

Case 38 (December 14 2006): [N Engl J Med 2006;355:2575-84](#)

Demographic: Male, 5 yrs, America North, General speciality

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

recurrent headaches
chronic, recurrent abdominal pain
unsteady gait
abdominal distention
decreased appetite
weight loss
rash with a centripetal distribution on trunk and thighs heterogeneous lesions
erythematous lesions and raised papules
central white dot that became umbilicated
skin in center of crater has a thin, wrinkled appearance, with faint telangiectasia at the margins
elevated protein in cerebrospinal fluid
fluid collection palpable under the scalp

Synonyms used by Isabel for the above query:

Abdominal pain
Abdominal distention
Decreased appetite
Weight loss

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:

Subdural hygroma
DeGo's Disease

Final Diagnoses of the case according to NEJM:

Malignant atrophic papulosis (DeGo's disease).

Differential Diagnoses of the case as given by Isabel:

Malignant atrophic papulosis / DeGo's disease – Isabel 1st page

Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel:

Yes, Isabel 1st page

Entire presentation cut and pasted into the Isabel query box:

Malignant atrophic papulosis / DeGo's disease – click on Rheumatic diseases heading

Isabel differential for extracted features:

<p>RHEUMATIC DISEASES << Click here</p> <p><u>Malignant Atrophic Papulosis / Deqo's Disease</u> RD</p>	<p>INFECTIOUS DISEASES << Click here</p> <p><u>Lyme Disease</u> RD</p> <p><u>HIV / AIDS</u> RD</p> <p><u>Meningococcal Disease</u> RD</p> <p><u>Candidal Infection</u> RD</p> <p><u>VZV Infection</u> RD</p>
<p>SOCIAL ISSUES << Click here</p> <p><u>Abuse and Neglect</u> RD</p>	
<p>NEOPLASTIC DISEASES << Click here</p> <p><u>Leukemia</u> RD</p>	<p>NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS << Click here</p> <p><u>Tuberous Sclerosis</u> RD</p>
<p>DERMATOLOGY << Click here</p> <p><u>Localized Lipodystrophy</u> RD</p>	<p>UROLOGIC DISORDERS << Click here</p>
<p>NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS << Click here</p>	<p>RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISORDERS << Click here</p>
<p>GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS << Click here</p>	

Isabel differential for feature - chronic recurrent abdominal pain:

GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS << Click here	
<u>Recurrent Abdominal Pain</u>	RD
↳ <u>Pancreatitis</u>	RD
<u>Chronic Intestinal Pseudo-Obstruction</u>	RD
↳ <u>Peptic Ulcer Disease</u>	RD
<u>Intussusception</u>	RD
<u>Gastroesophageal Reflux</u>	RD
<u>Celiac Disease</u>	RD
<u>GI Manifestations of HIV</u>	RD
<u>Malrotation / Volvulus</u>	RD
↳ <u>Inflammatory Bowel Disease</u>	RD
↳ <u>Diarrheal Disorders</u>	RD
PSYCHOLOGIC DISORDERS << Click here	
<u>Encopresis</u>	RD
UROLOGIC DISORDERS << Click here	
↳ <u>Urinary Tract Infection</u>	RD
RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISORDERS << Click here	
<u>Cystic Fibrosis</u>	RD
LIVER DISORDERS << Click here	
<u>Choledochal Cysts</u>	RD
<u>Caroli's Syndrome</u>	RD
NEOPLASTIC DISEASES << Click here	
↳ <u>Soft Tissue Neoplasms</u>	RD
ALLERGIC DISORDERS << Click here	
↳ <u>Food Allergy</u>	RD
RHEUMATIC DISEASES << Click here	
<u>SLE</u>	RD
<u>Kawasaki Disease</u>	RD
METABOLIC DISEASES << Click here	
↳ <u>Hyperoxaluria and Oxalosis</u>	RD
↳ <u>β-Oxidation Cycle Defects</u>	RD
INFECTIOUS DISEASES << Click here	
↳ <u>Gastroenteritis</u>	RD
<u>Meningococcal Disease</u>	RD
<u>Mumps Infection</u>	RD
<u>Enterobiasis</u>	RD
<u>HIV / AIDS</u>	RD
<u>Amoebiasis</u>	RD
<u>Giardiasis Infection</u>	RD
↳ <u>Tuberculosis</u>	RD
↳ <u>Salmonella Infections</u>	RD
TOXICOLOGY << Click here	
↳ <u>Environmental / Work Exposure</u>	RD

