**Encephalitis**

31/1/11

Data Interpretation – Venkatesh

PY Mindmaps

- causes: HSV, flavivirus, HIV

- differential: partially treated bacterial meningitis, TB, syphillus, Cryptococcus, cerebral lymphoma, acute disseminated encephalomyelitis (ADEM)

CLINICAL FEATURES

- encephalopathy

- confusion

- lethargy

- somnolence

- coma

- seizures

- headache

- fever

INVESTIGATIONS

- LP: lymphocytic pleocytosis, viral culture, herpes PCR on CSF, Ziehl-Nelsen stain, TB culture, syphilis serology, cytology

- cryptococcal antigen

- HIV serology

- MRI: temporal localization of lesions in encephalitis, enhancing multifocal white matter changes suggestive of demyelination

- EEG: lateralizing epileptiform discharges

MANAGEMENT

- acyclovir 10mg/kg Q8hrly until definitive imaging done

- supportive

- if ADEM found -> high dose steroids