Diagnosis

Case of the month

January 2012

Primary CNS lymphoma

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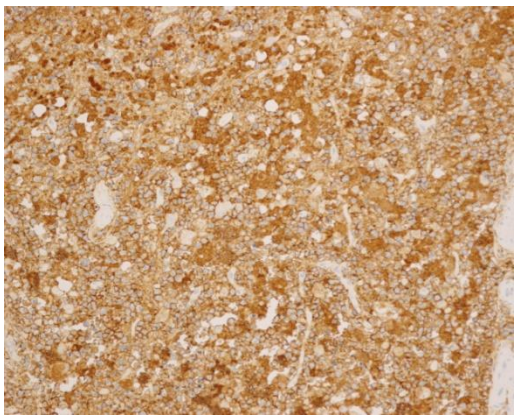
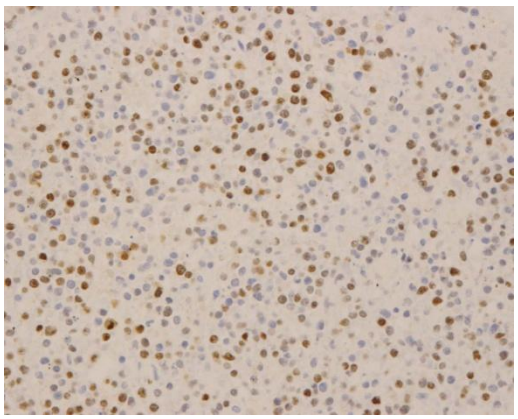
Immunostaining of the tumor showed immunoreactivity for CD20 (B-cells). The MIB-1 index was high. No tumor outside the CNS was found at autopsy.



CD20



MIB-1

Both primary and secondary CNS lymphomas are predominantly tumors of the diffuse large B-cell type. Less than 4% of the primary CNS lymphomas (PCNSL) are of T-cell origin. PCNSL represent about 3% of all brain tumors in immunocompetent patients. Most occur in the fifth to seventh decade. They are highly aggressive tumors with poor prognosis. In immunocompromised patients the lymphoma cells are frequently EBV positive B-cells.
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