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**Case 18 (June 16 2011):** [N Engl J Med. 364\(24\):2343-2352](#)

**Demographic:** Female, 35yrs, North America

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

HIV positive  
headache  
altered mental status  
bilateral optic disk swelling  
lymphocytic pleocytosis

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

HIV positive  
headache  
altered mental status  
lymphocytic pleocytosis

**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:**

Mollaret's meningitis

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

Immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome

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

Mollaret's meningitis under Aseptic meningitis in Infectious

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

Yes, Immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome in Immunology

**Isabel Checklist Differential:**

**enter clinical features** | **synonyms**

age\*

gender  female  male

pregnancy

**Refine search:**

travel history:

show me:

diagnoses

causative drugs

bioterrorist agents

Enter clinical features, no negatives, no numbers: ⓘ

|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| hiv positive                  |
| headache                      |
| altered mental status         |
| bilateral optic disk swelling |
| lymphocytic pleocytosis       |

+ add a clinical feature

**get checklist** ➔

[clear search](#)

Isabel is not meant to replace your clinical judgment.

**diagnoses** | **drugs**

**Results**

sort by:     action:

show: **10** / all

|  |    |           |
|--|----|-----------|
| Cryptococcus Neoformans  | 👍👎 | ? INFE    |
| Immune Recovery Syndrome   | 👍👎 | ○ IMMUNO  |
| <p><b>Why did this diagnosis come up ?</b> ⓘ</p> <p>We matched the terms: hiv positive   hiv   hiv infection   headache   headaches   altered mental status   altered mental state   pleocytosis   pleocytosis of cerebral spinal fluid   lymphocytic pleocytosis</p> <p>Degree of match between query entered and Isabel database (Not clinical probability): 72%</p> |    |           |
| HIV Neuro Complications  | 👍👎 | ? NEURO   |
| Optic Atrophy  | 👍👎 | ? OPHTHAL |
| + Viral Meningoencephalitis  | 👍👎 | ? INFE    |
| + Cerebral Sinus Venous Thrombosis ▼   | 👍👎 | ? NEURO   |
| + Bacterial Meningitis   | 👍👎 | ? INFE    |
| - Aseptic Meningitis   | 👍👎 | ? INFE    |
| - Mollaret's Meningitis  | 👍👎 | ?         |
| + Salmonella Infections  | 👍👎 | ? INFE    |
| + Fungal Meningitis  | 👍👎 | ? INFE    |

[view all](#)

feedback: