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**MORPHOLOGICAL AND MORPHOMETRIC FEATURES
OF THE HYPOGLOSSAL NERVE CANAL IN AN ADULT**

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Relevance. Establishing the anatomical and morphometric features of the hypoglossal nerve canal in an adult is important when performing surgical interventions on the base of the skull. The hypoglossal nerve canal is located at the base of the occipital condyles of the same-named bone, passing perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the condyles. It contains the hypoglossal nerve.

Aim: to establish the morphological and morphometric features of the hypoglossal nerve canal in an adult.

Materials and methods. The material for the study was 14 skulls of an adult (36-78 years old) from the collection of the Department of Normal Anatomy of the Belarusian State Medical University. Macro-microscopically measured the anterior-posterior, transverse and vertical dimensions of the hypoglossal nerve canal, revealed the features of the internal and external openings of the canal.

Results and their discussion. As a result of the study of the structure of the hypoglossal nerve canal in an adult, the presence of a bone spur of the internal opening of the hypoglossal nerve canal was found in 27% of cases. The absence of bone spurs or septa in the hypoglossal canal was observed in 40% of cases. A septum was found dividing the hypoglossal nerve canal into two sections in 27% of cases. In 6% of cases, a complete septum was found, dividing the hypoglossal canal into two canals. The morphometric characteristics of the hypoglossal nerve canal were established for different variants of its structure. Spurs and septa are more commonly found in the left canal.

Conclusion: thus, the hypoglossal nerve canal in the skull of an adult is characterized by structural variability (the presence of bone spurs, the presence of a septum in the outer, inner or middle parts of the canal, etc.). Bone spurs and septa are characteristic of the left hypoglossal canal.