45th Annual Diagnostic Slide Session 2004

CASE 2004-4

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Clinical History: A healthy 54-year-old male presented with a 2-3 week history of

short-term memory difficulty, unremitting headache and a shuffling gait. MRI of the

brain showed a contrast enhancing 5.6 x 5.4 x 4.2 cm partially cystic, partially solid mass

involving the right anterior parietal and frontal lobes. The cystic component accounted

for over fifty percent of the lesion's volume, and the solid component contained areas of

necrosis. Subfalcine herniation and effacement of the right lateral ventricle related to

edema and tumor mass effect were present. Additional lesions were identified in the left

frontal lobe and centrum semiovale. Gross total resection of the tumor was performed.

Translucent golden-yellow fluid was aspirated from the cyst. Macroscopically, the

specimen consisted of a 3.8 x 2.3 x 2.0 cm irregular firm mass. The cut surface

demonstrated a variegated appearance with firm white-tan tissue interspersed with softer

red-tan semi-translucent areas.

Material Submitted: H&E and unstained section of right frontal lobe of cerebrum

Points for Discussion: Diagnosis