

Case 6 (February 21 2008): [N Engl J Med. 358\(8\):827-838](#)

Demographic: Female, 46yrs, Not-pregnant, America North, General speciality

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

renal failure
anemia
low oxygen saturation
decreased breath sounds
lower limb edema
hyperpigmented, tight, and dry skin
pruritus
hand and joint flexion contractures
peripheral neuropathy
lymphadenopathy
pain and stiffness in joints

Synonyms used by Isabel for the above query:

Renal failure
Low oxygen saturation
Anemia
Pruritus
Peripheral neuropathy
lymphadenopathy

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:

Nephrogenic systemic fibrosis
Sarcoidosis

Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:

Nephrogenic systemic fibrosis

Differential Diagnoses of the case as given by Isabel:

Nephrogenic systemic fibrosis – under Dermatology heading
Sarcoidosis - under Respiratory system disorders heading

Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel:

Yes, under Dermatology heading



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Isabel Differential:

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>INFECTIOUS DISEASES << click to expand</p> <p>Meningococcal Disease 39% ? Related Dx</p> | <p>RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISORDERS << click to expand</p> <p>COPD 51% ? Related Dx</p> |
| <p>RHEUMATIC DISEASES << click to expand</p> <p>Osteoarthritis 54% ? Related Dx</p> <p>Henoch-Schönlein Purpura 42% ? Related Dx</p> <p>Rheumatoid Arthritis 37% ? Related Dx</p> | <p>HEMATOLOGY << click to expand</p> <p>Iron Deficiency Anemia 54% ? Related Dx</p> |
| <p>CARDIAC DISORDERS << click to expand</p> <p>Infective Endocarditis 56% ? Related Dx</p> | <p>NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS</p> <p>Dermatomyositis / Polymyositis 50% ? Related Dx</p> |
| <p>NEOPLASTIC DISEASES</p> <p>Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma 48% ? Related Dx</p> | <p>ENDOCRINE SYSTEM << click to expand</p> <p>Hypothyroidism 55% ? Related Dx</p> |
| <p>SHOCK STATES</p> <p>Hypovolemic Shock 24% ? Related Dx</p> | <p>NEPHROLOGY << click to expand</p> <p>Renal Failure 55% ? Related Dx</p> |
| <p>DERMATOLOGY << click to expand</p> <p>Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis 65% ? Related Dx</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #ffff00;"> <p>Why did this diagnosis come up ?</p> <p>We matched the terms: renal insufficiency renal failure pruritus itchy itching itch BREATH breath SKIN skin HAND hand JOINT joint joints FLEXION flexion CONTRACTUR contractures PAIN pain STIFF stiffness</p> <p>Degree of match (NOT clinical probability) : 65%</p> </div> | <p>TOXICOLOGY << click to expand</p> <p>Radioactive Isotopes 51% ? Related Dx</p> |
| <p>NUTRITIONAL DISORDERS</p> <p>Vit C Deficiency 49% ? Related Dx</p> | <p>ORTHOPEDIC DISORDERS</p> <p>Diabetic Hand Syndrome 49% ? Related Dx</p> |
| <p>ALLERGIC DISORDERS</p> <p>Anaphylaxis 47% ? Related Dx</p> | <p>HUMAN GENETICS << click to expand</p> <p>Wilson's Disease 38% ? Related Dx</p> |