

**CODE:** TX200 F9369

**ID NOS:** HX56300 A15830

**DIAGNOSIS:** BRAIN – TERMINAL CLOSTRIDIAL SEPTICAEMIA

**CLINICAL HISTORY:** M/66. This patient died from alcoholic cirrhosis, and haemorrhage from acute peptic ulcers. A terminal fever developed and blood cultures taken shortly before death grew *Clostridium perfringens*.

**MACROSCOPIC:** The brain contains irregular cyst like areas which at the time of autopsy were filled with gas, not fluid. Similar lesions were present in other organs.

**MICROSCOPIC:** There is no inflammatory reaction around the spaces. The dark spots in the surrounding tissue represent colonies of gram positive rods (right image).

**COMMENT:** If the organism had not been cultured before death, these changes would have been considered to be a post mortem phenomenon, which is not uncommon.

