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CASE 11

Submitted by: Dr. Rosa E. Fiol Rodriquez, University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine, San Juan.

This 5 month old baby girl had been running high temperature for three months prior to admission. At onset she had had a mild cough and had been hospitalized for six weeks. The mother took the child home without an official discharge. The baby was readmitted with fever, marked dyspnea, ronchi and vomiting. She died five hours after admission.

Autopsy revealed mongoloid facies, fusion of the middle and ring fingers and of the second and third toes of the right foot. Important microscopic findings consisted of partial atelectasis of the lungs, a mild early type of cystic disease of the liver and an aberrant pancreas in the region of the pylorus.

The brain surface was flattened. The gyral pattern was normal. The floor of the third ventricle was thin and bulging. Coronal sections revealed moderate dilatation of the lateral ventricles. The glomus of the choroid plexus bilaterally was almost black and prominently papillary.