Craniosynostosis

The cranial vault is not a single bone. It is made up of a number of separate bones, which come together at the cranial sutures. In craniosynostosis, these sutures are prematurely fused. This causes a restriction in growth of the skull, leading to characteristic head shape abnormalities.

Most cases of craniosynostosis involve only a single suture and no specific cause is found. In a number of cases, a genetic cause can be found and in some cases, the craniosynostosis is associated with a syndrome.

Single suture craniosynostosis (links to each page…)
- Sagittal synostosis
- Unicoronal synostosis
- Bicoronal synostosis
- Metopic synostosis

Synostosis syndromes
- Apert syndrome
- Crouzon syndrome
- Pfeiffer syndrome
- Muenke syndrome
- Saethre Chotzen syndrome

The Australian Craniofacial Unit manages these conditions in a coordinated, multidisciplinary, patient-centred way, based on established protocols.