

# BREAKING THE CODE OF A NODE

DR. ARASAR UNIT

&

DR. ELILARASI UNIT

# History of presenting illness

---

- 11 year old boy- second born of 3<sup>rd</sup> degree consanguineous marriage
- Brought by mother with complaints of swelling in the right side of the neck
- Progressive increase in size of swelling since October 2017.
- This was followed by similar complaints on the other side of the neck, which was not associated with pain.



- Right side  
15cmx10cmx3cm,
- Left side  
12cmx10cmx3cm,  
nodes,
- Firm to hard in  
consistency
- Neither tender
- Nor mobile.

# History of presenting illness

---

- h/o fever on and off for the past 3 months
- noisy breathing over the last three months.
- h/o easy fatigability
- h/o dysphagia
- h/o loss of weight 3kgs
- No h/o bone pain
- No h/o swelling of face
- No h/o skin lesions or ear discharge
- No h/o similar swellings elsewhere in the body

- 
- **Past history:** no h/o previous admissions for similar complaints.
  - **Ante-natal history:** uneventful
  - **Natal and postnatal history:** child born by FTNVD, cried at birth. Birth weight of 2.5kg. No h/o NICU admission. Child had neonatal physiological hyperbilirubinemia

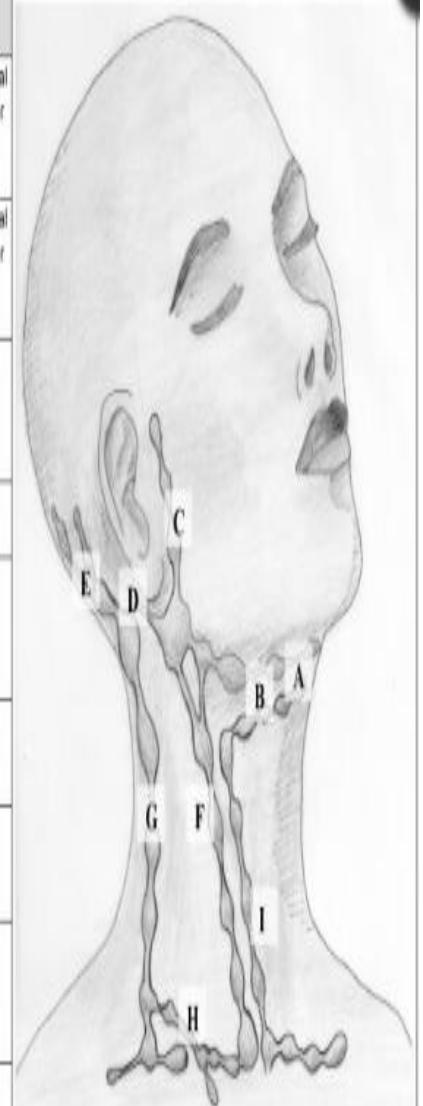
# Other History

---

- **Immunization History:**
  - all vaccinations up to 10 yrs has been given.
- **Family History:**
  - no h/o similar illness in family members.
  - older sibling alive and healthy.
- **Contact History:**
  - no h/o contact with tuberculosis



Region	Drainage areas	Predilection sites for:
A Submental	Bottom lip, tip of tongue, floor of mouth, skin of cheeks	Infectious processes of the oral cavity, nose, maxillary sinus or the face
B Submandibular	Tongue, submandibular gland, lips, mouth, conjunctiva	Infectious processes of the oral cavity, nose, maxillary sinus or the face
C Pre-auricular	Eyeballs, conjunctiva, temporal region, parotis, middle ear	Infectious processes of the ears, teeth, lid infections, conjunctivitis
D Post-auricular	Auditory canal, auricle, scalp	Infectious processes
E Suboccipital	Scalp, neck	Infectious processes, toxoplasmosis, rubella, lymphomas
F Jugular	Tongue, tonsils, parotis, auricle	Pharyngitis, rubella, cancer metastases, lymphomas
G Posterior cervical	Scalp and neck	Tuberculosis, melanomas, lymphomas
H Supraclavicular	Lungs, esophagus, abdomen (thoracic duct)	Thoracic and retroperitoneal carcinomas, lymphomas, sarcoidosis, tuberculosis
I Paratracheal	Trachea, thyroid gland	Lesion of the thyroid





# Summary

Bilateral  
cervical  
adenopathy

Snoring

Fever

Weight loss

# INVESTIGATIONS

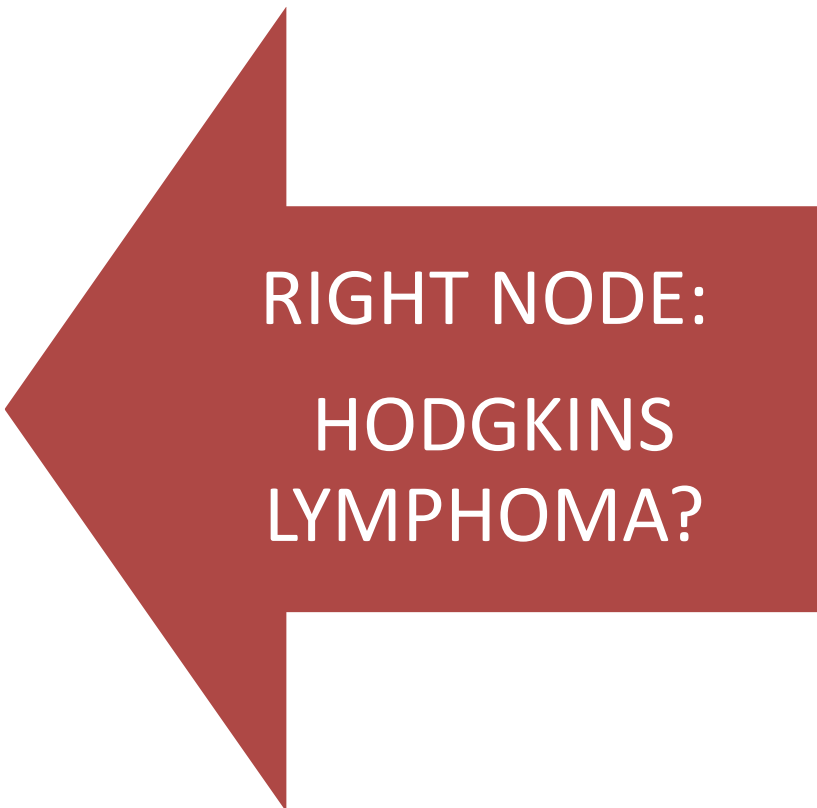
- CBC:
- **TC-30,000/cu mm**
- DC-86/9/5
- **Hb-7g/dl**
- Pcv-21.3
- Platelets-6.07 lakhs
- **MCV-70.8fl**
- **MCH-23.3pg, MCHC- 32.9**, RDW-16.9, RBC COUNT -3 million, retic-2%

- **Peripheral smear:**
- Severe hypochromic anisopoikilocytosis, platelet in singles and good clumps, neutrophilic leucocytosis seen.

- Retroviral screening-negative,
- EBV SEROLOGY- negative,
- Chest x-ray normal study
- X-ray lateral neck- adenoid hypertrophy

- LEFT CERVICAL NODE EXCISIONAL BIOPSY
  - Granulomatous lymphadenitis with caseous necrosis
  - Suggestive of tuberculosis.
- Subsequent work-up for tuberculosis revealed no evidence of tuberculosis.
  - Mantoux Negative
  - CBNAAT Negative (GL/BAL)
  - Contact negative
  - CBNAAT from biopsy specimen : negative for TB

- Excisional biopsy Right cervical node
- Lymphoproliferative disorder suggestive of Hodgkin's lymphoma



RIGHT NODE:  
HODGKINS  
LYMPHOMA?



LEFT NODE :  
TB

- Hence a repeat cervical node biopsy was done on 11/12/2017 showed evidence of atypical cellular infiltrate with surrounding fibrosis and acute inflammation .
- Possibilities :
  - Undifferentiated nasopharyngeal carcinoma
  - Germ cell tumor
  - Hodgkin's lymphomaAnd IHC was advised.



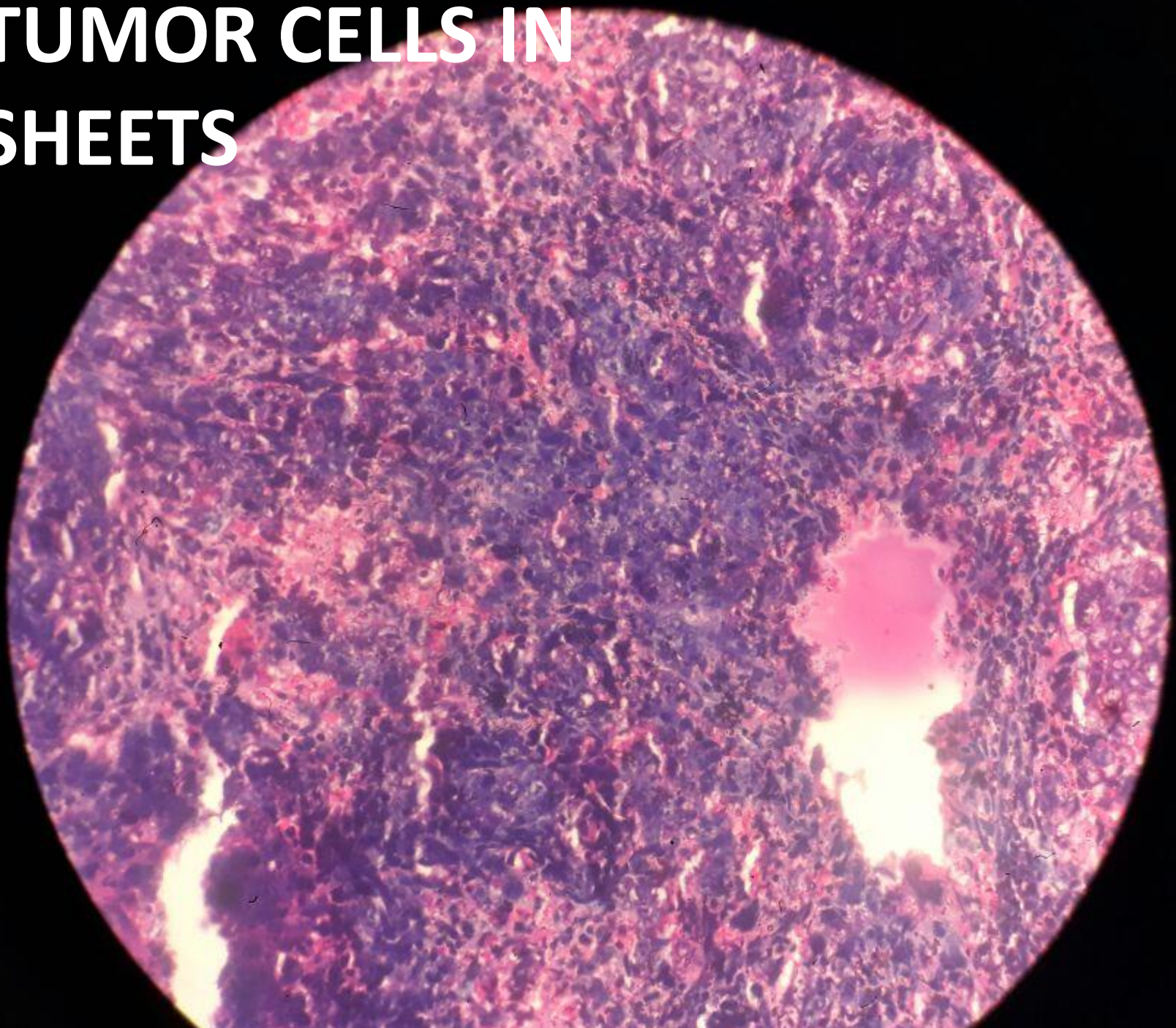
- **IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY:**
- **PAN CK: POSITIVE**
- PLAP: NEGATIVE
- CD 30:NEGATIVE
- CD 15: NEGATIVE
- LCA: NEGATIVE IN TUMOUR CELLS AND POSTIVE IN LYMPHOID CELLS
- CK 5/6: NEGATIVE
- CK7: NEGATIVE
- CK19(A): NEGATIVE
- **IMPRESSION:** suggestive of **metastatic carcinoma**

- **ENT OPINION:** suggested CT neck and DNE was planned.
- **CT NECK:** bilateral level 2,3,4 and 5 cervical lymphadenopathy, enlarged retropharyngeal nodes 2.6cmx2.0cm with multiple necrotic areas. Impression: f/s/o ?lymphoma suggested HPE correlation
- **CT ABDOMEN:**normal
- **CT CHEST :** normal.
- **UGI SCOPY:** no suspicious lesion

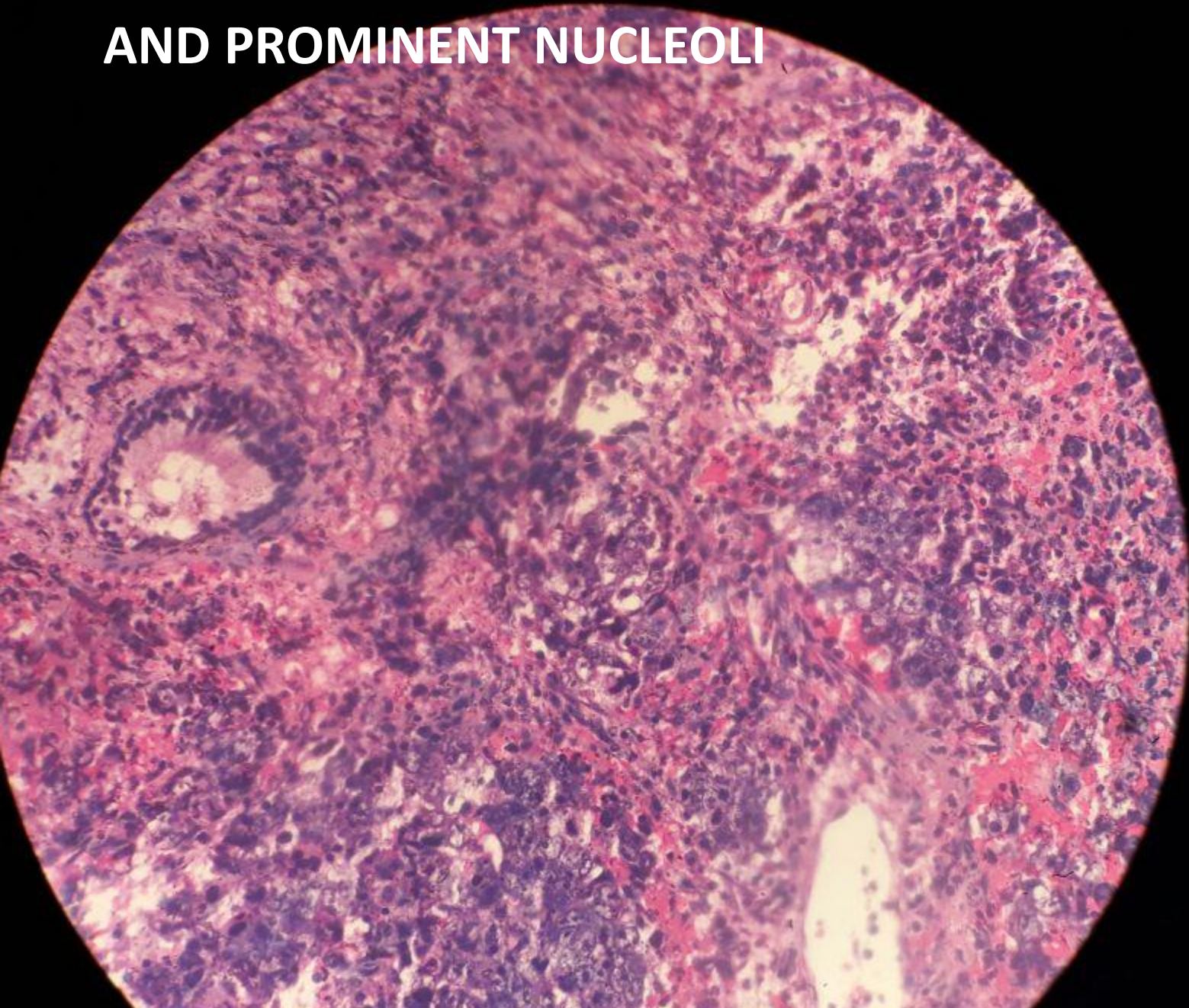
# DIAGNOSTIC NASAL ENDOSCOPY

- ❖ Mucopurulent secretions in both nasal cavities
- ❖ **Small friable mass** visualised in the nasopharynx, biopsy taken from the same and sent for HPE.
- ❖ Grade three adenoid hypertrophy present.

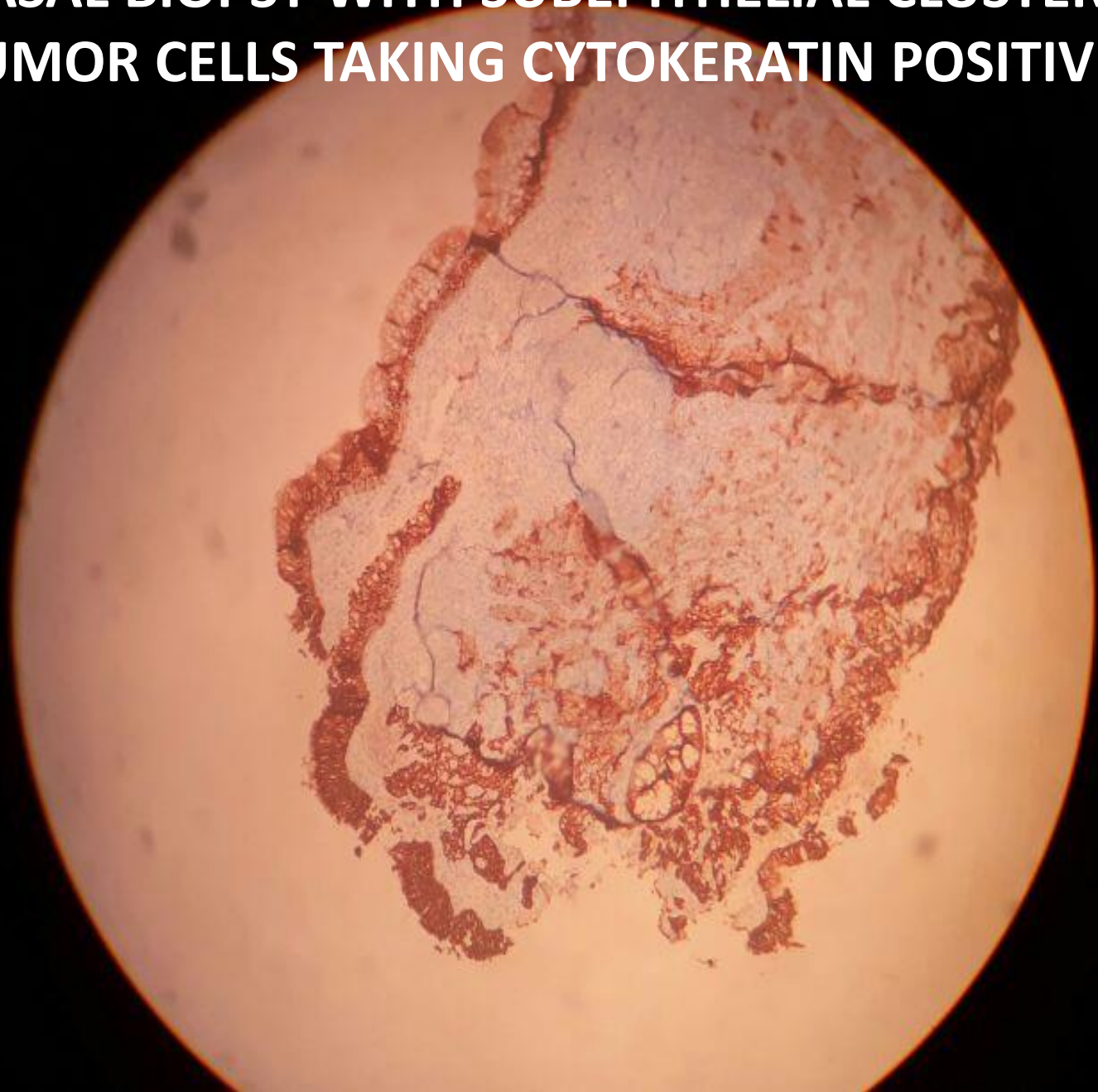
# TUMOR CELLS IN SHEETS



**TUMOR CELLS HAVING VESICULAR NUCLEI  
AND PROMINENT NUCLEOLI**



**NASAL BIOPSY WITH SUBEPITHELIAL CLUSTERS SHOWING  
TUMOR CELLS TAKING CYTOKERATIN POSITIVITY**

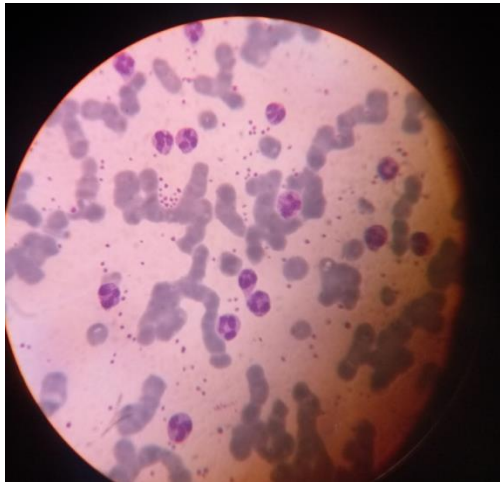


- **Biopsy from DNE specimen:**  
suspicious atypical cell clusters which were subjected to IHC.
- **IHC with pan cytokeratin:** IHC section study shows strong and diffuse positivity in the tumor cells **favouring epithelial carcinoma.**
- **Impression**  
IHC from the primary was in favour of the diagnosis of **nasopharyngeal carcinoma.**

- During the course of stay child developed progressive increase in total counts.
- 28/1/18 **TC:68,200**, DC:**96**/03/1
- ONCOLOGIST OPINION
- : in view of deteriorating general condition child was started on hyperhydration and dexamethasone. Possibility of a lymphoblastic lymphoma was suggested.



- Peripheral smear on 29/1/18:
- RBC: NCNC+MCHC mild anisocytosis
- WBC: count markedly elevated with neutrophilic leukocytosis predominantly mature forms, no blasts seen.
- Platelets: thrombocytosis.
- Imp: leukemoid reaction, in view of clinical history with undifferentiated metastatic carcinoma of nasopharynx initially favours the diagnosis of **paraneoplastic leukemoid reaction.**



- leukemoid reaction, in view of clinical history with undifferentiated metastatic carcinoma of nasopharynx initially favours the diagnosis of **paraneoplastic leukemoid reaction.**

- Child was diagnosed to have undifferentiated metastatic nasopharyngeal carcinoma with paraneoplastic leukemoid reaction( after ruling out other causes of hyperleukocytosis in solid tumors).
- Child was shifted to department of medical oncology RGGGH and started on cisplatin and 5 fluorouracil and later radiation was planned

UNDIFFERENTIATED  
NASOPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA  
WITH PARANEOPLASTIC  
LEUKEMOID REACTION

# IHC IN NPC

- PAN CK- POSITIVE
- CK 5/6- POSITIVE( 4/5)
- CK 8- POSITIVE(4/5)
- CK 13- POSITIVE(4/5)

# PARANEOPLASTIC LEUKEMOID REACTION IN SOLID TUMORS

- Other causes of hyperleukocytosis-infections, new haematological malignancy, haemorrhage, corticosteroids and hematopoietic growth factors to be ruled out.
- Due to its rarity there are very limited studies regarding PLR.

- Largest study is a retrospective by Granger et al that observed 3770 adult oncology patients with hyperleucocytosis, among them 758 patients had solid tumors, only 77 patients (10%) were found to have PLR. Of the 77 patients only 4 patients were found to have head and neck cancers.
- PLR is associated with heavy tumour burden and poor prognosis with an overall survival of 15 months.

# THANK YOU

- METASTASIS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A DD FOR CERVICAL ADENOPATHY
- PLR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN SOLID TUMORS WITH LARGE TUMOR BURDEN