

## Clinical Value of Anatomical Variations

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“If it were not for the great variability among individuals, medicine might as well be a science, not an art.” **Sir William Osler**

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Anatomical variations are very important for medical education besides they could change symptoms and physical examination and may lead disease susceptibility. Even variations could cause changing operation techniques during surgeries.

It is paramount for surgeons to have a thorough understanding of the surgical region. In many cases detailed knowledge of normal and variant anatomy and using proper imaging techniques to detect these variations prior to surgery could be crucial (1,2). Hamdorf and He reviewed renal anatomical variations and they pointed out that awareness of these variations may provide less complicated surgeries (3).

On the other hand anatomical variations may become important for transplantation surgery (3,4). Watson and Harper suggested that variant anatomy could cause a challenging transplantation surgery therefore implanting surgeons should take into consideration of anatomical variations (4).

Considering all of this, there is need for continuous awareness of the importance of anatomical variations and it is important to encourage

anatomists and clinicians to make contributions. The International Journal of Anatomical Variations has published hundreds of case reports since 2008 and we are looking forward to future case reports, studies and reviews on anatomical variations.

### REFERENCES

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