

**Case 8 (March 16 2006):** [N Engl J Med 2006;354:1178-84.](#)

**Case 8-2006 — A 71-Year-Old Woman with Crohn's Disease and Altered Mental Status**

**Demographic:** Female, 71 years, America North, General speciality

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

**2 months before admission:**

Fatigue  
blurred vision  
headaches  
unsteady gait  
Mass in right inguinal area

**Admission:**

Fatigue  
blurred vision  
headaches  
unsteady gait  
Mass in right inguinal area  
Weight loss  
Nausea  
Fever

**2 days after admission:**

Fatigue  
blurred vision  
headaches  
unsteady gait  
Mass in right inguinal area  
Weight loss  
Nausea  
Fever  
Left sided weakness  
Seizure  
Brain mass

***Synonyms used by Isabel (optional) for the above query:***

***Admission:***

Blurred vision  
Fever  
Weight loss

**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:***

Abscess  
Tuberculosis  
Metastatic carcinoma  
Lymphoma

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

Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (B-cell lymphoma, probably large-B-cell lymphoma that is EBV-positive, associated with immunosuppression)

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

***Admission:***

Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma - Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma – Isabel 1<sup>st</sup> page  
Tuberculosis – Isabel 2<sup>nd</sup> page & on clicking on specialty heading

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

**Admission:**

Non Hodgkins Lymphoma – Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (Isabel 1<sup>st</sup> page)

**Entire presentation cut and pasted into the Isabel query box:**

Tuberculosis – Isabel 2<sup>nd</sup> page & on clicking on specialty heading

**Isabel Differential:**

<p><b>NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parkinson's Disease <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>↳ Brain Neoplasms <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>↳ Intracranial Hemorrhage <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>CVA/Stroke <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Ataxic Disorders <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Intracranial Hypertension <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><b>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↳ Salmonella Infections <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>↳ Toxoplasmosis <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Viral Hepatitis <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Q Fever <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>↳ Bartonella Infection <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Brucellosis <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>↳ Yersinia Infection <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Cryptococcus Neoformans <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Tuberculosis <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Babesiosis <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Anthrax <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Clostridial Infections <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Microsporidiosis <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Listeriosis <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Lyme Disease <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Influenza Virus <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Tularemia <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISORDERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sarcoidosis <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Legionnaires' Disease <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	
<p><b>DISORDERS OF THE EAR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vestibular Neuritis <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	
<p><b>NEOPLASTIC DISEASES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↳ Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Carcinoid Tumors <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	
<p><b>GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hepatocellular Failure <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	
	<p><b>RHEUMATIC DISEASES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SLE <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>