



July 2008

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Quote of the Month:

“Sometimes your joy is the source of your smile, but sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy.”

*Thich Nhat Hanh,
Vietnamese Zen
Buddhist monk
presently living in
France*

Trivia Question:

What is Diogenes syndrome?

Case of the Month

A 61 year old woman presented to her ophthalmologist with decreased visual acuity in one eye. On exam she was found to have a whitish lesion in the choroid causing retinal detachment between the optic disc and the macula. Intraocular pressure was elevated and a diagnosis of angle closure glaucoma was made. After initiating emergency treatment for the visual problem, the patient was referred back to her primary care physician to evaluate for suspected underlying metastatic malignancy. What part of examination and testing would have the highest yield for identifying the primary in this patient?

Medical History Quote

“I imagine a world in which:

- all the teaching hospitals have a structured approach to the teaching and common evaluation of the competency of each of their residents and fellows
- all of the programs are led by motivated, role model physicians who are prepared to be program directors
- each resident or fellow has the benefit of a high quality, supervised, humanistic clinical educational experience, with customized formative feedback through specialty specific standardized systems
- each resident or fellow demonstrates specialty specific proficiency in each competency prior to graduation, and
- Each resident or fellow is on the path to becoming a Virtuous Physician, who places the needs of his or her patient first.”

Thomas J. Nasca, MD, MACP, new Chief Executive Officer, ACGME in his first column in the ACGME Bulletin, May, 2008

Did You Know

Our incoming R1 “class” of IM and med/peds residents attended medical school in nine different countries and has an exact 50/50 gender split!

Fellowship results for 2009 include current or former residents going to the following programs:

- Cardiology – Virginia Commonwealth
- Endocrinology – University of Tennessee
- Gastroenterology – Wright State University
- Hematology/Oncology – Wright State University
- Nephrology (3) – Indiana University, St. Louis University, University of Utah
- Pulmonary/Critical Care – University of Wisconsin

WSU residents starting fellowships in 2008 include:

- Allergy/immunology – Univ. of Michigan, Ohio State University
- Endocrinology – Wilford Hall Medical Center
- Gastroenterology – University of North Carolina
- Hematology/Oncology – University of Cincinnati
- Hospice and Palliative Medicine – Wright State University
- Infectious disease (3) – Wright State University, Wilford Hall Medical Center (2)
- Pulmonary/Critical Care – Washington University in St. Louis

Senior Residents - Taking on the Leadership Role

Several new residents are now stepping into the team leadership role. After carefully observing the skills of their predecessors, attending the preparation workshop, and filling PDAs and pockets with even more references, they’re off and running! Although certainly not required, some seniors like to give their teams a short handout with expectations, contact information, etc. Don’t forget to check the program policies and guidelines on RMS (administration/tools/department manuals/WSU IM ...) first to avoid duplication or conflicting information. If you find something in the posted policies in need of an update, please send the new information to Barbara Upton or Dr. Anim.

Reminder about Leave Requests by E-mail

Most leave requests for 08-09 are complete. If you submit any additional requests by email to Dr. Anim, be sure the subject line of the email reads “leave request”. Occasionally requests have been filtered as “spam”. Dr. Anim will look for that wording in the subject line to prevent accidental permanent deletion of your request!

Clinic Chiefs

Congratulations to the following residents appointed as Clinic Chiefs for 08-09:

- GSH Internal Medicine: Nikki Okoye
- MVH Medical Surgical Health Center – Omar Mufti
- WPMC Medical Clinic – Paul Haggerty and Aaron Lewis

Answer to Trivia Question:

Possibly associated with frontal lobe dysfunction, "Diogenes syndrome", aka "senile squalor syndrome", manifests as severe self-neglect and poor hygiene in an elderly person, usually living alone. One perplexing association is the compulsion to hoard items, often trash. This is in direct contrast to the individual for whom the syndrome was named, "Diogenes the Cynic", whose only possessions were a bowl and a robe.

Answer to Case:

Breast exam and mammogram. Metastatic tumors in the eye, most often from breast or lung primary, are increasing in frequency. Up to one third of patients dying with breast cancer may have orbital metastases. In addition to systemic chemotherapy, treatment with retinal radiotherapy may preserve vision in this patient.

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New Plan for CCM Rotation

Beginning this month, there will be three (rather than two) senior residents assigned to the Critical Care Rotation at VAMC. As there is no longer a designated night float for this rotation, we've discussed extensively the merits of in-house versus home call for these residents. It seems most residents are in favor of in-house call, not only to avoid being called in for ICU patients but also to provide extra assistance to the staff team for procedures, codes, etc. Post-call CCM residents will leave early to avoid duty hour violations. With the extra resident assigned to the rotation, CCM residents may participate in pulmonary consults or pulmonary clinics if the ICU census is light and there are no new admissions during the day. We'll monitor closely to be sure this plan results in a better resident experience.

Interested in Nephrology?

The American Society of Nephrology (ASN) is pleased to offer travel allowances to internal medicine residents interested in attending Renal Week, which will take place November 6-9, 2008, in Philadelphia, PA. Complimentary registration and up to \$800 per resident are included in the allowance. For more information, contact ASN Senior Policy Coordinator Susan Owens at sowens@asn-online.org or (202) 416-0668. To download an application: <http://www.asn-online.org/about/committees/tpd/> If you are interested, but not sure your block schedule assignment will permit attendance, talk with Dr. Wood before applying for this program.

Positive Feedback

Kathy Cribbs (R4 med/peds) was praised by a patient (included in the MVH Medical Staff quarterly newsletter): "Dr. Cribbs treated me in a very thoughtful and caring manner, administering a remedy that started working even before I got home."

Sara Elrefai (R4 med/peds) also impressed a patient with her good care. The patient contacted the residency office saying she was in the ER for back pain and "Dr. Elrefai was so kind and worked very hard to stop her pain ... did a great job and I'm very grateful".

Aaron Lewis (R3) was recognized by Mary Boosalis, CEO of MVH, for his "outstanding care" provided to a patient and his family during a critical illness and subsequent organ donation. Ms. Boosalis acknowledged the challenges of caring for critically ill patients and said "I am heartened to know that I am surrounded by a staff of exceptional individuals who willingly do whatever it takes to make a positive difference in the lives of our patients and their families, and I am proud to have you a part of the MVH team."

Well done!

Wedding



Congratulations to Manish Kadian (R-1) and his new bride Shilpy who were married on Sunday, June 29, 2008.

New Baby



Congratulations to Aaron (R-3) and Sassandra Lewis on the birth of their new baby girl, Magdalene Rose who was born on June 4, 2008.

Happy Birthday



Bijan Ahrari	R-1	7/13
Emily Link	R-1	7/29
Lay Maung	R-2	7/20
Omar Mufti	R-3	7/09
Ruth Muriithi	R-2	7/17
Sanya Siraj	R-3	7/31



Happy Fourth of July!!

