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Case 27 (August 30 2012): [N Engl J Med. 367\(9\):851-861](#)

Demographic: Female, 60 years, North America

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

muscle spasms
inability to walk
hypereflexia
leg stiffness and cramping
short term memory loss
progressive confusion
lightheadedness

Synonyms used by Isabel for the above query:

muscle spasms
progressive confusion
lightheadedness

STOP !

Before you read further you might want to construct your own:

- Final diagnosis

In the following section you will find:

- The final diagnosis of the case
- Did Isabel suggest the final diagnosis

Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:

Paraneoplastic stiff person syndrome and limbic encephalitis with anti-amphiphysin antibodies. Invasive ductal carcinoma positive for metastasis.

Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel:

Yes, (i) Stiff person syndrome in Neuro
(ii) Limbic encephalitis in Infectious

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:

- muscle spasms
- inability to walk
- hyperreflexia
- leg stiffness and cramping
- short term memory loss
- progressive confusion
- lightheadedness

+ add a clinical feature

get checklist >

[clear search](#)

Isabel is not meant to replace your clinical judgment.

diagnoses | drugs

show 10 | show all | don't miss | action: -select-

Antiphospholipid Syndrome					RHEUM
+ CVA / Stroke					NEURO
+ Measles					INFEC
+ Transient Ischemic Attack					NEURO
+ Megaloblastic Anemias					HEMAT
Lyme Disease					INFEC
Multiple Sclerosis					NEURO
+ Head Injury					NEURO
+ Human Prion Diseases					NEURO
Diabetic Neuropathy					NEURO
Stiff-Person Syndrome				<input type="radio"/>	NEURO

Why did this diagnosis come up ?

We matched the terms: spasm | spasms | muscle spasm | muscle spasms | inability | walk | leg | stiffness | stiff | cramp | cramping

Degree of match between query entered and Isabel database (Not clinical probability): 38%

Adioposis Dolorosa					DERM
+ Dystonia Disorders					NEURO
Acute Disseminated					INFEC

Click diagnosis for evidence-based content.

feedback: