Case 2005-2

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Diagnosis: Hepatolenticular Degeneration (Wilson’s Disease)

Comment: After a clinical diagnosis of Wilson’s disease was entertained, an examination disclosed Kayser-Fleischer rings in the cornea. The 24 hour urine copper excretion was 74 µg, which is elevated, but not greatly. The middle third of the putamen on each side had necrosis. Alzheimer type I astrocytes were tentatively identified, in addition to the readily demonstrable Alzheimer type II neurons. A rhodamine stain for copper was negative in brain sections. An alternative diagnosis offered at the session, prior to the presenter’s discussion, was aceruloplasminemia.

References:


