

surface being studded with nodules of a white or reddish colour, which on section were seen to be uniformly white and juicy. In size they varied from 5 to 30 mm. in thickness by 8 to 60 mm. in diameter, the pleura between the nodules averaging 5 mm. in thickness. The left lung was in a state of complete collapse, being compressed against the bodies of the vertebrae. One bronchial gland was slightly enlarged, seemingly from direct extension from the pleural growth. The remaining organs were normal, there being no evidence of new growth in any other part of the body.

Microscopic examination showed the growth in the pleura and bronchial gland to be a myeloid sarcoma, as characterised by the presence of large irregular-shaped multinuclear cells, with smaller round and oval cells between stroma non-evident, blood channels visible between rows of cells. The chief clinical features were thus a large and rapidly recurring blood-stained serous exudation in the pleura, an afebrile temperature, marked prostration of strength, and cardiac weakness.

The diagnosis made during life, after watching the progress of the case, was malignant disease of the pleura. This was based on the extremely rapid recurrence of the fluid and an afebrile temperature. The marked prostration and blood-stained fluid were also in harmony with this view.

On the occasion of the first tapping the colour of the fluid awakened a suspicion of tuberculosis. The absence of fever, however, was regarded as being extremely improbable in a severe tuberculous pleurisy.

The autopsy proved conclusively the presence of a myeloid sarcoma of the pleura. The absence of any evidence of implication of the bones or the viscera compels us to regard the pleural growth as primary.

Cases of primary malignant disease of the pleura are universally admitted to be extremely rare, and their existence is even denied by some authorities. The majority of cases are reported in inaccessible foreign journals, and are not even abstracted in the various Year-books.

In the following table we have summarised the main features of six cases of primary pleural sarcoma :—