45th Annual Diagnostic Slide Session 2004

CASE 2004-4

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Clinical History: A healthy 54-year-old Caucasian male presented with a 2-3 week
history of short-term memory difficulty, unremitting headache and a shuffling gait. MRI
of the brain showed a contrast enhancing 5.6 x 5.4 x 4.2 cm partially cystic, partially
solid mass involving the right anterior parietal and frontal lobes. The cystic component
accounted for over fifty percent of the lesion's volume, and the solid component
contained areas of necrosis. Subfalcine herniation and effacement of the right lateral
ventricle related to edema and tumor mass effect were present. Additional lesions were
identified in the left frontal lobe and centrum semiovale. Gross total resection of the
tumor was performed. Translucent golden-yellow fluid was aspirated from the cyst.
Macroscopically, the specimen consisted of a 3.8 x 2.3 x 2.0 cm irregular firm mass. The
cut surface demonstrated a variegated appearance with firm white-tan tissue interspersed
with softer red-tan semi-translucent areas.

Material Submitted: H&E and unstained section of right frontal lobe of cerebrum

Points for Discussion: Diagnosis