D. Embryonic Day 11: the 5 vesicle stage

This day of rat brain development is characterized by the classical 5 secondary vesicles, and by the appearance of a mantle layer here and there in the neural tube. To illustrate this stage, we have chosen embryos from early on e11, before the appearance of a clear mantle layer in the forebrain (in the retrochiasmatic area and ventral thalamus). Thus, the hypothalamic and middle diencephalic sulci are not yet visible, and the interbrain is poorly differentiated, except for the optic vesicle. This age is illustrated primarily by a series of 19 approximately transverse sections taken from four different embryos, although one approximately horizontal section through the forebrain and midbrain vesicles is presented for orientation purposes.

**e11 horizontal**

**e11 transverse**
e11 transverse
e11 transverse