



Quote of the Month

"Try to learn something about everything and everything about something."

Thomas Henry Huxley (1825-1895)

Medical History Quote

"Our business leads us daily into the abodes of pain and misery. It obliges us likewise, frequently to witness the fears with which our friends leave the world, and the anguish which follows, in their surviving relatives. A pious word, dropped from the lips of a physician in such circumstances of his patients, often does more good than a long, and perhaps an ingenious discourse from another person, inasmuch as it falls upon the heart, in the moment of its deepest depression from grief."

Benjamin Rush; 1801

Trivia question

We all know Babinski's sign. What is Babinski's syndrome?

Did You Know?

Before their first birthday, average babies will have dribbled 255 pints of saliva.

Case of the Month

A 24 year old first grade teacher complained of hand, wrist, and knee pain and stiffness for 2 weeks. She initially had mild fever and a rash on her torso and extremities. On exam there was mild swelling of PIP's, MCP's, and wrists, with small effusions in both knees. Routine labs, ANA and RF were normal or negative. What is the most likely diagnosis?

Question of the Day Winners

Congratulations to October winners of "question of the day": At MVH Andy Skabelund (R1); at VAMC James Hull (R2) and Ross Dodge (R1).

Medical Challenge Winners

At the Eleventh Annual Wright State Invitational Medical Challenge, two Wright State teams competed against teams from Kettering Medical Center and Grandview Hospital and Medical Center.

Congratulations to the Wright State University Air Force team, winning for the third year in a row! They narrowly escaped a tie by correctly answering the bonus question "Name three of the four most hazardous heavy metals associated with toxicity in humans following environmental exposures." [answers: arsenic, cadmium, lead, mercury]

Great work! Here are the team members:

R1's: Emily Link, Erica Hill, Kate Flick, Ross Dodge,
Seniors: Ed McCann, James Cox, Kevin Goist, and Paul Haggerty

And coming in second, but with a very strong performance, the Wright State Civilian team also answered the bonus question correctly! They are:

R1's: Bijan Ahrari, Eric Santiago, Irina Overman, Mustafa Musleh
Seniors: Shoaib Ali, Sindhu Mukku, Stella Ibezue, Vidya Choudary

Chances are those in attendance will never again forget "black hairy tongue", "ixodes scapularis", and other useful medical tidbits! Thanks to everyone who had the courage to participate on a team (it's not easy under pressure with that buzzer in your hand) and to those who supported them as an audience member.

New Citizen

Born and raised in Iraq, Hendren Bajillan (R2) became a U.S. citizen in November. Congratulations on this wonderful occasion and achievement!

Scholarship Recipient

Irina Overman (R1) is a recipient of the E.W. Kettering Family Scholarship for Geriatric Medicine. The Kettering scholarship is designed to encourage Wright State medical students to pursue careers in primary care medicine with an emphasis on patient care for Dayton's growing elderly population. Irina has made a minimum two-year commitment to practice medicine in the Dayton area after completing her residency training. Congratulations, Irina!

Readers Corner

For a recent family trip to London, Dr. Wood selected two historical fiction novels for airplane and jet-lag late night reading. The first was Suzannah Dunn's "The Sixth Wife". Although not as popular as the series by Philippa Gregory (beginning with The Other Boleyn Girl), this volume was literally "lighter weight" and still a lively account of the escapades of Katherine Parr after the death of King Henry the VIII. Dr. Wood had to wait till she was back in Ohio to finish "And Only to Deceive" by Tasha Alexander. This mystery evoked memories of the British Museum and other sites in London. It revolves around the forgery of Egyptian antiquities but is also a very insightful depiction of the societal role of wealthy unmarried and widowed British ladies in the late 1800's. Let us know what you've been reading at home or away!

Answer to Case

Parvovirus infection. Adults usually lack the classic facial rash, but can have an erythematous rash on the torso or extremities. The disease is usually self-limiting and symptoms are expected to resolve after 2-3 weeks. Anti-IGM antibodies at 1-3 weeks would confirm the diagnosis.

Answer to trivia question:

Anisocoria resulting from a syphilitic aneurysm of the aorta, thus linking cardiac and arterial pathology with late manifestations of syphilis.

WSU School of Medicine
Dept. of Internal Medicine
PO Box 927
Dayton, OH 45435

Phone: (937) 208-2010
Fax: (937) 208-2621

Scholarly Work Presented at Two Meetings

The following residents presented poster abstracts at the American College of Physicians US Army/US Air Force Chapter meeting in Bethesda:

Stephanie Matthew (R3)
Eunice Pyun (R2)
Nick Verneti (R3)

In breakout sessions, these residents gave oral presentations:

Casey Frakes (R3)
Aaron Lewis (R3)

Congratulations on their selection to present at this meeting. Several other residents were also on hand to attend the Chapter sessions.

At the Dayton Society of Internal Medicine meeting, held at the Schuster Center in Dayton on November 13th, three residents who had presented their clinical vignette posters for the American College of Physicians Ohio Chapter meeting had another opportunity to display their work.

Community internists viewed the posters by Nikki Okoye (R3), Jesse Wickham (R3), and Damanjeet Kahlon (finished training in August, 2008). The Society and guests then heard an enlightening presentation by Wright State University Emergency Medicine faculty member Dr. Roger Pacholka on his medical missions in Swaziland.

What Can You Do About the Healthcare Crisis

There's no escaping worrisome economic news these days. Many of our patients are adversely affected by rising costs and loss of jobs and/or insurance. Is there anything you can do?

Definitely! Try any or all of these:

1. Educate your patients about the importance of taking their essential medications and consistently following with the same physician and hospital.
2. Order testing judiciously (with or without insurance coverage for your patient) and respect your patient's reluctance to undergo expensive studies.
3. Check for availability of \$4-\$5 meds through Wal-Mart, Target, Kmart, CVS and others and try to prescribe those for your patients. Tell them where they might purchase meds at reduced cost.
4. Tactfully ask your patients if they need assistance to improve access to medications, testing, or appointments. Some pharmacies will provide free home delivery and flexible payment plans. Transportation for follow-up visits might be available with a simple phone call.
5. Consider volunteering at Reach Out. Many Daytonians struggling to make ends meet have turned to this clinic for their emergency medical needs.
6. Stay informed about legislative initiatives and provide input to your representatives. Many proposals will be "on the table" during the coming months and years and physicians should have a say in reaching the best options.

Know the ACGME Competencies

The first of the ACGME competencies is "patient care". Residents are to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. Residents at all training levels should strive to make excellent diagnostic and therapeutic decisions based on available evidence, sound judgment, and patient preferences. Superior ratings for "patient care" might be warranted as follows:

R1: Superb, accurate, comprehensive medical interviews, physical examination, data-gathering; highly skilled entry level procedures; demonstrates unusual capacity for independent decision-making.

R2: Consistently gathers essential and accurate information through history and physical examination; usually capable of making independent medical decisions, effectively managing many new and unfamiliar medical problems as well as multiple medical problems simultaneously.

R3: Always gathers essential, accurate and even subtle information through history and physical examination; always capable of making independent medical decisions, even in complicated and/or ambiguous situations. Demonstrates a mastery of the art and science of medicine.

December Birthdays

April Arseneau	R2	12/30
Allison Buel	R2	12/05
Shazdeh Butt	R1	12/14
Hani El-Omrani	R1	12/07
Blake Elkins	R1	12/05
Erica Hill	R1	12/02
Ava Hudson	R4	12/30
Donald Martin	R3	12/10
Jody Meredith	R2	12/25
Radhika Rajsheker	R2	12/25