Human Raphe Magnus Nucleus: A morphometric Golgi-Cox study with emphasis on sex differences

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The number and proportion of neurons according to their type and size in the Raphe Magnus Nucleus stained by the Golgi-Cox and Nissl methods were compared in male and female infants. Four female/male pairs aged from 2 to 150 days were studied. While females showed more neurons than males, males showed a higher proportion of large multipolar (more than 40 ?m) and fusiform neurons (more than 20 ?m) but not of ovoid neurons (more than 15 ?m). These differences varied according to the type of cells and age of infants. Some of these results are similar to those found in the human Median Raphe Nucleus with the same methods. © 2001 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved.