Visual Diagnosis Cases (Signs– and Why They Matter)

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The presenter has no conflicts of interest to disclose and will not discuss off-label or unapproved use of drugs or devices.

3 Points

1. Think of someone whose observation and exam skills have inspired you. (Tell them so!)

2. See all you can see. Knowledge and reasoning aren’t enough.

3. Even if things resolve clinically, the story may not yet be over.
When, just by looking, I make a diagnosis that matters, I feel:

1. Fraudulent, like I have cut corners by not doing tests
2. Good, proud, happy, like I'm a real doctor
3. Guilty, like I am overcharging for my services
4. Don't know/Not sure
2 year old with fever x 1 day

- Fever (104°), irritability
- PE (last night): cervical node
- Had urine bag placed
- Today, peeling where bag was affixed
Cause of his desquamation

1. Scarlet fever
2. Staphylococcal scalded skin syndrome
3. Kawasaki disease
4. Don’t know/Not sure
**Kawasaki disease**

- Fever: 95%
- Conjunctival injection: 88%
- Lip/mouth involvement: 90%
- Hand/foot involvement: 90%
- Rash: 92%
- Cervical node: 75%

[Image of a child with symptoms of Kawasaki disease]
What is Kawasaki disease?

- A brand that sells socks for cows
- When someone gets sick from cows
- A disease that is deadly to cows
- A disease one gets from riding cows
- The disease in which you remember the past, as in Native American times
- A progressive degeneration of the kawasa gland resulting in prolonged muscle weakness

Rash, …, strawberry tongue

- Fever for “a few days”
- PE: erythematous rash, bright red lips, prominent conjunctival vessels, strawberry tongue
- Hands not swollen or red; no node
- “Terrible diarrhea,” confusion, and near-fainting
Eric Zwemer, MD

University of North Carolina
8 mo with swelling, purpura, fever

- 1 day history of
  - Hand/foot swelling
  - Purpura ears, legs
  - Low grade fever
- Not ill appearing
- Normal platelets, coags, urinalysis
Cause of these white forelocks

1. Toxicity of particular hair product
2. Vitiligo
3. Waardenburg syndrome
4. Don’t know/Not sure
Most relevant newborn screen:

1. Hearing screen
2. Red reflex
3. Metabolic disease screen
4. Don’t know/Not sure
**Waardenburg syndrome**

- Eyes widely spaced: Deafness in 25%

- Eyes normally spaced: Deafness in 50%

**Derek Zhorne, MD**

University of Iowa
9 yr old: recurrent facial cyanosis

- Normal pulse ox
- Neg consultations
  - Cardiology (nl echo)
  - Vascular surg (nl doppler)
  - Hematology
- Admitted for imaging
Ann Beach, MD

Atlanta, Georgia

12 yr old twins

- One asymptomatic
- One dehydrated, weak, hypoglycemic
- Both well tanned (recent cruise)
Because you know about neurofibromatosis-- the café au lait spots and even the axillary freckling-- there is eagerness to show you these large café au lait spots…
Did she lose her temper?

- Child running around shirtless while his mother made key lime pies
- He kept getting in her way, so she tried to keep him outside--
- Or did she lose her temper?
3 yo with a rash

- H/O mild eczema
- Rash after MMR
- Admitted with dx of eczema herpeticum
- Has had 3 days of IV acyclovir
- HSV cults neg 2 days
14 yr old with limited joint mobility

- Diabetes since age 3
- Admitted for treatment of DKA
- Claims good control until recent move
- Limited joint mobility: unable to fully extend fingers
Her limited joint mobility:

1. Rheumatoid arthritis
2. Diabetes complication
3. Multifocal osteomyelitis
4. Don’t know/Not sure
15 year old girl

- Tells you everything in her life is fine
- Marks on her right hand? “Must have scraped knuckles on something”
- She then covers her right hand with her left
Lesions on her knuckles

1. Dermatomyositis (Gottron sign)
2. Bulimia
3. “Boxer” injury
4. Don’t know/Not sure

Multiple bouts of bloody diarrhea

- Siblings with multiple bouts of bloody diarrhea in past year
- One of the children died
- Mother’s fingernails . . .
Heavy Metal

I like smoke and lightning
Heavy metal thunder
Racing in the wind
And the feeling that I'm under…

Born to be Wild
Steppenwolf
Adrienne Deporre, MD

Kansas City

16 yo with enlarged joints

- Treated for JIA x 2.5 years (unsuccessfully)
- Admitted because of chest pain/shortness of breath
- CT of chest unremarkable
- Extensive tests planned for collagen vascular disease
4 yo with painful bumps on feet

- Afebrile
- No underlying disease
- Bumps limited to feet
- Extremely painful
- Pool party 4 days ago
2 yr old with pain and a rosy red...

- Months ago: screaming in pain with defecation
- Perianal redness; no fever
- Rx: hydrocortisone, nystatin without relief
Cause of his perianal erythema, pain

1. Acrodermatitis enteropathica
2. Group A strep
3. Child abuse
4. Don’t know/Not sure
Infant w/ Shwachman syndrome*

- Fever last night → ED
- Urine bag placed; U/A “negative”
- This AM, lesion in groin where urine bag was

* pancreatic insufficiency and neutropenia
Ecthyma gangrenosum with immune compromise

1. Staph aureus
2. Pseudomonas
3. Spider bite
4. Don’t know/Not sure
You can see a lot just by looking.  
*Yogi Berra*

We see what we look for.  
We look for what we know.  *Goethe*

We see what we are prepared to see.  
*Emerson*

**Chance favors the prepared mind.**  
*Louis Pasteur*

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