CASE No 2

C.I. Coiré

Department of Pathology, Trillium Health Centre, Mississauga, ON, Canada

This 79-year-old female was referred to a neurosurgeon for treatment of a large, left-sided fronto-parietal mass. This was uncovered on a CT scan of the brain as part of investigations for a 2-month history of right arm weakness. There were also problems with balance and memory and neglect of the right arm reported by the patient's daughter. There was no headache, no nausea and no vomiting. Past medical history was significant for hypertension, hyperlipidemia and smoking at an accumulated 50 pack-years. The MRI of the brain confirmed the large, left-sided, complex (part solid and part cystic), dural based, fronto-parietal mass with surrounding edema and midline shift. The preoperative chest X-ray uncovered a lung mass, which was further evaluated with a CT of the thorax. Preoperative differential diagnoses for the brain mass included a dural based metastatic carcinoma versus meningioma. Near complete gross total resection of this extra-axial tumour was achieved.

Materials Submitted:
1. A representative LFB/H&E glass slide of resected tumour.
2. Digital CT/MRI images of brain.
3. Digital image of CT scan of chest.
4. Digital images of frozen section of brain tumour.

Question: Diagnosis