

Case #6

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This 48 year old lady had been on stilbesterol medication. She was admitted to hospital because of headache. She was delusional and was having visual hallucinations. Physical examination revealed sparse pubic hair and atrophic dermatitis. The pupils and eye grounds were normal. The sensations of touch, pain, vibration and position were intact. The clinical impression at that time was paranoid schizophrenia.

Hematocrit 31%; WBC 4,500 (PMN 46%, juv 2, lymph 42, mono 4, eos 6); glucose 104 mg%; electrolytes Na 115 mEq/L, k 3.8, Cl 90, CO₂ 21; arterial gases pH 7.51, pCO₂ 21.5 mmHg, pO₂ 74, O₂ sat 92%; CPK 22 units (normal 0-35); VDRL nonreactive. The CSF examination showed 4 lymph per mm³, 55 mg% protein, 74 mg% glucose, 114 mEq/L chloride, nonreactive VDRL, and colloidal gold 00 00 00 00 00. Hormonal assays of blood or urine were not done. T-3 test was 20% (normal 25-35) and T-4 9.8 micro gm% (normal 5-14).

The patient began having seizures, became febrile and stuporous and was placed on chlorpromazine. She expired shortly after a seizure.

General Pathology: The adrenals were atrophic; each weighed 2.5 gm. The thyroid weighed 23 gm. and show no abnormalities. The ovaries were normal in size. The pituitary was firm, gray and weighed 1.5 gm.

Microscopic Pathology: An H & E stained section and an unstained section of pituitary gland are submitted.

Points for Discussion:

1. Diagnosis.
2. Etiology.