

CASE 1991 - 8

Clinical Abstract:

This 31 year old woman has been in good health all her life except for migrainous headaches affecting alternating sides since puberty. Fifteen months prior to presentation, she experienced an episode of numbness on the right side of the face. A year later her headaches became persistent and left sided. At presentation, an occurrence of mouth and jaw twitching progressed to a generalized tonic-clonic seizure. Her neurological exam at the time was normal. An EEG showed wave and spike activity in the left temporal area. A CT scan and MRI of the head were read as normal. She was put on Dilantin and remained free of seizures but continued to suffer from severe headaches. A repeat MRI, eight months later, revealed a "en plaque" dural lesion in the left frontoparietal area without evidence of mass effect. On postgadolinium images the mass demonstrated homogeneous enhancement. A craniotomy was performed and a 3 x 2 cm piece of dura obtained.

Material submitted:

- 1) H & E stained section of the surgical specimen
- 2) MRI of the head with Gadolinium

Points for discussion:

- 1) Diagnosis
- 2) Pathogenesis
- 3) Treatment