

Case 1

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Clinical Abstract:

This stillborn male fetus died in utero 3 days before spontaneous birth at approximately 30 weeks gestation. There were no complications in the pregnancy until 12 days prior to fetal death when the mother presented to hospital with abdominal pain, anemia, and thrombocytopenia, all of unknown etiology. At delivery, the presence of cleft lip and palate, polydactyly, and omphalocele in the fetus suggested a trisomy 13, which was indirectly confirmed by the cytogenetic discovery in the mother's blood leukocytes of a balanced 13/14 translocation. Additional findings at autopsy included an Arnold-Chiari malformation, lumbar meningomyelocele, horse-shoe kidneys, and atrial septal defect.

Submitted:

1 H & E stained slide of brain stem

1 Unstained slide - in some cases this may be from a different block than the stained slide.

N.B. Blocks have been treated with picric acid.

Points for discussion:

1. Diagnosis
2. Embryological derivation