the statistical analysis these values were remarkably different between hypospadias and control groups; this difference was only quite significant between undescended testis and control groups. There was no difference in IP/ICR values between groups.

Our data show that children affected by hypospadias and/or undescended testis frequently present peculiar phenotypic features thus making possible to recognize them '*at a first glance*'. This association needs still to be explained in future studies.

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