

Medical Case Reports: how the knowledge captured in individual case reports can inform evidence-based practice and clinical education



Michael Kidd
Editor-in-Chief
Journal of Medical Case Reports
www.jmedicalcasereports.com

Are case reports compatible with Evidence-Based Medicine?



Why a journal of medical case reports?

- “The best teaching of medicine is that taught by the patient” – Osler
- Detailed information about an individual
- Neglected area for publication
- Impact on Impact Factors
- Potential to contribute to research and change clinical practice

Case reports and Evidence Based Health Care

- Case reports offer information that large scale studies cannot
- Previously unreported reactions to new medications
- Rich source of hypothesis
- Use to inform research as part of a comprehensive database with other case reports
- Teaching clinical medicine
- Resource of clinical images and teaching materials

What are we looking for?

Original case reports that expand the field of medical knowledge:

1. Unreported or unusual side effects or adverse interactions involving medications
2. Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease
3. New associations or variations in disease processes
4. Presentations, diagnoses and/or management of new and emerging diseases
5. An unexpected association between diseases or symptoms
6. An unexpected event in the course of observing or treating a patient
7. Findings that shed new light on the possible pathogenesis of a disease or an adverse effect

Progress to date

- Editorial board established:
 - 75 members from 21 nations
- Open peer review process
- In house editorial team
- PubMed acceptance

- Journal launch February 2007
- Database of case reports under development

Stats

- Submissions received: 582
- Manuscripts published: 122

- 40% non-English speaking countries
- 25% low to middle income countries

Adverse interactions

- A fatal case of bupropion (Zyban) hepatotoxicity
Extensive psoriasis induced by pegylated interferon
- Fatal miliary Coccidioidomycosis with infliximab therapy
- Anaphylactic reaction associated with Ranitidine in a person with acute pancreatitis
- Ventricular tachycardia after administration of sildenafil citrate
- Acute pancreatitis related to therapeutic dosing with colchicine
- Fluoroquinolone-associated tendinopathy

Case reports in clinical education

- One key aim is to provide an opportunity for medical students and recent medical graduates to start researching and writing up their own clinical observations about individual patients as part of their training in evidence-based practice

Most viewed articles

- [Oedema of the metatarsal heads II-IV and forefoot pain as an unusual manifestation of Lyme disease: a case report](#)

Stefan Endres, Markus Quante

Journal of Medical Case Reports 2007,
1:44 (9 July 2007)

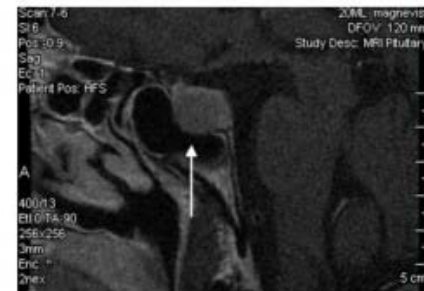


- **Acute compartment syndrome of the hand in Henoch-Schonlein Purpura**
Guntur E Luis, Eng-Seng Ng
Journal of Medical Case Reports 2007, **1:6**
(2 March 2007)



- A possible new syndrome with growth-hormone secreting pituitary adenoma, colonic polyposis, lipomatosis, lentiginos and renal carcinoma in association with familial testicular germ cell malignancy: A case report

Phuong L Mai et al, *Journal of Medical Case Reports* 2007, 1:9 (28 March 2007)

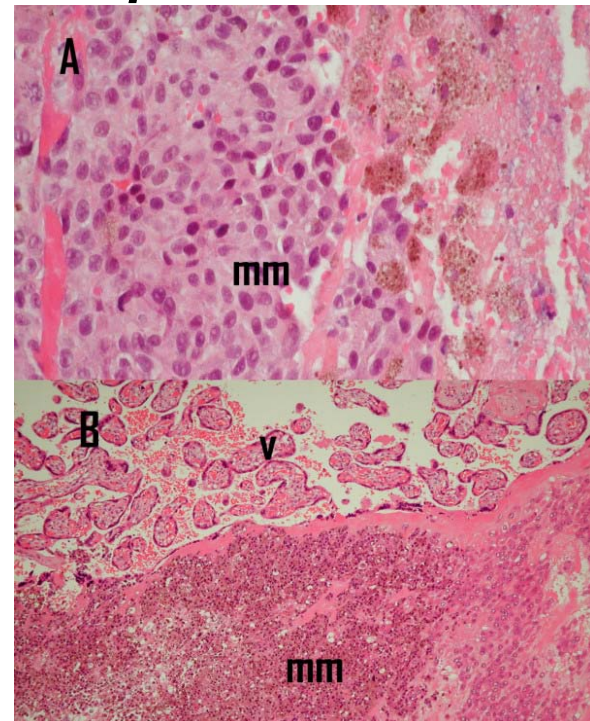


a



- **Atrial and placental melanoma metastasis: a case report and literature review**

Pradeep Lakshminarayana, Sarah Danson, Kim Suvarna, Barry Hancock
Journal of Medical Case Reports 2007,
1:21 (14 May 2007)



- **A case of penile fracture with complete urethral disruption during sexual intercourse: a case report**

Klemen Jagodič, Marko Erklavec, Igor Bizjak, Sandi Poteko, Helena Korošec Jagodič

Journal of Medical Case Reports 2007,
1:14 (2 May 2007)



Our database

- All cases are aggregated into a structured database which makes it possible to search for patterns of drug reactions, or demographic data and disease information, across multiple case reports.
- The strength of this resource will increase with the increase in the number of case reports.



SEARCH

Congenital malaria with atypical presentation: A case report from low transmission area in India

Case Summary

We describe an exploratory, data-oriented approach for identifying candidates for differential gene expression in cDNA microarray experiments in terms of α -outliers and outlier regions, using simultaneous tolerance intervals relative to the line of equivalence ($Cy5 = Cy3$). We demonstrate the improved performance of our approach over existing single-slide methods using public datasets and simulation studies.

Case Overview

Subject area:	Infectious diseases
Type of case report:	Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease
Date of presentation:	Unknown
Outcome:	Complete resolution

Patient Demographics

Age of patient at diagnosis:	Infancy (1 month to 1 year)
Sex of patient:	Unknown
Country patient is located:	India
Ethnic origin of patient:	South Africa

Presentation and investigation

[Email to a friend](#)

[Add to favorites](#)

Related cases

- [1. Retroperitoneal haemorrhage in renal angiomyolipoma causing hepatic functional decompasation: a case report](#)
- [2. Bowel associated dermatosis- arthritis syndrome: a case report](#)
- [3. An unusual presentation of brucellosis, involving multiple organs systems, with low agglutinating titers: a case report](#)
- [4. Hepatotoxicity induced by horse ATG and reversed by rabbit ATG: a case report](#)
- [5. Cystic fibrosis and renal disease: a case report](#)