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Emergi-Quiz; History; Diagnostic dilemma

# In Case You Missed It: A Brief History of Emergi-Quiz

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First presented at the American Academy of Pediatrics Annual Meeting (now the National Conference & Exhibition) in Dallas, Texas in October 1994, “Emergi-Quiz” was added to the Section on Emergency Medicine program as a poster session to showcase six presentations by pediatric emergency medicine (PEM) fellows about interesting cases. The format, at that time, was a “mini-test” that allowed the fellows to challenge the audience and test their diagnostic skills by presenting an unknown case. Cases were presented on one day with discussions and answers on the following day. The inaugural Emergi-Quiz Chairperson was Dr Leland Ropp, who held this position for 3 years.

Then in 1997, the fourth year of Emergi-Quiz, Dr Martha Wright took over. Under her leadership, the Emergi-Quiz format changed and this format continues today: four PEM fellows were chosen—annually from dozens who submitted cases electronically—and paired together to present their case and discuss the unknown case of their co-presenter at the Section's meeting in front of a live audience.

Each fellow is given their unknown case in advance to prepare their discussion. Two awards are given, *Best Case Discussion* and *Best Discussion of an Unknown Case*.

Dr Wright was a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio, where she was the Pediatric Residency Program Director for a number of years. She now serves as a Clinical Learning Environment Review Field Representative for the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medicine Education. I had the chance to speak to her about Emergi-Quiz and the time she was the Chairperson. “I really felt it was a terrific showcase of clinician

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**TABLE 1. Emergi-Quiz Presenters, 1998–2019.**

| Year | Fellow              | Final Diagnosis                              | Program                                     |
|------|---------------------|--|---|
| 1998 | David DeLemos       | Burkitt's lymphoma                           | Texas Children's Hospital                   |
| 1998 | Ron Kaplan          | Ethylene toxicity                            | Boston Children's Hospital                  |
| 1998 | Cecilia Carubelli   | Neurocysticercosis                           | UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas    |
| 1998 | Brian Gilligan      | Small bowel obstruction from adhesions       | University of Florida at Jacksonville       |
| 1999 | Lisa Skokan         | Ehrlichiosis                                 | University of Utah                          |
| 1999 | Sandy Garcia        | Pseudohypoparathyroid                        | Texas Children's Hospital                   |
| 1999 | Julia MacDonald     | Septic arthritis                             | University of Louisville                    |
| 1999 | Laura Sells         | Osteomyelitis of cervical spine              | Nationwide Children's Hospital              |
| 2000 | Theresa Maldonado   | Myocarditis                                  | Children's Hospital of Montefiore           |
| 2000 | Lina Abujamra       | Vertebral artery dissection                  | University of Florida at Jacksonville       |
| 2000 | Ada Earp            | Endocarditis                                 | Texas Children's Hospital                   |
| 2000 | Anna Karpas         | Shock/traumatic ventricular septal defect    | Children's Hospital of Wisconsin            |
| 2001 | Jason Little        | Congenital adrenal hyperplasia               | UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas    |
| 2001 | Alonna Norberg      | Abuse  | Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron |
| 2001 | Sabrina Perkins     | Renal artery thrombosis with hypertension    | UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas    |
| 2001 | William Stauffer    | Intussusception                              | Children's Minnesota                        |
| 2002 | Hannah Smitherman   | Group A streptococcal infection, epistaxis   | Texas Children's Hospital                   |
| 2002 | Kelly Butler        | Psoas abscess                                | Vanderbilt University Medical Center        |
| 2002 | Annalise Sorrentino | Carbon monoxide poisoning                    | University of Alabama at Birmingham         |
| 2002 | Allen Hsaio         | Duodenal hematoma                            | Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital          |
| 2003 | Joseph Allen        | Neonatal herpes                              | Texas Children's Hospital                   |
| 2003 | Mardi Steere        | Deep vein thrombosis/pelvic rhabdomyosarcoma | University of Florida at Jacksonville       |
| 2003 | Russ Horowitz       | Cardiomegaly/rickets                         | Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago        |
| 2003 | Laurie Lawrence     | Acetaminophen toxicity                       | Vanderbilt University Medical Center        |
| 2004 | Rakesh Mistry       | Miller-Fisher syndrome                       | Children's Hospital of Wisconsin            |
| 2004 | Manoj Mittal        | Hypercalcemia/Acute lymphocytic leukemia     | Children's Hospital of Philadelphia         |
| 2004 | Pia Meyers          | Cardiac rhabdomyosarcoma                     | Nicklaus Children's Hospital                |
| 2004 | Peter Antevy        | Pertussis                                    | Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh           |
| 2005 | Stephanie Doniger   | Brucellosis                                  | Rady Children's Hospital                    |
| 2005 | Kelli Petronis      | Splenic rupture                              | Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters |
| 2005 | Christine Cho       | Cystic fibrosis                              | Children's Hospital of Philadelphia         |
| 2005 | Cara Doughty        | Pheochromocytoma of bladder                  | Texas Children's Hospital                   |
| 2006 | Myto Doung          | Osteomyelitis/septic phlebitis               | St Louis Children's Hospital                |
| 2006 | Hallie Keller       | Airway/esophageal foreign body               | University of Utah                          |
| 2006 | Pavan Zaveri        | Coarctation of abdominal aorta               | Children's National Medical Center          |
| 2006 | Jennifer Marin      | Acute lymphocytic leukemia of spine          | Children's Hospital of Philadelphia         |
| 2007 | Javier Vializ       | Thiamine deficiency                          | St Christopher's Hospital for Children      |
| 2007 | Sabah Iqbal         | Total anomalous pulmonary venous return      | Children's National Medical Center          |
| 2007 | Derya Caglar        | Multifocal osteomyelitis                     | Children's Hospital Los Angeles             |
| 2007 | Cathy James         | Arsenic poisoning                            | Boston Children's Hospital                  |
| 2008 | Jason Adams         | Pulmonary arteriovenous malformation         | Alfred I. DuPont Hospital for Children      |

Table 1 (continued)

| Year | Fellow             | Final Diagnosis   | Program  |
|------|--------------------|---|--|
| 2008 | Joe Grubenhoff     | Thyroxine poisoning   | Children's Hospital of Colorado                                |
| 2008 | Purva Glover       | Myasthenia gravis   | Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron                    |
| 2008 | Katie Nicholson    | Hypocalcemia  | Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital                             |
| 2009 | Ted Brenkert       | Rat-bite fever  | Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital (Vanderbilt)             |
| 2009 | Rachel Tuuri       | Pulmonary veno-occlusive disease  | Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago                           |
| 2009 | Jennifer Jacob     | Duodenal atresia with hypomagnesemia                                    | Rady Children's Hospital                                       |
| 2009 | Lorraine Ng        | Lupus   | St Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center                            |
| 2010 | Brian Costello     | Septo-optic dysplasia   | Emory University School of Medicine                            |
| 2010 | Todd Florin        | Lemierre syndrome   | Children's Hospital of Philadelphia                            |
| 2010 | Katrina Iverson    | Viral myocarditis   | University of Michigan   |
| 2010 | Thuy Ngo           | Endocarditis & septic emboli  | Texas Children's Hospital                                      |
| 2011 | Julia Lloyd        | Acute rheumatic fever and septic arthritis                              | Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago                           |
| 2011 | Irma Ugalde        | anomalous left coronary from aortic sinus between Ao and PA             | UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas                       |
| 2011 | Mike Baldovsky     | Aortic dissection   | University of Tennessee Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center   |
| 2011 | Keith Weisz        | Sickle cell trait, splenic sequestration                                | Children's Hospital of Colorado                                |
| 2012 | Brian Bassham      | Ethylene glycol poisoning   | Vanderbilt University Medical Center                           |
| 2012 | Jessica Chen       | Lidocaine toxicity, burns   | Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron                    |
| 2012 | Ryan Caltagirone   | Ventricular tachycardia   | Children's Hospital of Colorado                                |
| 2012 | Saranya Srinivasan | Scurvy  | Children's Hospital Los Angeles                                |
| 2013 | Alexie Cruz Puran  | Cyanide poisoning   | Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong University of Rochester |
| 2013 | Matthew Thornton   | Thyrotoxic hypokalemic paralysis  | Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital                             |
| 2013 | Amanda Price       | Status epilepticus from bartonella infection                            | Medical University of South Carolina                           |
| 2013 | Mujahida Baram     | Opsoclonus myoclonus neuroblastoma                                      | Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center, St Louis           |
| 2014 | Tom Czolgosz       | Mercury poisoning   | Children's Hospital Michigan                                   |
| 2014 | Jonathen Auten     | Molar pregnancy   | Rady Children's Hospital                                       |
| 2014 | Sathya Subramanian | Anti-NMDA receptor encephalitis   | SUNY Downstate / Kings County Hospital                         |
| 2014 | Ji Won Kim         | Hyper-IgM syndrome and Pneumocystis pneumonia                           | Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital                             |
| 2015 | Kurtis Mayz        | Kleine-Levin Syndrome   | University of Michigan   |
| 2015 | Mariann Nocera     | Flexeril overdose   | Hasbro Children's Hospital, Brown University                   |
| 2015 | Amy Delaroché      | Acquired HIV  | Children's Hospital Michigan                                   |
| 2015 | Adeola Kosoko      | Pulmonary arteriovenous malformation and non-tuberculosis mycobacterium | Texas Children's Hospital                                      |
| 2016 | Jessica Perniciaro | Sepsis, retained products of conception                                 | Children's Hospital Los Angeles                                |
| 2016 | Stephanie Moses    | Pott's Puffy Tumor from foreign body                                    | Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron                    |
| 2016 | Emily Roben        | Pyloric stenosis in 10 day old  | Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago                           |
| 2016 | Laura Sartori      | Factitious disorder   | Vanderbilt University Medical Center                           |
| 2017 | Caleb Ward         | Distal ileal volvulus from persistent omphalomesenteric duct            | Children's National Medical Center                             |
| 2017 | Seth Woolf         | Sacrococcygeal germ cell tumor  | Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital                             |
| 2017 | Julie Leviter      | Addison's Disease   | Hasbro Children's Hospital, Brown University                   |
| 2017 | Tucker Anderson    | Cat scratch disease with neuroretinitis                                 | University of Tennessee Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center   |
| 2018 | Lydia Rabon        | Abdominal compartment syndrome due to MRSA sepsis                       | Phoenix Children's Hospital                                    |
| 2018 | Steve Janofsky     | Traumatic hemiplegic migraine   | Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh                              |
| 2018 | Wendi Wendt        | Gout secondary to hyperparathyroidism                                   | University of Michigan   |
| 2018 | Jayceland Holland  | Neonatal purpura fulminans secondary to galactosemia                    | Vanderbilt University Medical Center                           |
| 2019 | Rachel Cafferty    | Congenital syphilis   | Children's Hospital of Colorado                                |

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Table 1 (continued)

| Year | Fellow           | Final Diagnosis                     | Program  |
|------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 2019 | Anneka Hooft     | Latrodectism                        | Rady Children's Hospital                                     |
| 2019 | Joshua Haverland | Myasthenia gravis                   | Phoenix Children's Hospital                                  |
| 2019 | Baillie Lott     | Idiopathic retroperitoneal fibrosis | University of Tennessee Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center |

educator skills... This was another way to highlight other skills that fellows possessed. From the wrap-up of the case to presenting learning points, it really showed how excited they were about practicing clinical medicine.”

Given her tenure as Chair for 12 years, we discussed how Emergi-Quiz has evolved through the years. Understanding the competitive nature of PEM fellows, she was not surprised to see the fellows cast a wide diagnostic net and discuss the assigned unknown case with multiple subspecialists at their institution. As a former Emergi-Quiz discussant myself, I certainly sought out consultation from hematologists and immunologists for my unknown case. She also noted how fellows began to use PowerPoint to not only relay knowledge but entertain the audience as well. Moreover, despite having the 8 AM time slot on Saturday morning, Emergi-Quiz became the “reason...people would get up for” that day's Section program. From her vantage point, it has been great to follow the careers of the fellows who have presented.

Following Dr Wright, Dr Christine Cho, Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

and the PEM Fellowship Program Director at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, was Emergi-Quiz Chairperson from 2009 to 2015. I asked them both, “of the nearly 100 cases you have seen, which ones have stood out?” Cases of neurocysticercosis, a 15-year-old who presented with altered mental status and was found to have thyrotoxicosis after taking a pet's levothyroxine, and bladder pheochromocytoma in a patient with headaches and urinary frequency all came to mind.

I had the pleasure of serving as Chairperson from 2016 to 2018 and handed over the reins to Dr Marideth Rus from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas in 2019. Previously, there were judges who chose the winners, but now we use audience participation to choose the winners for each of the awards. Presenters from 1998 through 2019 are listed in [Table 1](#).

This issue of *Clinical Pediatric Emergency Medicine* is a celebration of the Emergi-Quiz. Diagnostic dilemmas still provide excitement and a curiosity to clinicians at all levels of training. We offer case reports from the most recent presenters and hope this will help further stimulate your love of medicine.