

# The Monitor



Boonshoft  
School of Medicine  
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

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## Quote of the Month

“Life is like playing a violin in public and learning the instrument as one goes on.”

Samuel Butler

## Trivia Question

What assay has an overall specificity of 89% for diagnosing invasive aspergillosis?

## History of Medicine

Dr. Willem Kolff, a Dutch physician, created the first renal dialysis machine in 1943.

## Did You Know?

The Dayton VA Medical Center has been providing medical care to Veterans for over 141 years.

## Case of the Month

A 45 year old woman presents with gradually progressive exertional dyspnea, leg swelling, and fatigue. She is a non-smoker, has no chest pain or cough, no PND or orthopnea. She has generally been in good health aside from periodic self-limited respiratory illnesses. During two or three of these episodes she recalls having severe pleuritic chest pain, but never sought medical treatment. On exam BP is 94/70, pulse 100. She is slender, has jugular venous distension, no palpable apical impulse, distant heart tones, no crackles or wheezing, slightly tender hepatomegaly, ascites, and symmetrical 2+ edema. The EKG shows low voltage and non-specific T wave changes. Chest x-ray has a normal cardiac silhouette and clear lung fields.

What diagnosis should be strongly considered and what are possible etiologies? What test would you order next?

## DAGMEC Resident Research Forum

Congratulations to Khurram Bari, first place winner in the education category with his presentation of “Ohio River Valley Fever” Presenting as Isolated Granulomatous Hepatitis. A total of 58 entries were presented at the event, each judged by three faculty from other programs. Twenty-two IM and med/peds residents presented twenty-three posters. The following residents did an excellent job of developing their projects, then displaying and discussing their work:

Charlie Abraham (R3)	Ava Hudson (R4 med/peds)
Omar Ahmad (R3)	James Hull (R2)
Shoaib Ali (R3)	Muddassir Mehmood (R2)
April Arseneau (R2)	Omar Mufti (R2)
Hendren Bajillan (R2)	Sindhu Mukku (R2)
Vidya Choudary (R2)	Ruth Muriithi (R2)
Rawiya Elrufay (R3)	Nikki Okoye (R3)
Kevin Goist (R2)	Bilal Quraishi (R3)
Thomas Grana (R3)	Elizabeth Rini (R2)
Soundari Gurusamy (R2)	Sanya Siraj (R3)
Paige Hixson (R2)	Senthuran Siva (R2)

## Lights, camera, action .....

Charlie Abraham (R3) participated in the creation of an ACT team video at Miami Valley Hospital. Suzanne Rotzell, the nurse responsible for the project, reports "he provided us with helpful suggestions as well as performing in the video." Charlie, maybe a future in film or TV? We need a good prime time drama featuring an internist!

## Winner

The MVH morning report question of the day winner for April was Stella Ibezue.

## Answer to Trivia Question

Although there may be significant variation in certain subgroups, the serum galactomannan assay was reported in a meta-analysis to have a sensitivity of 71% and specificity of 89% for invasive aspergillosis. Like the galactomannan assay, a beta-D-glucan assay detects fungal-cell wall constituents, but is positive in aspergillosis and other diseases such as candidiasis, some molds, and *Pneumocystis jirovecii*.

## June Birthdays

Paul Haggerty	R3	6/10
Kate Flick	R1	6/13
Tarak Reddy	R3	6/21
Vidya Choudary	R2	6/22
Adam Hertlein	R1	6/30
Saba Rahman	R1	6/30



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## Answer to Case

She may have constrictive pericarditis. Possible etiologies are sequelae of bacterial, fungal, viral, neoplastic, or uremic pericarditis. With her history, viral is most likely. Further studies should include echocardiography to look for signs of pericardial thickening or constriction, although cardiac catheterization is often necessary to clinch the diagnosis, demonstrating a classic early diastolic dip and subsequent rise (the “square root sign”) in right and left ventricular pressures.

## New Fellowship Coordinator

Colleen Hayden was appointed WSU Internal Medicine Fellowship Coordinator beginning April 1, 2009. Colleen was already active in the Department of Medicine, working on student activities for internal medicine and neurology. She is now responsible for coordinating the administrative functions of four current fellowships as well as orchestrating the development of new fellowships. Her office is located in the WSU Department of Medicine in the Weber CHE Building at Miami Valley Hospital. Please welcome Colleen and contact her at [colleen.hayden@wright.edu](mailto:colleen.hayden@wright.edu) or 208-2936 for issues related to the fellowships

## Shared Stories

The American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation has a website devoted to the sharing of stories about medical care. The home page at <http://sharedwisdom.abimfoundation.org/index.html> provides this introduction:

*“We all have our own experiences with the health care system, whether as patients or as caregivers. Sometimes we're scared or overwhelmed. Sometimes we're relieved and encouraged. In every case, we expect health care practitioners — doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners, and other professionals — to address our needs with compassion and understanding. And many of us have stories to share about those experiences.*

*We invite you to read the powerful stories that many health care professionals have offered, and to share your own. Through these stories, it is our aim to illuminate the realities of how physicians, patients and caregivers interact with each other and how the health care system affects the nature of those relationships. In short, we hope that you will become inspired to help make the quality of health care better for all the patients we serve.”*

Residents, fellows, and faculty are encouraged to visit the site to read and/or share these stories.

## Wedding

Best wishes to Bilal Quraishi (R3) and his wife Farah, who were married on February 3, 2009.



## Your EPIC Inbasket Misses You!

Don't forget to visit your EPIC inbasket on a regular basis. If you've recently been on a staff service or other rotation with pending dictations, etc. check back daily until all documents have been signed or authenticated. If you have clinic at an EPIC site, you should try to check almost daily, certainly no less than once each week, when you're on duty at any site (will need remote access). Add a reminder to your PDA or cellphone so you don't forget to check in regularly. If you'll have a prolonged absence, redirect your inbasket to a colleague to take care of urgent lab and x-ray results.