CLINICO-PATHOLOGIC CONFERENCE

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M.M., 66 year-old female

Extent of autopsy:
Limited to thorax and abdomen
External Survey

- Lividity
- Hematoma
- 6 cm curvilinear incision scar, upper outer quadrant, left breast
Heart

- 11x10.5x5.5 cm. (302.5 grams)
- Normal relationship between great vessels
- Focal area of healed pericarditis at the RV
- RV wall - 0.4 cm; LV wall - 1.5 cm
- Tricuspid, pulmonary, mitral, and aortic valves: within normal limits
- Chordae tendinae (LV) normal
- No fusion of commissures nor thickening or shortening of chordae noted.
- No thrombus or vegetations
Respiratory System

- Pleural fluid: Turbid, bloody, 130 ml.
- Right lung: 20x13x3.5cm (250g)
- Left lung: 23x20x4.5cm (450g)
- Brown-tan, smooth, and glistening external surface with anthracotic pigmentation
- Lower lobes: red-tan, dull, smooth surface
External Surface, Lung

Cream-tan, nodular implants at anterior aspect measuring 0.1 to 0.8 cm.

Lower lobes: red-tan, homogenous surface with frothy secretions and cream-tan nodulations.
Liver

- Liver: 1300 grams
- Right lobe: 22.7x14x6.5cm
- Left lobe: 19x7x3.5cm
- Both have a smooth, brown and glistening external surface.
- Cream-tan, nodular, firm masses measuring 0.1-2.1 cm
Kidneys

- Right: 11x5x3.5cm (200 grams)
- Left: 10.3x6x3.3cm (225 grams)
Adrenals

- Right - 2.5x0.5x0.3cm, 16.5g
- Left - 2.3x0.4x0.3cm, 14g
- Both have a bright yellow, nodular external surface.
- Cut sections reveal a cream-tan, homogenous surface
Within Normal Limits (Gross)

- Spleen: 10.5x7.3x3.8cm (125 grams)
- Gallbladder: 7.5x4x1.7cm
- Pancreas: 16.4x4x0.9cm (50 grams)
- Appendix: not identified
- Gastrointestinal and Reproductive Systems
Microscopic Examination
Lower Lobe, Lung

congestion
Lower Lobe, Lung

hemorrhage
Lung

edema, tumor, anthracosis
Lung

Lymphovascular tumor emboli
Lung

Lymphovascular tumor emboli
Pleural Surface

Tumor implants
Right Liver

steatosis
Left Liver

(+ metatasis)
Right Adrenal Gland

(+) metastasis
Right Adrenal Gland

(+) metastasis
Left Adrenal Gland

(+) metastasis
Thoracic Vertebra

(+ metastasis)
Thoracic Vertebra

(+) metastasis
No Significant Pathologic Changes

- Genito-Urinary System
- Heart
- Spleen, Gallbladder, and Pancreas
- Gastrointestinal System
Other Findings

- Left breast tissue: fibrosis, no residual tumor
- Pleural fluid cytology: Negative for malignant cells
- Postmortem blood culture: Negative
Final Anatomic Diagnosis

II. Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome
   Secondary to:
   A. Pulmonary Tumor Microembolism and Carcinomatosis
   B. Pulmonary Hemorrhage and Edema

III. Multiple Organ Metastasis (Carcinomatosis)
   A. Lungs, Bilateral
   B. Thoracic Vertebrae
   C. Liver
   D. Adrenal Glands, Bilateral
- **Underlying Cause of Death:** Metastatic Breast Carcinoma

- **Immediate Cause of Death:** Respiratory Failure