

**Case 35 (November 15 2007):** [N Engl J Med. 357\(20\):2068-2076](#)

**Demographic:** Male, 30yrs, America North, General speciality

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

intermittent fever  
abdominal pain  
bloody diarrhea  
rigors  
anorexia  
fatigue  
myalgia  
arthralgia

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

abdominal pain  
bloody diarrhea  
fatigue  
myalgia  
anorexia  
arthralgia  
rigors

**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:***

Relapse Inflammatory Bowel Disease (Ulcerative Colitis)  
CMV colitis

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

Acute CMV infection in a patient with inflammatory bowel disease

***Differential Diagnoses of the case as given by Isabel:***

CMV colitis – under Gastrointestinal Disorders heading  
Inflammatory Bowel Disease (Ulcerative Colitis) – click on Gastrointestinal Disorders heading

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

Yes, under Gastrointestinal Disorders heading

***Isabel Differential:***

<p><b>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</b> &lt;&lt; click to expand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Viral Meningoencephalitis</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> <li><a href="#">HIV / AIDS</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> <li><a href="#">Brucellosis</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> <li><a href="#">Anthrax</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> <li><a href="#">Lyme Disease</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> <li><a href="#">CMV Infections</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> </ul>	<p><b>RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISORDERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Atypical Pneumonia</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> </ul>
<p><b>GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS</b> &gt;&gt; click to collapse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">CMV Colitis</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx           <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #ffff00; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p><b>Why did this diagnosis come up ?</b></p> <p><b>We matched the terms:</b> abdominal pain   abdominal pains   anorexia   loss of appetite   bloody diarrhea   malaise   tiredness   fatigue   tired   myalgia   myalgias   fever</p> </div> </li> <li><a href="#">Inflammatory Bowel Disease</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx           <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #ffff00; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p><b>Why did this diagnosis come up ?</b></p> <p><b>We matched the terms:</b> abdominal pain   abdominal pains   anorexia   bloody diarrhea   intermittent   fever</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Colitis Cystica</li> <li>Crohn's Disease</li> <li>Ulcerative Colitis</li> </ul> </div> </li> <li><a href="#">Diarrheal Disorders</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> </ul>	<p><b>RHEUMATIC DISEASES</b> &lt;&lt; click to expand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">SLE</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> </ul>
<p><b>LIVER DISORDERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Viral Hepatitis</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> </ul>	<p><b>CARDIAC DISORDERS</b> &lt;&lt; click to expand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Infective Endocarditis</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> </ul>
<p><b>ENDOCRINE SYSTEM</b> &lt;&lt; click to expand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Hypothyroidism</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> </ul>	<p><b>NEPHROLOGY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Glomerulonephritis</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> </ul>
<p><b>IMMUNOLOGIC SYSTEM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Eosinophilia-Myalgia Syndrome</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> </ul>	<p><b>ALLERGIC DISORDERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Serum Sickness</a> <span>?</span> Related Dx</li> </ul>