

## FRANK ROSE 128

History of the present illness: Frank Rose is a 10 y.o. boy who is brought to you on a homemade stretcher with the chief complaint of having been bedridden for the past 2 months with pain and swelling of his entire left leg, from the hip to the toes. The onset of the problem was very gradual.

Past medical and social history :Frank's father is a subsistence farmer; they are very poor. He has had malaria several times and had an accidental wound of his forehead as a preschooler. Other than that, he had no significant illnesses or injuries. He is on no medications, has had no immunizations, and has had no allergies.



### Physical exam:

Frank is alert and in extreme distress, at times crying out and

other times remaining quiet with great effort. Vital signs: T 103.4; P 136; R 26; Weight 20 kg. The skin is hot, dry, and normal in texture. Head is normal size and shape; there is a scar on his forehead. Pupils are equal, round, and responsive to light. The whites of the eyes are white. Corneas are clear. Inside the lower lids is normal pink. The nose is normal shape and without sores. The outer ears, canals, and ear drums are normal in appearance.



The teeth are normal but badly decayed; the mouth is moist. The tonsils are normal size and color. There are no enlarged lymph nodes in the neck, front or back. The thyroid is not enlarged. The patient can move his neck in all directions without pain. Heart sounds have no murmur. Lungs are clear. Bowel sounds are present and normal. Liver and spleen are not enlarged. The abdomen is soft and non-tender, except that pushing on the lower left abdomen aggravates the leg pain. There are enlarged lymph nodes in the left groin but none in the right; they are tender to touch. The kidney area in back is not tender. Arms show no swelling; the patient's left leg but not his right is massively swollen. Any movement of either leg or his lower body causes severe pain so the patient cries out. Respond.

### Options:

See how he does for a week.

Treat him with pain medications only; tell the family he will die.

Send him to a government hospital.

Send him to a private hospital (costs you \$2000).

# Frank Rose 128

---

## **Present illness:**

Is the swelling pitting? No, it is not pitting as far as you can tell.

However, he howls so bad you cannot properly test.

Is the leg hot to the touch? Yes

Was the pain initially over a joint? No

Is there any break in the skin or was there at the beginning? No

Did this start with an injury? Not that he remembers.

What part of the leg hurts the worst? The upper part.

What kind of pain is it? A bone pain--deep, intense, and throbbing.

Does the pain go anywhere? Sometimes the lower back hurts a little.

Is there anything that alleviates the pain? No, but movement aggravates it.

Is the pain worse at one time or another? It's worse at night.

Is there any problem with urine or bowels? No

How severe is the pain? He has not had a good night's sleep in months and he keeps the rest of the family awake with crying.

**Laboratory:** Urinalysis entirely normal. Hemoglobin 90%

