

Case 7 (March 8 2007): [N Engl J Med 2007;356:1049-57](#)

Demographic: Female 59 yrs, Not pregnant, America North, General speciality

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

obese
lethargic
hip ulcer
painful, tender and violaceous necrotic area over thigh
erythema
heel ulcer with foul-smelling purulent discharge
leucocytosis
thrombocytosis
anemic
high creatinine
low albumin
lower limb pain

Synonyms used by Isabel for the above query:

Leucocytosis
Thrombocytosis
Anemic
High creatinine
Low albumin
Lethargic
Obese

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:

Vascular and thrombotic diseases

Neuropathic ulcers

Infections - Osteomyelitis

Erythema nodosum

Pyoderma gangrenosum

Calciphylaxis

Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:

Calciphylaxis, extensive, involving the right leg. Atherosclerotic vascular disease with ischemic ulcer on the heel and osteomyelitis

Differential Diagnoses of the case as given by Isabel:

Calciphylaxis in CRF – Isabel 1st page

Osteomyelitis & Septic arthritis – click on Infectious diseases heading

Pyoderma gangrenosum – click on Rheumatic diseases heading

Erythema nodosum – click on Rheumatic diseases heading

Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel:

Yes, Isabel 1st page

Entire presentation cut and pasted into the Isabel query box:

Osteomyelitis & Septic arthritis – click on Infectious disease heading

Chronic Venous Insufficiency – click on Vascular disorder heading

Isabel differential:

INFECTIOUS DISEASES << Click here	RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISORDERS << Click here
<p>Clostridial Infections RD</p> <p>Brucellosis RD</p> <p>Tularemia RD</p> <p>Lyme Disease RD</p> <p>Amoebiasis RD</p>	<p>Lung Abscess RD</p> <p>Sarcoidosis RD</p>
GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS << Click here	ORTHOPEDIC DISORDERS << Click here
LIVER DISORDERS << Click here	<p>Diabetic Lower Limb Disease RD</p>
	DERMATOLOGY << Click here
	<p>Calciphylaxis in CRF RD</p>
	RHEUMATIC DISEASES << Click here
	<p>SLE RD</p>
	GYNECOLOGICAL DISORDERS << Click here
	ALLERGIC DISORDERS << Click here
	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARDS << Click here