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Case 39 (December 22 2011): [N Engl J Med. 365\(25\):2413-2422](#)

Demographic: Female, 90 yrs, North America

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

ptosis
high white cell count
dysphagia
hoarseness
general fatigue
dysarthria
head drop
respiratory failure
mediastinal widening

Synonyms used by Isabel for the above query:

ptosis
high white cell count
dysphagia
hoarseness
general fatigue
dysarthria
respiratory failure

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:

Cavernous carotid aneurysm

Final Diagnosis of the case according to NEJM:

- (i) Thymoma
- (ii) Paraneoplastic myasthenia gravis

Differential Diagnoses of the case as given by Isabel:

Cavernous carotid aneurysm under Arterial aneurysms in Vascular

Was the final diagnosis given by Isabel:

Yes, (i) Thymoma under Thymic Neoplasms in Respiratory

(ii) Myasthenia Gravid in Neuromuscular

Isabel Checklist Differential:

enter clinical features | synonyms

age*

gender female male

Refine search:
 travel

history:
 show me:
 diagnoses
 causative drugs
 bioterrorist agents

Enter clinical features, no negatives, no numbers: ⓘ

ptosis	⊗
high white cell count	⊗
dysphagia	⊗
hoarseness	⊗
general fatigue	⊗
dysarthria	⊗
head drop	⊗
respiratory failure	⊗
mediastinal widening	⊗

+ add a clinical feature

get checklist >

[clear search](#)

diagnoses | drugs

Results

sort by: most relevant | action: -select-

show: 10 / all ⓘ ⓘ

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Myasthenia Gravis	👍👎	🔍 NEURO/MUSC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lung Neoplasms ▼	👍👎	🔍 RESP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aortic Aneurysm / Dissection ▼	👍👎	🔍 VASC
Guillain-Barre Syndrome	👍👎	🔍 NEURO/MUSC
Sarcoidosis	👍👎	🔍 RESP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transient Ischemic Attack ▼	👍👎	🔍 NEURO
Epiglottitis ▼	👍👎	🔍 RESP
Botulism	👍👎	🔍 INFEC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arterial Aneurysms / Dissection	👍👎	🔍 VASC
<input type="checkbox"/> Thymic Neoplasms	👍👎	🔍 RESP
└─ Thymomas	👍👎	

[view all](#)

feedback: