

Case 19 (June 19 2008): [N Engl J Med. 358\(25\):2717-2723](#)

Demographic: Male, 63 yrs, America North, General speciality

Clinical features extracted from the case and entered into the query box:

small, painless, firm nodule on face and head
preauricular soft-tissue mass in parotid gland
immunosuppression
regional lymphadenopathy

Synonyms used by Isabel for the above query:

regional lymphadenopathy

STOP !

Before you read further you might want to construct your own:

- Complete differential diagnosis
- Final diagnosis

In the following section you will find:

- The differential diagnosis constructed by the MGH panel
- The final diagnosis of the case
- Which of the MGH panel differential diagnoses did Isabel contain
- Did Isabel suggest the Final diagnosis

Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:

Merkel-cell carcinoma, stage III.

Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel:

Yes, under Neoplastic diseases.

Isabel Differential:

+ INFECTIOUS DISEASES << click to expand	+ DERMATOLOGY << click to expand
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuberculosis ? RD HIV / AIDS ? RD Herpes Simplex Virus Infection ? RD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non Melanoma Skin Cancer ? RD
+ GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS << click to expand	- NEOPLASTIC DISEASES >> click to collapse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oropharyngeal Candidiasis ? RD Diverticular Diseases of the Colon ? RD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prostate Cancer ? RD Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma ? RD Pancreatic Neoplasms ? RD Liver Neoplasms ? RD Head and Neck Neoplasms ○ RD
+ RESPIRATORY DISORDERS << click to expand	<p>Why did this diagnosis come up ?</p> <p>We matched the terms: regional lymphadenopathy small painless firm nodul nodule face head</p> <hr/> <p>Degree of match between query entered and isabel database (Not clinical probability): 61%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head and Neck Sarcoma Merkel Cell Carcinoma Paraganglioma
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atypical Pneumonia ? RD Lung Neoplasms ? RD 	
+ ENDOCRINE SYSTEM << click to expand	+ RHEUMATIC DISEASES << click to expand
+ OPHTHALMOLOGY << click to expand	+ NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS << click to expand
+ NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS << click to expand	+ IMMUNOLOGIC SYSTEM << click to expand
+ ALLERGIC DISORDERS << click to expand	+ UROLOGIC DISORDERS << click to expand
	+ METABOLIC DISEASES << click to expand