Arterio Venous Malformations of the Spine (Stroke in the Spinal Cord)

Arteriovenous malformations (AVMs) are defects of the circulatory system that are generally believed to arise during embryonic or fetal development or soon after birth. They are comprised of snarled tangles of arteries and veins. Arteries carry oxygen-rich blood away from the heart to the body’s cells; veins return oxygen-depleted blood to the lungs and heart. The presence of an AVM disrupts this vital cyclical process. Although AVMs can develop in many different sites, those located in the brain or spinal cord—the two parts of the central nervous system—can have especially widespread effects on the body.

AVMs of the brain or spinal cord (neurological AVMs) are believed to affect approximately 300,000 Americans. They occur in males and females of all racial or ethnic backgrounds at roughly equal rates.

Source: National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke: Arteriovenous Malformations and Other Vascular Lesions of the Central Nervous System Fact Sheet
http://www.ninds.nih.gov/disorders/all-disorders

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS): Arteriovenous Malformation Information and Other Vascular Lesions

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS): Arteriovenous Malformations (AVM) booklet
http://neurosurgey.mgh.harvard.edu/Neurovascular/avm.htm#AVMs

Massachusetts General Hospital: Central Nervous System Vascular Malformations
Includes an introduction to vascular malformations of the brain and spine (AVMs, cavernous malformation or cavernous angioma, venous anomaly or venous malformation, and telangiectasia)

http://www.avmsurvivors.org/
AVM Survivors’ Network
http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/health/s/malformation
Cincinnati Children's Hospital: Vascular Malformations
Hemangiomas and vascular malformations: conditions and diagnoses

http://nyp.org/services/neuroscience/avm.html
New York-Presbyterian: AVMs of the Brain and Spine
Information on AVMs: Symptoms, causes, risks, diagnosis, treatments and research.

http://spinalavminfo.com/
Spinal AVM Information

http://www.wakehealth.edu/Neurosciences/brain-aneurysms-and-AVMs.htm
Wake Forest University Medical Center: Brain Aneurysms and AVMs
Links to information on brain vascular malformations, such as arteriovenous malformations (AVM) and cavernous malformations (cavernous angioma).

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