

**Case 11 (April 10 2008):** [N Engl J Med. 358\(15\):1604-1613](#)

**Demographic:** Male, 45 yrs, America North, General speciality

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

fever  
confusion  
photophobia  
neck stiffness  
headaches  
fatigue  
somnolent  
diarrhea  
slurred speech  
difficulty walking  
intermittent incontinence of urine and stool  
chills  
diffuse hyperreflexia  
myoclonic jerks  
immunocompromised

**Synonyms used by Isabel for the above query:**

Fever  
Confusion  
Photophobia  
Neck stiffness  
Headaches  
Fatigue  
Somnolent  
Diarrhea  
Slurred speech  
Difficulty walking

**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

***Differential Diagnoses considered by the MGH panel:***

Donor-Derived Infections – Cryptococcal infection

***Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:***

Disseminated cryptococcosis with cryptococcal meningitis in a liver-allograft recipient.

***Differential Diagnoses of the cases given by Isabel:***

Cryptococcal meningitis – under Infectious diseases heading, Under Fungal Meningitis

Cryptococcal neofomans – under Infectious disease heading

***Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel:***

Yes, under Infectious diseases heading



# isabel

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**Isabel Differential:**

<b>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</b> << click to expand	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Measles Infection</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Influenza and Parainfluenza Viruses</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Bacterial Meningitis</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Viral Meningoencephalitis</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Meningococcal Disease</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Tuberculosis</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Toxic Shock Syndrome</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Shigella Infections</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Arboviral Infections / Encephalitides</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Fungal Meningitis</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Cryptococcal Meningitis</a>

**Why did this diagnosis come up ?** ✖

**We matched the terms:** fatigue | lethargy | Stiff neck | meningismus | Photophobia | fever | fevers | headache | headaches | confusion | altered mental state | loc | confused | altered mental status | obtundation | obtund | DIFFUS | diffuse | IMMUNOCOMPROM | immunocompromised

**Degree of match between query entered and Isabel database (Not clinical probability):** 54%

<b>RHEUMATIC DISEASES</b> << click to expand	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SLE</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<b>LIVER DISORDERS</b> << click to expand	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Viral Hepatitis</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<b>GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS</b> << click to expand	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Inflammatory Bowel Disease</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARDS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Diseases of High Altitudes</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>

<b>NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS</b> << click to expand	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Intracranial Abscess</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<b>NEPHROLOGY</b> << click to expand	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Renal Failure</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<b>TOXICOLOGY</b> << click to expand	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Substance Abuse</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>
<b>ENDOCRINE SYSTEM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Hyperthyroidism</a> <input type="button" value="Related Dx"/>