

# CONQUER CHIARI®

*From Knowledge, Strength. Through Research, Hope.*

## SEPTEMBER IS CHIARI AWARENESS MONTH

### *Decompression Surgery*

As part of decompression surgery, many Chiari patients have what is called a duraplasty, where a patch is sewn into the dura (the covering of the brain) near the cerebellar tonsils to create more space. Dural patches have been used in many types of surgeries for more than 100 years, and doctors have tried many kinds of materials. In the 1800's both rubber and gold foil were used! In the 20th century, gelatin and silicone products were used as dural substitutes. More recently, patches have come from cadaver tissue, cow tissue, and completely synthetic materials. Do you know what's in your head?

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