
Case 3-2006 — A 63-Year-Old Woman with Jaundice and a Pancreatic Mass

**Demographic:** Female, 63 years, not pregnant, Carribean, General speciality (recent immigrant from the Dominican Republic)

**Clinical features extracted from the case and entered into the query box:**
- extensive intraabdominal lymphadenopathy
- chronic nasal congestion with white discharge
- chronic nocturnal cough with watery sputum
- stable bilateral apical lung opacities
- jaundice
- biliary obstruction related to cystic mass in the head of the pancreas
- cystic mass near the tail of the pancreas
- mass in the porta hepatis
- mass in the spleen

**Synonyms used by Isabel (optional) for the above query:**
none

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:**
- primary tumors of the head of the pancreas, cystic neoplasms (intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasms)
- tumors of the bile ducts
- Metastatic tumors to the porta hepatis (colon, breast, and lung, ovary, kidney, and other organs.)
- Lymphomas in porta-hepatis.
- Inflammatory processes include chronic or autoimmune pancreatitis - x, sclerosing cholangitis -x, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) cholangiopathy - x, and various chronic infections, such as *Mycobacterium avium* complex (x) or *M. tuberculosis*.
- Intraluminal obstruction of the bile duct can result from stones, parasites, and polyps.

**Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:**
Probable intraabdominal tuberculosis (Intraabdominal infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, with secondary biliary obstruction.)

**Differential Diagnoses of the case as given by Isabel:**
Pancreatic neoplasm – Isabel 1st page
Bile duct neoplasm – Isabel 1st page
Lung neoplasm – Isabel 1st page
Tuberculosis – Isabel 1st page, Tuberculosis GI – Isabel 1st page
Biliary obstruction & injury – Isabel 1st page, Cholelithiasis – Isabel 1st page

**Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel?**
Yes. GI tuberculosis (Isabel 1st page) & Biliary obstruction (Isabel 1st page)

**Entire presentation cut and pasted into the Isabel query box:**
Lung neoplasms – Isabel 1st page
Kidney neoplasms – Isabel 1st page
Ovarian neoplasms – Isabel 1st page
Breast Cancer – Isabel 1st page
Tuberculosis – Isabel 1st page
Bile duct neoplasms – Isabel 1st page
Pancreatic neoplasms – Isabel 1st page
**Isabel Differential:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</th>
<th>GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis</td>
<td>Pancreatic Pseudocyst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nocardia Infection</td>
<td>Hepatocellular Failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clostridial Infections</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aspergillus infection</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEOPLASTIC DISEASES</th>
<th>RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISORDERS</th>
<th>NEPHROLOGY</th>
<th>ENDOCRINE SYSTEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liver Neoplasms</td>
<td>Lung Neoplasms</td>
<td>Polycystic Kidney Disease</td>
<td>MEN Syndromes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pancreatic Neoplasms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis Class I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carcinoid Tumors</td>
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