

Good long-term outcomes for fetal myelomeningocele surgery

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(HealthDay)—Fetal myelomeningocele (fMMC) surgery is associated

with improved long-term functional outcomes, according to a study published in the February issue of the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

Enrico Danzer, M.D., from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and colleagues examined long-term neurological outcome, [executive](#) functioning (EF), and behavioral adaptive skills (BAS) after fMMC surgery. Parents of 42 of the 54 [children](#) who underwent fMMC surgery participated in structured questionnaires relating to neurofunctional outcome.

The researchers found that 79 percent of patients were community ambulators, 9 percent were household ambulators, and 14 percent were wheelchair dependent at a median follow-up of 10 years. Preschool ambulation predicted long-term ambulation (P "The present study suggests that fMMC [surgery](#) improves long-term functional outcome," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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