**EP07.20 Early detection and characterization of CNS anomalies at 11-14 weeks in a mixed population attending a tertiary referral center in a metropolitan city in India**

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**Introduction:**
In India, fetal central nervous system (CNS) anomalies including neural tube defects (NTDs) continue to be the most common congenital malformation. Many NTDs are still detected in late gestation and at birth possibly consequent to lack of ultrasound expertise and also lack of awareness in the professional and general community about first trimester ultrasound for early diagnosis and counselling.

**Conclusion:** The overall prevalence of NTDs in India is high (0.05-1.1 %) compared to other regions of the world, consequent to multiple factors possibly including lack of periconceptional folate supplementation, poor patient compliance, genetic predisposition and suboptimal ultrasound evaluation. These defects frequently give rise to quality of life issues. High end technology and operator skill enable early diagnosis. This potentially facilitates patient counseling and family decision making at a stage in pregnancy when termination, if opted for, is safer and psychologically simpler.