

45TH ANNUAL DIAGNOSTIC SLIDE SESSION 2004

CASE 2004-10

SUBMITTED BY: Dr. Juan M. Bilbao, Dr. Tim Feltis and Ms. Beverley Young.
Department of Pathology, University of Toronto,
Sunnybrook & Women's College Health Sciences Centre,
and The Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario

CLINICAL HISTORY:

- 40-Year-old Female. History of migraines and hypothyroidism, otherwise healthy.
- Neck "treatment", shortly thereafter: agitation, blurred vision, intermittent hearing loss + stabbing headaches
- Five days later collapsed in ER
- The next week angio: outpouchings at C1-C2, V3 segment of RtVA + aneurysm LtVA just distal to Lt PICA; small intradural RtVA (congenital)
- Three days later CT: SAH posterior fossa, ventricles dilated (drained). Angiogram: spasm LtICA supraclinoid. LtVA aneurysm eliminated with coils, pica still patent.
- The next day angio: progressing spasm both ICA's and LVA, all balloon angioplastied
- Starting six days later for the following week CT: infarcts Lt and Rt cerebellum and medulla.
- One day later, patient died. (Survival time: 24 days)

NECROPSY FINDINGS: Pseudoaneurysm left vertebral A. distal to PICA, obliterated with a coil of platinum wire. Patchy infarction of medulla and cerebellum. No Fx of base of skull. Non-contributory findings on general autopsy.

MATERIAL SUBMITTED: Paraffin section – Horizontal, Rt hemi-spine C1-C2
- Movat's Pentachrome.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION: 1) Diagnosis
2) Pathogenesis.