

Cavernous malformations



Boston Children's Hospital
Cerebrovascular Surgery &
Interventions Center

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A **cavernous malformation** is a collection of small, abnormal blood vessels (capillaries) and larger, thin-walled blood vessels that are stretched and filled with blood.

Cavernous malformations can appear anywhere in the body, but usually only cause serious problems when they're found in the brain or spinal cord, also known as a cerebral cavernous malformation (CCM).

In most cases, CCMs are not diagnosed unless they cause symptoms such as headaches or seizures.

Exceptional outcomes. Safer, faster treatments.

Our team has established and published innovative methods of treating cerebral cavernous malformations that are less invasive, safer, and faster than traditional treatments.

Leading the way in surgical resection of CCM.

We have seen some of the best surgical outcomes in children who have cavernous malformations.

About the Cerebrovascular Surgery & Interventions Center

The Cerebrovascular Surgery & Interventions Center at Boston Children's Hospital is an international leader in diagnosing, evaluating, and treating cavernous malformations. Led by Edward Smith, MD, and Darren Orbach, MD, PhD, our center has pioneered a multidisciplinary approach to holistic care through neurovascular surgery, neurology, interventional radiology, genetics, neuropsychology, and social work.

What sets us apart

The Cerebrovascular Surgery & Interventions Center was the first pediatric center of excellence for treatment of cavernous malformations as designated by the Alliance to Cure Cavernous Malformation. Dr. Smith serves as chair of the Alliance's medical advisory board.

Boston Children's Outcomes

