

Brain Abscess

How?

- Skull Breach
 - Surgery
 - Trauma
- Endovascular
 - Endocarditis
 - Heart Defects
- Parameningeal Foci
 - Mastoids
 - Middle Ear
 - Sinus
- AV Fistula
- Distant Foci (Skin, Teeth)

Micro

- Immune ↓ (RF)
 - yes □ no
- @rabihgeha schema

DDx:

- See Brain Mass

What?

- Headache (Most Frequent)
- Seizure (25%)
- Focal Neuro Deficit
 - Frontal > Behavior Δ
 - Brainstem > CN palsy
 - Cerebellum > Ataxia
 - Motor Cortex > Ex. Foot Drop

What Else?

- Hydrocephalus > Lethargy
 - ↑ Abscess Size/Edema
 - Abscess Rupture in Ventricle
 - ↳ Ventriculitis

Practice

- VMR 50

Dx:

- CT-Contrast
- MRI > Abscess vs Cancer
- *Identify Organism*
- Aspiration
- Blood & CSF Culture, 25% (Herniation Risk w/ LP?)

Rx:

- Antimicrobials, ~8wks
- +/- Neurosurgery
- Repeat Imaging

Edu:

- Fever & AMS Commonly Absent
- HIV+ Probable Toxo (+IgG)
 - ↳ Tissue Not Issue
- Hard to Predict Before Image