

SAMPLE NERVE CASE

(Time available: total of 45 minutes for both muscle and nerve cases including report writing)

Please read the clinical history (see below), and then examine:

1. The histological slides.
2. The electron micrographs.

In your answer book, please write up:

1. A full description of the histological (and ultrastructural) appearances.
2. Your neuropathological diagnosis and, if indicated, the differential diagnoses.
3. The thinking behind (discussion) your diagnosis / diagnoses.
4. Any other investigations that you feel are NECESSARY to establish the diagnosis or assist with patient management.

Code for slide labels: Case reference “HI33197/11 Wilson” appears on each slides

Slide Label	Stain
H&E	Cryostat section hematoxin and eosin
Tol Blue	Resin embedded section stained with toluidine blue
Teased prep	Teased nerve fibre preparations
	In addition, 5 electron micrographs are provided

Clinical history

40 year old man who developed Bell's Palsy and subsequently weakness of the left arm and left foot drop. Symptoms progressed over several weeks with muscle aching and weakness in both legs and sensory symptoms in his hands and legs. On examination he was found to have glove sensory loss in the tips of the fingers, stocking sensory loss to mid shins and reduced strength in his arms and legs. Lumbar puncture did not reveal any cells, protein 1.55g/l, glucose normal. Nerve conduction studies show slowing of conduction velocity.