

Case 9 (March 22 2007): [N Engl J Med 2007;356:1252-9](#)

Demographic: Female, 27 yrs, Not pregnant, America North, General speciality

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

lower limb edema
burning, tingling and stinging pain in feet
petechial and purpuric rash
dry scaly skin
loss of sensation
increased sensitivity
elevated erythrocyte sedimentation rate

Synonyms used by Isabel for the above query:

Elevated erythrocyte sedimentation rate

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:

Sensorimotor Neuropathy - sensorimotor multiple mononeuropathy
Vasculitic Neuropathy
Sjögren's Syndrome

Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:

Axonal neuropathy due to lymphoplasmacytic small-vessel vasculitis, associated with connective-tissue disease with features of Sjögren's syndrome, associated with autoimmune thyroiditis and autoimmune gastritis.

Differential Diagnoses of the case as given by Isabel:

Sjögren's syndrome – Isabel 1st page

Vasculitic Neuropathies (Microscopic Polyangitis, SLE) – click on Rheumatic diseases heading

Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel:

Yes, Isabel 1st page

Entire presentation cut and pasted into the Isabel query box:

Sjögren's syndrome – click on Rheumatic diseases heading

Vasculitic Neuropathies (Microscopic Polyangitis, SLE) – click on Rheumatic diseases heading

Isabel differential:

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISORDERS << Click here <u>Sarcoidosis</u> RD	DERMATOLOGY << Click here <u>Steven-Johnson Syndrome</u> RD
INFECTIOUS DISEASES << Click here <u>Herpes Zoster</u> RD <u>Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever</u> RD <u>Bacterial Meningitis</u> RD	RHEUMATIC DISEASES << Click here <u>Siögren's Syndrome</u> RD <u>Systemic Sclerosis</u> RD
TOXICOLOGY << Click here <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Radioactive Isotopes</u> RD	NUTRITIONAL DISORDERS << Click here <u>Thiamine Deficiency</u> RD
NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS << Click here <u>Multiple Sclerosis</u> RD	NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS << Click here
HEMATOLOGY << Click here	OPHTHALMOLOGY << Click here
GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS << Click here	PSYCHOLOGIC DISORDERS << Click here
ALLERGIC DISORDERS << Click here	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARDS << Click here
SHOCK STATES << Click here	