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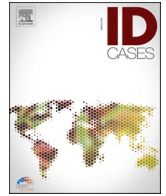
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Isolated cerebral cryptococcoma

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A 57-year-old woman with a history of inflammatory arthritis on abatacept presented to our hospital with several months of “brain fog,” word-finding difficulties, and stuttering. The physical exam was unremarkable. Given the progressive nature of her symptoms, an MRI was performed, which showed a 1.2 cm peripherally enhancing lesion centered in the grey-white matter junction within the left parietal lobe (see Figs. 1 and 2), suspicious for metastatic disease. Work up for a primary malignancy was unrevealing, so a brain biopsy was performed showing an encapsulated mass with purulence consistent with a brain abscess. Pathology revealed yeast-like microorganisms (see Figs. 3 and 4) and cultures grew *Cryptococcus neoformans*. Subsequent CSF studies were unremarkable including routine cell count with differential, protein, glucose, Cryptococcal antigen, and fungal culture. Cryptococcal antigen in serum was also negative and there was no evidence of pulmonary disease on imaging. She was treated with liposomal amphotericin B/ flucytosine for a brief period and then switched to maintenance oral fluconazole with partial improvement in her symptoms.

CRediT authorship contribution statement

All three authors contributed equally in the write up of this

manuscript.

Ethical approval

Non applicable.

Consent

Written informed consent was obtained from the patient for publication of this case report and accompanying images. A copy of the written consent is available for review by the Editor-in-Chief of this journal on request.

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Conflicts of interest

Authors have no conflicts of interest.

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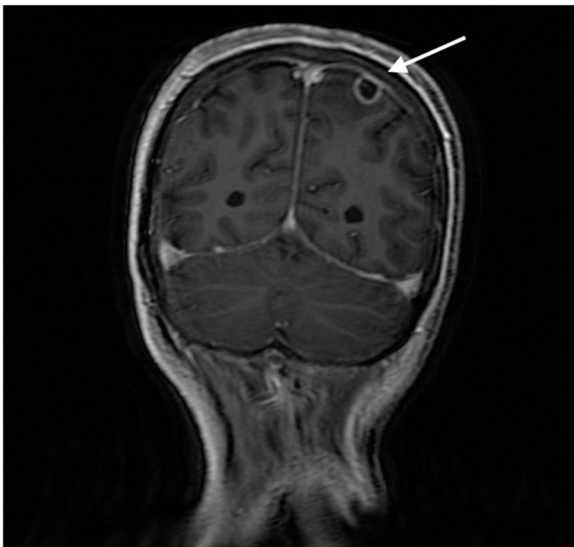


Fig. 1. Coronal view of brain MRI showing rim enhancing lesion in left parietal lobe.

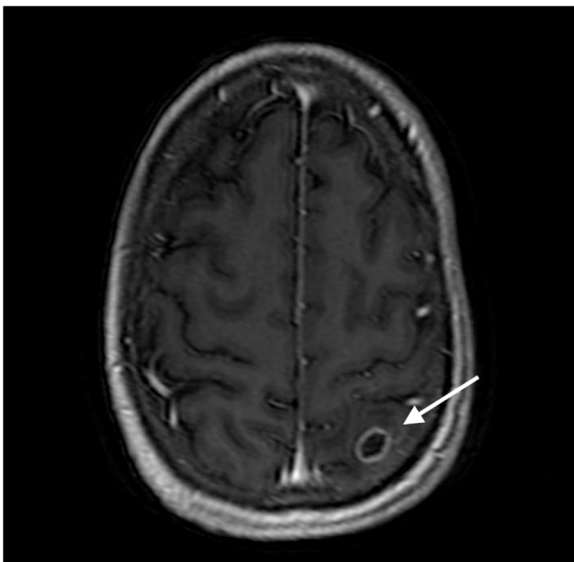


Fig. 2. Axial view of brain MRI showing rim enhancing lesion in left parietal lobe.

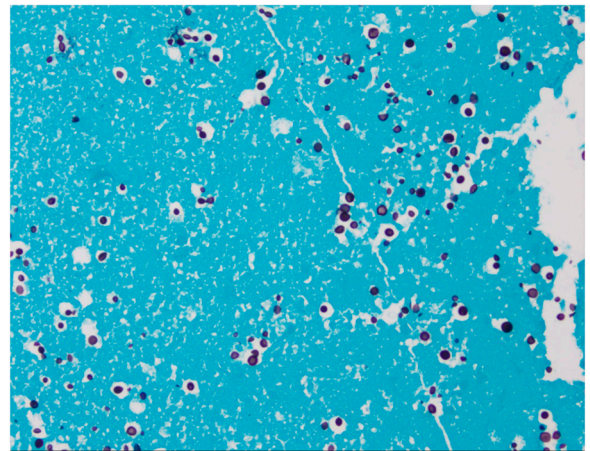


Fig. 3. Brain biopsy showing yeast like micro-organisms on GMS stain.

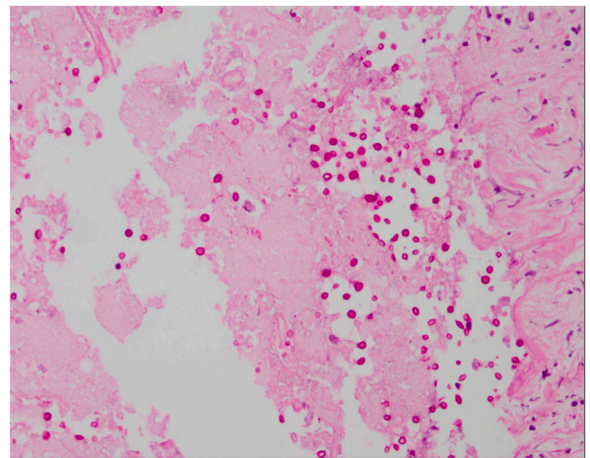


Fig. 4. Brain biopsy showing yeast like micro-organisms on PAS-D stain.