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Multiple Brain Abscess – Think out of the Box

A J Jain, P S Shrinivasan, C T Deshmukh, R K Vaswani, M Wade, J R Agrawal Department of Pediatrics, King Edward Memorial Hospital and Seth G S Medical College, Mumbai

Address for Correspondence: Dr A J Jain, Department of Pediatrics, King Edward Memorial Hospital and Seth G S Medical College, Mumbai. Email: <u>akshujain02@gmail.com</u>

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Abstract:

We report two unusual cases of brain abscesses of different etiologies. A 5 year old male child presented to us with history of fever with headache since 15 days, generalized tonic clonic convulsions. He had upper motor neuron type of right facial palsy, choreoathethoid movements, brisk reflexes and extensor plantars. MRI brain showed multiple bilateral cerebral and left cerebellar abscesses of size 5x3.5x2 cms. Abscess was aspirated on the second day which grew Asperigillus organism. HIV Elisa was negative. Immunodeficiency work up revealed combined immunodeficiency. Lymphocyte subset assay showed very low CD3,CD4,CD8 T lymphocytes,CD19 B lymphocytes and NK cell. IgG levels were low. Nitroblue tetrazolium test was normal. Child was treated with IV antibiotic, Fluconazole and Amphotericin B but finally succumbed. The second case report is of a 5 months old female child who presented to us with history of fever with cough since one and half month. Birth and developmental history was normal. She was immunized till date. Child had hepatosplenomegaly. She had persistent leucocytosis. Mantoux test and other Koch's work up were negative. CXR showed minimal haziness. MRI brain revealed multiple brain abscesses with a lipid peak suggestive of tubercular etiology. CSF showed 9 polymorphs, 12 lymphocytes and 90 proteins. CSF MGIT awaited. Mother's Elisa was negative. Immunodeficiency work up is awaited. Child is treated with antibiotics and antitubercular therapy.

