

Case 39 (December 18 2008): [N Engl J Med. 359\(25\):2707-2718](#)

Demographic: Female, 51 yrs, Not Pregnant, America North, General speciality

Clinical features extracted from the case and entered into the query

box:

anemia
massive splenomegaly
fatigue
night sweats
left upper quadrant fullness
leg edema
dyspnea on exertion
lymphadenopathy
fever
migraines
tremor
anxiety
tachycardia
scleral icterus
paraproteinemia
coagulopathy

Synonyms used by Isabel for the above query:

dyspnea on exertion
fatigue
night sweats
paraproteinemia
lymphadenopathy
anemia
fever
leg edema
tachycardia
anxiety
scleral icterus
left upper quadrant fullness
massive splenomegaly



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:

Waldenström's macroglobulinemia
Hairy-cell leukemia

Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:

Splenic marginal-zone lymphoma, with an IgM paraprotein, antiphospholipid antibodies (lupus anticoagulant and IgM anticardiolipin antibody), and autoimmune hemolytic anemia.

Differential Diagnoses of the case as given by Isabel:

Waldenström's macroglobulinemia – under Neoplastic diseases heading
Hairy-cell leukemia – under Neoplastic diseases heading

Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel:

Yes, Splenic Marginal Lymphoma and Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemias – under Hematology heading.

Isabel Differential:

<p>- HEMATOLOGY >> click to collapse</p> <p>Iron Deficiency Anemia ? RD</p> <p>⊕ Sickle Cell Disease / Crisis ? RD</p> <p>⊕ Hemochromatosis ? RD</p> <p style="color: red;">Splenic Marginal Lymphoma</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #ffff00; padding: 5px;"> <p>Why did this diagnosis come up ? ✖</p> <p>We matched the terms: tiredness fatigue tired night sweats paraproteinemia lymphadenopathy anemia anemic massive splenomegaly</p> <hr/> <p>Degree of match between query entered and isabel database (Not clinical probability): 54%</p> </div> <p>⊕ Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemias ○ RD</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #ffff00; padding: 5px;"> <p>Why did this diagnosis come up ? ✖</p> <p>We matched the terms: exertional dyspnea malaise fatigue anemia anemic tachycardia tachycardic palpitation palpitations</p> <hr/> <p>Degree of match between query entered and isabel database (Not clinical probability): 39%</p> </div> <p>⊕ Thrombocytosis ? RD</p> <p>Castleman's Disease ? RD</p>	<p>+ RESPIRATORY DISORDERS << click to expand</p> <p>⊕ Atypical Pneumonia ? RD</p>
	<p>- NEOPLASTIC DISEASES >> click to collapse</p> <p>⊖ Leukemia ? RD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia ... Acute Myeloblastic Leukemia ... B-Cell Prolymphocytic Leukemia ... Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia ... Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia ... Eosinophilic Leukemia ... Hairy-Cell Leukemia ... Intracerebral Leukocytostasis ... Large Granular Lymphocytic Leukemia ... T-Cell Prolymphocytic Leukemia <p>⊕ Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma ? RD</p> <p>⊕ Hodgkin's Disease ? RD</p> <p>⊕ Liver Neoplasms ? RD</p> <p>⊖ Lymphoma ? RD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Lymphoma-Like Disorders ... Subcutaneous Panniculitis-Like T-Cell Lymphoma ... Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia