

11. Pathology

Cerebral pathology

In the other 37 autopsies, the brain was examined and found to be abnormal in ten cases; nearly one third. These included intracerebral haemorrhage, stroke, hypoxic encephalopathy, or metastatic tumours to the brain. Review of the available clinical histories indicates that in most cases these conditions were already known or suspected, the autopsy providing useful confirmation. In only two cases did brain examination bring out previously unknown pathology, but neither were severe: a 1.5cm choroid cyst, and a small old cerebral infarction. However, in the majority of the 'normal brains' no histology was performed.