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Pilocytic astrocytoma with neoplastic gemistocytes undergoing spontaneous transformation to glioblastoma multiforme without prior radiotherapy.

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Abstract

Pilocytic astrocytoma, the most common glioma of childhood, is considered a clinically benign tumour. Malignant transformation of this tumour is rare and thought to occur almost exclusively in the setting of prior radiotherapy. We describe a patient with mixed pilocytic and gemistocytic astrocytoma which transformed into a glioblastoma multiforme, leading to rapid deterioration and death of the patient, without prior radiotherapy.

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