

The Monitor



Boonshoft
School of Medicine
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

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Quote of the Month

“The greatest way to live with honor in this world is to be what we pretend to be.”
Socrates

Trivia Question

What is globus hystericus?

Trainee Rates for UptoDate

Finishing residents have until July 31st to take advantage of reduced rates for residents in training. Go to www.uptodate.com/trainee for more information.

Winner

The winner of the March morning report question of the day for MVH was Arinze Ikeme.



Welcome to New Residency Coordinator

We are delighted to welcome Mary Pietrzak as our new residency coordinator. Mary joined our staff April 13th and is quickly becoming acquainted with all the events and tasks of the residency office and the annual academic cycle. As she gets to know more than one hundred current and incoming residents, please stop by when you have a chance to welcome her to our residency family.

Case of the Month

A 70 year old female diabetic developed a mass beneath her left ear. It had been present for several weeks, but was now increasing in size. She complained of progressive pain in the throat, tongue, and jaw. On exam, her temperature was 100.5. A firm, non-fluctuant tender 4 cm mass extended from the left submandibular area to the sternocleidomastoid. The patient had poor oral hygiene and several missing teeth. Cervical lymph nodes were not enlarged. CT scan showed a soft tissue mass without bony erosion. Fine needle aspiration biopsy produced yellowish material with a microscopic appearance of delicately branched filaments surrounded by a proteinaceous coating, with marked acute inflammatory response.

What does this patient have?

History of Medicine

from the UK Telegraph April, 2009:

“The 1976 vaccination campaign is now considered to have been an overreaction based on mistaken fears that the swine flu outbreak would pose the same risk as the Spanish flu pandemic that followed the First World War, claiming the lives of up to 50 million people. Many of the 40 millions Americans who signed up for vaccinations questioned the advice of the country's health experts after the predicted pandemic failed to materialise.”

Know the ACGME Competencies

The sixth and final ACGME competency is “systems-based practice”. Residents are to demonstrate both an understanding of the contexts and systems in which health care is provided and the ability to apply this knowledge to improve and optimize health care.

Residents at all levels of training should effectively access/utilize outside resources; use systematic approaches to reduce errors and improve patient care; enthusiastically assist in developing systems improvements.

Highest ratings at each level of training might be warranted for:

- R1: Promotes collaboration with other members of the health care team.
- R2: Embraces the concepts of quality improvement, working effectively with multidisciplinary teams.
- R3: Leads efforts to improve systems of care and to reduce errors.

Answer to Trivia Question

The sensation of a lump in the throat, usually referred to as simply “globus”.

This may be an isolated finding associated with anxiety or stress or may be part of a multi-symptom psychosomatic disorder.

Did You Know

All of the blood vessels in your body, including arteries, veins and capillaries, are more than 60,000 miles long.

May Birthdays

| | | |
|----------------|----|------|
| Khurram Bari | R2 | 5/04 |
| Sindhu Mukku | R2 | 5/04 |
| Abdul Mohammed | R2 | 5/05 |
| Mustafa Musleh | R1 | 5/10 |
| Eunice Pyun | R2 | 5/19 |
| Lisa Skabelund | R1 | 5/19 |
| Nkeiruka Okoye | R3 | 5/26 |



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Answer to Case

Actinomycosis. Actinomyces israelii, the usual pathogen, is a normal part of the oral flora. Infection with this organism should be considered in patients with diabetes, poor dentition or recent trauma or surgical manipulation.

Write a Better Abstract

Many residents and fellows are working on case reports and research projects. As you submit abstracts for presentation at regional or national meetings, here are some reminders about common “simple” areas for improvement:

Read instructions for the specific venue. Many have word count restrictions, font requirements, line spacing instructions, etc.

When listing authors, be consistent with medical degrees and punctuation.

If using abbreviations for scientific terms, spell out the words the first time [e.g. systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)]. If you won't use the abbreviation again in your abstract, don't bother to list the abbreviation at all.

Use generic drug names.

Be careful with capitalization. Generic drugs and most lab tests are lower case.

Include normal values for laboratory studies other than routine “everyday” tests.

For an abstract to be submitted as an attached document (not typed into an online box), justifying the margins always makes it look more professional.

Thank You

Kanan Sharma (Chief VAMC) thanks several residents for assisting with extra duties and clinical coverage while the 09-10 chief residents attended a national workshop in April. Appreciation goes to: Shazdeh Butt, Ava Hudson, Mudassir Mehmood, Charlie Abraham, Radhika Rajshaker, Nicholas Vernetti, Toops Matthews, Adam Derrickson, and Blake Elkins. Thanks for your support – great teamwork!



Publication

Congratulations to Erin McConnell (R3 medpeds). Her manuscript “Community Service and the Pediatric Exam: An Introduction to Clinical Medicine via a Partnership Between First Year Medical Students and a Community Elementary School” was accepted for publication in Teaching and Learning in Medicine.

National Presentation

Shabana Dewani (R3) traveled to Philadelphia in April to present a poster “Acute Hydrocephalus: Unusual Presentation of Neurosarcoidosis” at the national American College of Physicians Associates Competition. This is a highly competitive selection process and we're very proud that Shabana represented our program at this event!

Help Us Keep the Curriculum Updated

When you review the online written rotation descriptions for your current assignment, please notify Barbara Upton at baupton@mvh.org about any incorrect faculty listings, contact information, schedules, etc. We count on you to point out changes we might overlook between routine reviews every two to three years!

Congratulations

Paul Haggerty was honored at the annual Wright State University Academy of Medicine dinner as a finalist for the resident award from that organization. Residents are selected for exhibiting “ability, affability, and availability” among other outstanding qualities. Paul and his wife Desiree were treated to an inspirational presentation by Dr. Naomi Rachel Remen, author of “Kitchen Table Wisdom” and “My Grandfather's Blessings”.

