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Case 38 (December 10 2009): [N Engl J Med. 361\(24\):2367-2378](#)

Demographic: Male, 16 yrs, America North, General speciality

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

1st presentation at 16 years:

paroxysmal headaches
visual changes
dizziness
nausea
neck pain
mosaic vision
vomiting
seizures

Presentation at 21 years:

severe headaches
shoulder pain
low back pain
visual changes
loss of consciousness
groin numbness
leg numbness

Synonyms used by Isabel PRO for the above query:

Presentation at 16 years:

neck pain
dizziness
seizures
vomiting
headaches

Presentation at 21 years:

loss of consciousness
low back pain
Shoulder pain
seadaches
numbness

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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 PRO contain
- Did Isabel PRO suggest the Final diagnosis

Differential Diagnoses considered by the MGH panel:

Intractable migraine
Idiopathic intracranial hypertension
Meningitis
Brain tumors

Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:

Spinal arachnoid cyst

Differential Diagnoses of the case as given by Isabel PRO:

Intractable migraine – under Nervous system disorders
Idiopathic intracranial hypertension – under Nervous system disorders
Meningitis – under Infectious diseases
Brain tumors – under Nervous system disorders

Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel PRO:

Yes, Arachnoid cyst under Nervous system disorders

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Isabel PRO Final Diagnosis:

Presentation at 16 years: Arachnoid cyst

ENTER CLINICAL FEATURES	Synonyms	DEGREE OF MATCH	Your Customized View
<p>age: young adult (16 - 30 years)</p> <p>gender: female</p> <p>pregnancy: (- not specified -)</p> <p>region: America North</p> <p>speciality: General</p> <p>ENTER QUERY TERMS ON SEPARATE LINES:</p> <p>paroxysmal headaches</p> <p>visual changes</p> <p>dizziness</p> <p>nausea</p> <p>neck pain</p> <p>mosaic vision</p> <p>vomiting</p> <p>seizures</p> <p>+ Add a Clinical Feature</p> <p>Get Checklist »</p> <p>Help Search Again</p> <p>Isabel PRO is not meant to replace your clinical judgment.</p>		<p>15 NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple Sclerosis ? RD</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arachnoid Cysts ? RD</p> <p>Why did this diagnosis come up ?</p> <p>We matched the terms: vertigo headache headaches seizures seizure vomiting visual nausea vision</p> <p>Degree of match between query entered and Isabel database (Not clinical probability): 61%</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brain Neoplasms ? RD</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cerebral Sinus Venous Thrombosis ? RD</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transient Ischemic Attack ? RD</p>	
		<p>12 Body Systems Show All</p> <p>NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS</p> <p>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</p> <p>RHEUMATIC DISEASES</p> <p>CARDIAC DISORDERS</p> <p>VASCULAR DISORDERS</p> <p>ENDOCRINE DISORDERS</p> <p>GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS</p> <p>DERMATOLOGY DISORDERS</p> <p>TOXICOLOGY DISORDERS</p> <p>ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS</p> <p>NEOPLASTIC DISEASES</p> <p>METABOLIC DISEASES</p> <p>SHOW ALL DIAGNOSES</p>	

Presentation at 21 years: Arachnoid cyst

ENTER CLINICAL FEATURES	Synonyms	DEGREE OF MATCH	Your Customized View
<p>age: young adult (16 - 30 years)</p> <p>gender: female</p> <p>pregnancy: (- not specified -)</p> <p>region: America North</p> <p>speciality: General</p> <p>ENTER QUERY TERMS ON SEPARATE LINES:</p> <p>severe headaches</p> <p>shoulder pain</p> <p>low back pain</p> <p>visual changes</p> <p>loss of consciousness</p> <p>groin numbness</p> <p>leg numbness</p> <p>+ Add a Clinical Feature</p> <p>Get Checklist »</p> <p>Help Search Again</p> <p>Isabel PRO is not meant to replace your clinical judgment.</p>		<p>16 NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arachnoid Cysts ? RD</p> <p>Why did this diagnosis come up ?</p> <p>We matched the terms: tingling numbness headache headaches visual leg</p> <p>Degree of match between query entered and Isabel database (Not clinical probability): 55%</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brachial Plexus Injury ? RD</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transient Ischemic Attack ? RD</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brain Neoplasms ? RD</p>	
		<p>18 Body Systems Show All</p> <p>NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS</p> <p>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</p> <p>HEMATOLOGY DISORDERS</p> <p>RHEUMATIC DISEASES</p> <p>NEPHROLOGY DISORDERS</p> <p>ENDOCRINE DISORDERS</p> <p>RESPIRATORY DISORDERS</p> <p>OBSTETRIC DISORDERS</p> <p>NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS</p> <p>CARDIAC DISORDERS</p> <p>GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS</p> <p>NUTRITIONAL DISORDERS</p> <p>VASCULAR DISORDERS</p>	



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