

CODE: T9100 M8280/1

ID NOS: H271243 A7963

DIAGNOSIS: PITUITARY GLAND - SOMATOTROPH ADENOMA

CLINICAL HISTORY: M/70. This man was said to be always 'large featured'. Ten years before death he started having intermittent headaches, and five years later developed some unsteadiness of gait and double vision. During that time he also showed gradual loss of weight and mental deterioration. When admitted to hospital he was said to have acromegaly. He finally developed paralysis of CIII and bilateral Babinski signs. No papilloedema was ever recorded.

MACROSCOPIC: Arising from the pituitary fossa and pressing upwards into the brain and to the right is a lobulated tumour. There is displacement of the midbrain and pons to the left and the optic chiasma is stretched over the superior surface of the tumour. There is no medullary pressure cone and no dilatation of the lateral ventricles.

MICROSCOPIC: The tumour is encapsulated and quite vascular with areas of haemorrhage (left image). The tumour cells are spheroidal with eosinophilic cytoplasm. The appearance and clinical history support a diagnosis of somatotroph (growth hormone secreting) adenoma.

