

# *Pathology Revision of CNS Block (Midterm)*



 @Pathology434

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# 1-Cellular Injury of Nervous System:

## Markers of Neuronal Injury.

### 1-Red neuron:

early irreversible hypoxic/ ischemic insult, acute neuronal injury (within 12 hours) and becomes **leads to:**

- shrinkage of the cell body, pyknosis of the nucleus, disappearance of the nucleolus, loss of Nissl substance and intense eosinophilia of the cytoplasm.

### 2-intracellular inclusions:

stainable substances (protein) aggregates in Nuclei or cytoplasm.

### 3-dystrophic neurites:

-axons become thickened and tortuous, in **Neurodegenerative diseases: Ex: (Parkinson, Alzheimer).**

### 4-Axonal injury:

characterized by:

- swelling of axons and disrupted of axonal transport (called spheroids).
- Enlargement of cell body, enlargement of nucleolus and dispersion of Nissl substance (central chromatolysis).

### **Diffuse Axonal injury:**

after **traumas**, it is **asymmetrical distribution in wide area** and there is a loss of axonal function.

can be showed by silver staining or immunohistochemistry with antibody to **(Beta Amyloid Precursor Protein) (BAPP)**: can detect the axonal lesions in 2-3 hours

after the injury.

## Markers of peripheral nerve injury.

### Axonal neuropathies:

-axon degenerates (decrease in the density of axons > decrease in strength of impulse).

-secondary myelin loss (Wallerian degeneration).

### Segmental demyelination (Demyelinating neuropathies):

-damage to Schwann cells or myelin > decrease in impulse velocity (**normal density of axons**).

## Injury of Astrocytes.

-Astrocytes undergo both **hypertrophy** and **hyperplasia**.

**1-Gemistocytic Astrocytes: Enlargement nucleus, prominent nucleolus, cytoplasm expands and take bright pink color, cell extends stout and ramifying processes.**

**2-fibrillary astrocytes: astrocytes have less distinct cytoplasm and appear more fibrillar (usually in long-standing gliosis)**

**-Rosenthal fibers:** are thick, elongated, brightly eosinophilic protein aggregates that can be found in astrocytic processes in **chronic gliosis** (long-standing gliosis) and in **some low-grade gliomas** (Pilocytic astrocytoma).

## Injury of Oligodendrocyte.

in **progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy** and **viral inclusions** become *smudgy homogeneous-appearing enlarged nucleus*.  
-injuries of oligodendrocytes occur in white matter.

## Injury of ependymal cell.

in cytomegalovirus (CMV).

## Injury of Microglia.

They become elongated nuclei (rod cells) in neurosyphilis or other infection.

-**microglial nodules: elongated microglia aggregates at sites of tissue injury.**

-**Neuronophagia: elongated microglia aggregates at sites of dying tissue**, (e.g. viral encephalitis).

## Cerebral Edema.

### 1-Vasogenic edema:

blood-brain barrier is disrupted > **extracellular edema**. due inflammation or tumor.

### 2-Cytotoxic edema:

An increase in **intracellular** fluid secondary to hypoxia/ ischemia or some toxin.

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## 2,3-Brain Tumors:

**Child:** Posterior fossa (20%), **Adults:** Supratentorial (80%).

## General Symptoms:

-Seizures, Vague and Headache.

## Classification:

-Cells inside CNS: Glioma, medulloblastoma.

-Cells covering CNS: Meningioma.

-Others: Schwannoma.

## 1-Gliomas.

3 Tumors: Astrocytoma, Oligodendroglioma, Ependymoma.

## A.Astrocytoma:

-Mutations that alter the enzymatic activity of two isoforms of the metabolic enzyme **isocitrate dehydrogenase (IDH1 and IDH2)** are common in **lower-grade astrocytomas**.

-Astrocytoma classified into 2 types:

<u>Pilocytic Astrocytoma:</u> Grade 1	<u>Fibrillary:</u> 3 subtypes: 1-Diffuse Astrocytoma: Grade 2. 2- Anaplastic Astrocytoma: Grade 3. 3-Glioblastoma Multiforme: Grade 4.
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\*We will take two types: Pilocytic Astrocytoma (Grade 1) and Glioblastoma Multiforme (Grade 4).

### \*Pilocytic Astrocytoma:

- Most common CNS Tumor In Children.
- Benign and well circumscribed.
- Cystic Lesion with mural Nodule.
- Rosenthal Fibers.**
- Absence** of Mitosis and Necrosis.
- GFAP Positive.

### \*Glioblastoma Multiforme:

- Most common CNS Malignant Tumor in Adults.
- Cross "Corpus callosum" (Butterfly Pattern).
- Pseudopalisading necrosis.**
- Endothelial Proliferation.**
- GFAP Positive.
- Primary GB:** Associated with **EGFR.**
- Secondary GB:** Associated with **P53.**

## B.Oligodendroglioma:

- in Adults (Supratentorial) and Malignant.
- Loss of Heterozygosity of chromosomes: **1P** and **19Q.**
- Round Nuclei inside halo cytoplasm (**Fried-Egg Pattern**).
- interlacing pattern of blood vessels.

## C.Ependymoma:

- In Children and Malignant.
- Perivascular Pseudorosettes (No canal).**
- Sometimes accompanied with Hydrocephalus.
- Mitosis, Necrosis and less differentiated in Histology.

## 2-Meningioma.

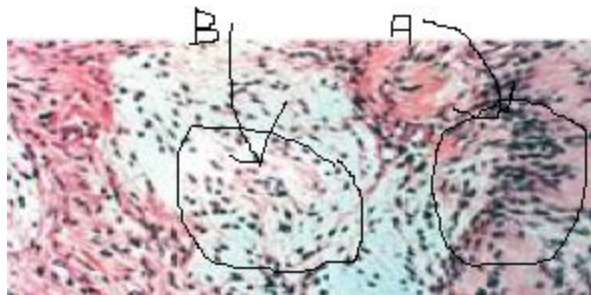
- Benign Tumor in Adults (Women mostly).
- Mass arising from Arachnoid Cells (Well demarcated) and the mass appear in dura.
- Whorled Pattern.**
- Psammoma Bodies.**
- Subtypes:** 1-Syncytial (without cell membrane), 2-Fibroblastic (with collagen) and 3-Transitional (Combination of two previous types).
- Atypical Meningioma: Grade 2, -Anaplastic (Malignant) Meningioma: Grade 3.

### 3-Medulloblastoma.

- Highly Malignant tumor in Child (Grade 4) from Granular Cells of **Cerebellum**.
- Destruction of Superior midline of Cerebellum.
- Small round blue cells and hyperchromatism and **Homer wright Rosettes** in Histology.

### 4-Schwannoma.

- Benign tumor in adults from schwann cells.
- Affects Mostly 8th Cranial Nerve.
- Bilateral Acoustic Schwannoma associated with **Neurofibroma 2 (NF2)**.
- Antoni A: More cellular - fibrillary-elongated tissue.
- Antoni B: Less Cellular - loose tissue.
- Nuclear free-zone: **Verocay Bodies** between the two nuclear palisading.



### 5-NeuroFibroma.

- 1-Cutaneous (diffuse) neurofibroma** or in **solitary neurofibroma**: These arise sporadically or multiple lesion in association with **NF1, Benign**.
- 2-plexiform neurofibroma**: arising in individuals with **NF1, malignant**.

### 6-Metastatic tumours.

- Common Places: **Lung** and **breast (most common)**, skin (melanoma), kidney, and gastrointestinal tract.
- Gross appearance**:
  - multiple , well circumscribed.
  - Sharply demarcated lesion at gray matter with edema.

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### 4-Multiple Sclerosis:

-Autoimmune disease in young adults (Women mostly), Affects myelin sheath of cranial nerves and Oligodendrocytes.

#### \*Risk Factors:

- 1- 15 fold higher in **first degree relatives**.
- 2- Monozygotic twins more than dizygotic twins.
- 3- Genetic risk: Mutation in **HLA-DR2** gene

### \*Pathogenesis:

-Combination of environmental (such as infection) & genetic factors that result in a loss of tolerance of self proteins (antigen) → Antigen presenting Cell comes and activates T-helper (CD4) → secret cytokines IL2 and IL7 → T cell cross BBB → Type IV hypersensitivity → infiltrate of lymphocytes, macrophages, B Cells and plasma cells produce antibody → demyelination, axonal loss and sometimes even leading to neuronal death.

### \*Gross Features:

-Grey-tan irregular lesion in white matter (Plaques).  
-Plaques found usually in **Ventricles**, optic nerve, Brain stem, cerebellum and spinal cord.

<b>Active Plaques</b>	<b>Inactive Plaques</b>
increase Macrophages	Decrease Oligodendrocytes
Myelin debris	No Myelin
Present of monocytes and lymphocytes	No inflammation
-	increase astrocytes (For gliosis)

### \*Symptoms:

-Visual impairment (Blurred vision).  
-Ataxia.  
-Weakness of Muscles and Fatigue.  
-Sexual Dysfunction.  
-Vertigo and Slurred speech.  
-Loss of sensation of lower limb.

### \*CSF Finding:

1-increase in  **$\gamma$ -globulin**.  
2-Increase in others proteins generally.  
3-Pleocytosis (WBC Increased).  
**4-Oligoclonal Bands.**

### \*Management:

-Interferon-Beta with Steroids.

**Good Luck**