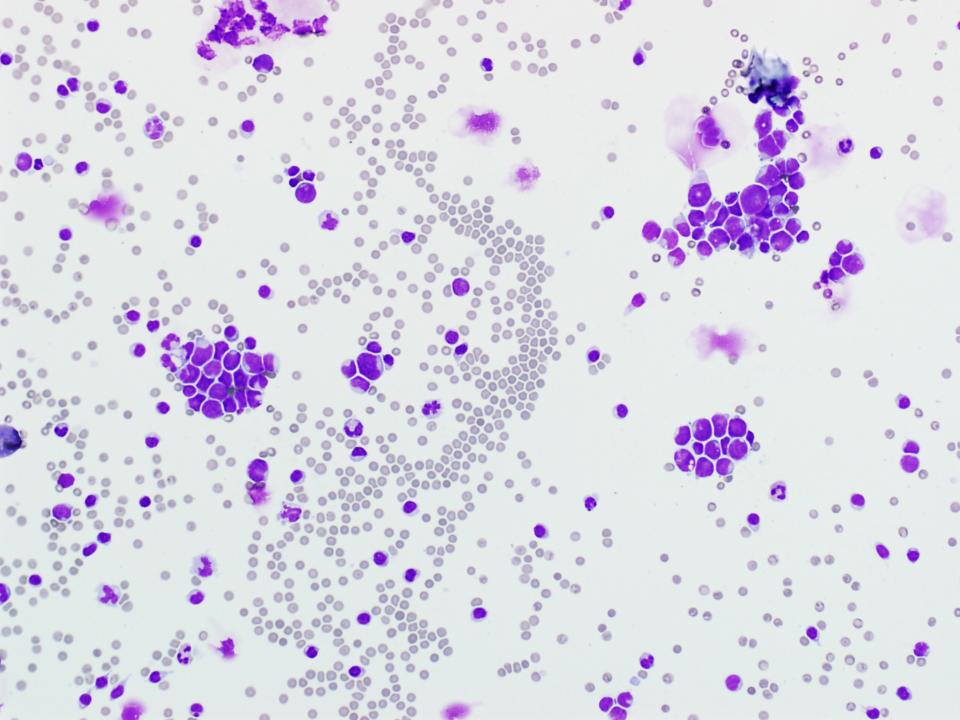
Case of the Week

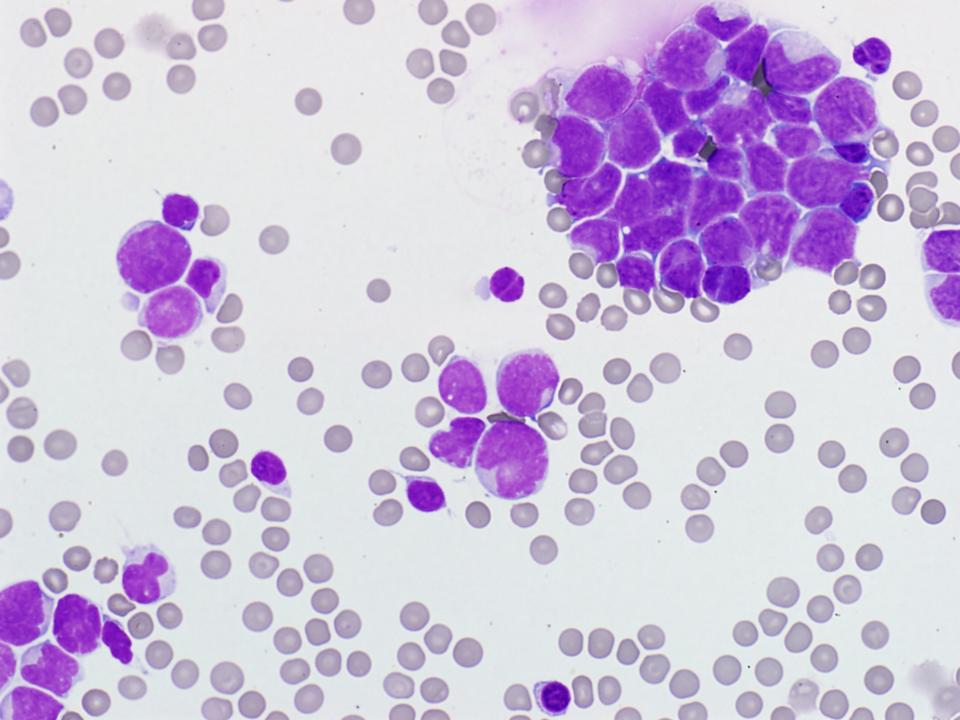
July 9, 2012

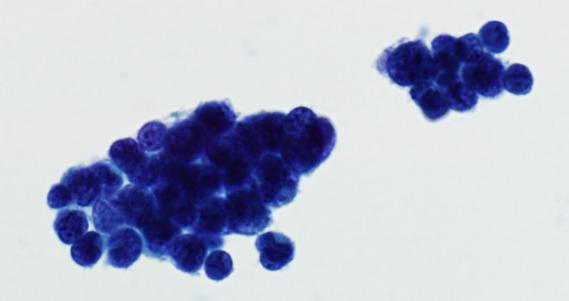
History

History: 4 year old boy with a cerebellar mass.

Specimen Received: Cerebrospinal fluid







Diagnosis - Medulloblastoma

- The CSF specimen is cellular and is notable for small, round neoplastic cells with high nuclear-tocytoplasmic ratios, present singly and in clusters.
- The Diff-Quik preparation especially highlights nuclear molding and irregularities in the nuclear contours.
- Cohesive clusters composed of small round blue cells are appreciated in the ThinPrep slide. The chromatin is granular and nucleoli are not seen.

Diagnosis - Medulloblastoma

- The differential diagnosis includes small round blue cell tumors that can arise in a variety of locations in the central nervous system such as:
 - Pineal gland (pineoblastoma)
 - Cerebellum (medulloblastoma)
 - Retina (retinoblastoma)
- In this specific clinical scenario, the most likely diagnosis is medulloblastoma. In fact, a biopsy was performed on the brain tumor which was also diagnosed as a medulloblastoma.