



Case 29 (September 18 2008): [N Engl J Med. 359\(12\):1272-1283](#)

Demographic: Male, 19 yrs, America North, General speciality

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

abdominal pain
distended abdomen
weightloss
nausea
bradycardia
slow breathing rate
orthostatic hypotension
dry skin
underweight
short stature
decreased caloric intake
hypothermia
delayed bone maturation
low bone density
anemia
leukopenia
thrombocytopenia

Synonyms used by Isabel for the above query:

Abdominal pain
Distended abdomen
Weightloss
Bradycardia
Slow breathing rate
Orthostatic hypotension
Dry skin
Underweight
Short stature
Decreased caloric intake
low bone density
anemia
leukopenia
thrombocytopenia



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:

Fecal impaction
Superior mesenteric artery syndrome
Perforation of the bowel
Anorexia Nervosa

Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:

Anorexia Nervosa

Differential Diagnoses of the case as given by Isabel:

Anorexia Nervosa - under Psychologic disorders heading
Fecal impaction – under Gastrointestinal disorders heading

Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel:

Yes, under Psychologic disorders heading

Isabel Differential:

+ INFECTIOUS DISEASES << click to expand	- GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS >> click to collapse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Salmonella Infections ? RD <input type="checkbox"/> Tuberculosis ? RD <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Shock Syndrome ? RD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Gastritis ? RD <input type="checkbox"/> Celiac Disease ? RD <input type="checkbox"/> Diarrheal Disorders ? RD <input type="checkbox"/> Peptic Ulcer Disease ? RD <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetic GI Complications ? RD <input type="checkbox"/> Intestinal Obstruction ? RD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fecal Impaction Ileus Small Bowel Obstruction CMV Colitis ? RD <input type="checkbox"/> Inflammatory Bowel Disease ? RD <input type="checkbox"/> Whipple Disease ? RD
+ NEOPLASTIC DISEASES << click to expand	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Gastric Neoplasms ? RD <input type="checkbox"/> Colorectal Cancer ? RD 	
+ TOXICOLOGY << click to expand	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy Metal Intoxication ? RD 	
+ HEMATOLOGY << click to expand	
+ NEPHROLOGY << click to expand	
+ RHEUMATIC DISEASES << click to expand	
	+ ENDOCRINE SYSTEM << click to expand
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hypothyroidism ? RD
	PSYCHOLOGIC DISORDERS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Eating Disorders ○ RD <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p>Why did this diagnosis come up ? ✕</p> <p>We matched the terms: anorexia weight loss xerosis dry skin leukopenia leukopenic thrombocytopenia underweight low body weight anemia anemic bradycardia bradycardic slow pulse bradypnea low breathing rate osteopenia low bone density hypothermia delay delayed bone</p> <hr/> <p>Degree of match between query entered and isabel database (Not clinical probability): 58%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Anorexia Nervosa <input type="checkbox"/> Atypical Eating Disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Bulimia Nervosa </div>
	+ LIVER DISORDERS << click to expand