

CODE: T3500 M4001/2

ID NOS: HX121370 A6341

DIAGNOSIS: AORTIC VALVE - BACTERIAL ENDOCARDITIS

CLINICAL HISTORY: M/32. There was a short history of fever and sweating and in hospital the patient was found to have pyrexia and had many petechial haemorrhages in the skin and retina. A systolic murmur was also present. There is no record of any blood cultures. Death resulted from cerebral haemorrhage.

MACROSCOPIC: On one of the cusps of the aortic valve there is a reddish vegetation immediately beneath which is a small perforation of the interventricular septum. On the reverse, the ulcerative process is seen to have also destroyed part of a cusp of the tricuspid valve. Autopsy showed that death resulted from pyaemia as many septic infarcts and pyaemic abscesses were present. The cause of the cerebral haemorrhage was probably rupture of the mycotic aneurysm but this was never found.

MICROSCOPIC: The vegetation consists mainly of fibrin (left image), in which colonies of cocci can be identified (right image) as well as neutrophils and red blood cells.

