Case 2008-7

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Diagnosis: Lymphomatoid Granulomatosis, WHO grade III, involving cortex, brainstem, spinal cord, skin and lung

Comment: There was angiocentric involvement, with atypical cells that were positive for the B cell marker CD20, with more benign appearing CD3 positive T cells also present. Reticulin stain showed reticulin proliferation about involved vessels. In situ hybridization of lesions showed strong positivity for EBV. Some members of the audience noted the presence of intranuclear inclusions in the lesions, suggesting an alternative or additional diagnosis of varicella-zoster virus (VZV) infection, but PCR of CSF was negative for VZV, according to information provided by Drs. Perrin and Perry. Lymphomatoid granulomatosis (LG) is considered to be a variant of diffuse large B cell lymphoma. 26% of cases of LG have involvement of the central nervous system.

References:

