

CASE 1998-2

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Clinical History: This 6 year old girl was the product of a normal spontaneous vaginal delivery born to an HIV positive woman after an uncomplicated pregnancy. She remained healthy until she was 2 years old. At that time, she suffered several episodes of interstitial pneumonitis, necessitating an open lung biopsy. No viral, bacterial or fungal etiology was found. She was found to be HIV positive and has subsequently been diagnosed with AIDS based on a low CD4 count of 69/cu mm. She has also had diagnoses of failure to thrive, esophageal candidiasis, and c. difficile colitis. There is no history of significant neurologic changes but a head CT was done to rule out any indolent lesions. A mass discovered in the left portion of the cavernous sinus was further studied with MRI. MRI characterized the lesion as a well circumscribed, enhancing 1.5 cm extra-axial mass. She had a craniotomy with excision of the mass.

Material Submitted: 1 Hematoxylin and eosin stained section
1 Unstained section

Points for discussion: 1. Diagnosis
2. Pathogenesis