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**Answer: Pneumatized nasal septum**

Nasal septum houses no anatomical landmarks, unlike its lateral wall counterpart. It is made up of bony and cartilaginous framework that give support to the contour of the external nose. The bony constituents are made up of perpendicular plate of ethmoid and vomer bones and these contribute to more than 70% of the total nasal septum. Apart deviated nasal septum, it rarely imposes any problem with regard to the nasal airflow. Occasionally pathological intranasal mass can arise from the septum. The most common midline or septal nasal masses are congenital in origin, which include encephalocele, glioma and dermoid cyst.<sup>1</sup>



rhinosinusitis (CRS) and non-CRS patients.<sup>2</sup> Interestingly all cases were found in the CRS group, concomitantly with other abnormalities such as concha bullosa, infraorbital ethmoidal cell, pneumatized agger nasi and deviated nasal septum (Table).

Pneumatized nasal septum is not widely described in the literature, owing to its low prevalence. It occurs mainly at the bony part of the septum. It is more of radiological incidental findings, rather than diagnoses pre-imaging stage. One study reported that this abnormality was found in only four out of 240 cases among equally divided into chronic

There is evidence that this type of septal abnormality predispose one to have CRS, thus it rarely needs surgical intervention. However, a case of nasal septal mucocele which was believed to be originated from pneumatized perpendicular plate of ethmoid of the septum was reported.<sup>3</sup> In such case, the presence should be addressed.

**Table: Pneumatized nasal septum reported in four cases.<sup>2</sup>**

| Case | Abnormality | Concha bullosa | Infraorbital Ethmoidal cell | Pneumatized agger nasi cell | Deviated nasal septum |
|------|-------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1    |             | Bilateral      | Bilateral                   | Bilateral                   | -                     |
| 2    |             |                | Bilateral                   | Bilateral                   | Right                 |
| 3    |             |                | Bilateral                   | Bilateral                   |                       |
| 4    |             |                |                             | Bilateral                   | Left                  |

**REFERENCES**

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**3:** Wang RG, Zou YH, Han DY, Zhang W. Pneumatization of perpendicular plate of the ethmoid bone and mucocele (abstract). *Zhonghua Er Bi Yan Hou ke Za Zhi* 2003; 38:279-81.