

CNS 7 EXTRADURAL/EPIDURAL HEMATOMA (EDH)

GROSS

- It is the bleeding occurring between the inner table of the skull and meninges (dura)
- Hematoma in the epidural space on removal of the skull cap along with fissure fracture of the temporal bone and a small thrombus on the surface of the middle meningeal artery may be seen.
- Diffuse brain swelling and cerebral contusions seen.
- Effacement of sulci and flatness of the crests of the gyri, which gives a smooth appearance of the brain.
- Fracture (fissure type) is present in most of the cases (90–95%).

SALIENT FEATURES:

Site and Vessels Involved:

• Rupture of middle meningeal artery is a direct branch of internal maxillary artery (commonest cause)

Diagnostic tool:

• CT scan: It produces a **biconvex lenticular-shaped** hemorrhage, due to **adherence of the dura** to the inside of the cranium.

MEDICO-LEGAL ASPECTS

• Patient may be **discharged** from hospital **during lucid interval and die** at home; doctor may be charged with **negligence**.

The condition may resemble drunkenness and patient may die in police custody