

**Case 13 (April 23 2009):** [N Engl J Med. 360\(17\):1770-1779](#)

**Demographic:** Female, 54 yrs, America North, General speciality

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

hypotension  
cavitary lung lesion  
cough  
shortness of breath  
tachycardia  
pyrexial  
tension pneumothorax

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

cough  
hypotension  
shortness of breath  
pyrexial  
tachycardia  
tension pneumothorax

**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:**

Aspiration pneumonia  
Tuberculosis  
Coccidioidmycosis

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

Bacterial pneumonia with abscess formation and cavitation.

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

Aspiration pneumonia – Aspiration Syndromes – under Respiratory disorders  
Tuberculosis – under Infectious diseases  
Coccidioidmycosis – under Infectious diseases

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

Yes, Bacterial pneumonia with abscess formation and cavitation – under Respiratory disorders

**Isabel Differential:**

**- RESPIRATORY DISORDERS** >> [click to collapse](#)

- [Asthma](#) ? RD
- Bacterial Pneumonia** ○ RD

**Why did this diagnosis come up ?** ✕

We matched the terms: coughing | cough | coughs | shortness of breath | fever | fevers | cavitary pulmonary lesions | cavitary pulmonary lesion

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Degree of match between query entered and isabel database (Not clinical probability): 56%

- [Atypical Pneumonia](#) ? RD
- [Pulmonary Thromboembolism](#) ? RD
- [Lung Neoplasms](#) ? RD
- [Pneumothorax Conditions](#) ? RD
- [Sarcoidosis](#) ? RD
- [Bronchiectasis](#) ? RD
- [Pulmonary Edema](#) ? RD
- [Lung Abscess](#) ? RD
- [ARDS](#) ? RD
- [Eosinophilic Lung Disease](#) ? RD
- [Aspiration Syndromes](#) ? RD