



Houck's Headlines

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

OCTOBER 2011

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Hints, Tips and Everyday Wisdom
- Birthdays
- Humor
- Recognition
- New Medications

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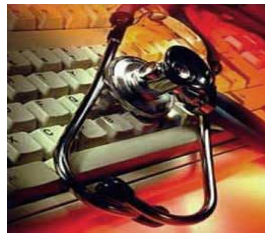
Hints, Tips, and Everyday Wisdom

Welcome to the first edition of Houck's Headlines. Special thanks goes to Heidi Sprecker for thinking of the name.

In this section, we will be covering medical terms, equipment or hints and tips designed to help make us more productive and efficient.

Banana bag or rally pack - This is an IV bag full of vitamins and minerals, usually of thiamine, folic acid and magnesium. The combination of these fluids

make it yellow, thus the term banana bag. The banana bag or rally pack is typically used on alcoholic patients.



Empiric or empirically - This term is most often used in treating a patient with antibiotics. Before culture and sensitivity results return, the doctor

will empirically place the patient on antibiotics, meaning they are initiating treatment prior to a definitive diagnosis.

SNoW - A new surgical product to improve hemostasis.

MSSA Infection - Methicillin-sensitive Staphylococcus aureus.

GOLD - Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (staging system for COPD).

Happy Birthday!!

- October
- (5) Erin Rodick
- (16) Elizabeth Halle
- (27) Lena Temples



Just for Fun



Remember to email your VR bloopers to me so they can appear on this page!

The following are actual, unedited, notes written by doctors on patients' medical charts:

- 1. Patient has chest pain if she lies on her left side for over a year.
- 2. On the second day the knee was better, and on the third day it disappeared completely.
- 3. She has had no rigors or shaking chills, but her husband states she was very hot in bed last night.

4. The patient has been depressed ever since she began seeing me in 1993.

5. The patient is tearful and crying constantly. She also appears to be depressed.

6. Discharge status: Alive but without permission.

7. Healthy appearing, decrepit 69-year-old male, mentally alert but forgetful.

8. The patient refused an autopsy.

9. The patient has no

past history of suicides.

10. Patient has left his white blood cells at another hospital.

A special thanks to Cris Balmer for submitting these 2 VR bloopers:

History of venous insufficiency and prior bean soup vein stripping.

SOCIAL HISTORY: Lives alone. He is uncertain if he has any children, but he has been told by his ex-wife that he has about 3-5, but he is uncertain of this.

Congrats AIM Graduates

Lori Beaty (mentor Margie Yurt)

Tina Renneberg (mentor Jessica Bell)

Sara Spratt (mentor Jessica Bell)



New Medications



Zelboraf (vemurafenib) - A drug to treat patients with late stage (metastatic) or unresectable melanoma.

Adcetris (brentuximab vedotin) - Treats Hodgkin lymphoma (HL) and a rare lymphoma known as systemic anaplastic large cell lymphoma (ALCL).

Botox (onabotulinumtoxinA) - Not a new drug but a new use for injection to treat urinary incontinence in people with neurologic conditions such as spinal cord injury and multiple sclerosis who have overactivity of the bladder.

Firazyr (icatibant injection) - For treatment of acute

attacks of hereditary angioedema (HAE) in adults 18 years of age and older.

Xalkori (crizotinib) - Treats certain patients with late-stage (locally advanced or metastatic), non-small cell lung cancers (NSCLC) who express the abnormal anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) gene.

Complera (emtricitabine/rilpivirine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) - A complete single-tablet regimen for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in treatment-naïve adults.

Brilinta (ticagrelor) - A blood-thinning drug to reduce cardiovascular death and heart attack in patients with acute coronary syndromes (ACS).

Soliris® (eculizumab) - For the treatment of all pediatric and adult patients with

atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome (aHUS).

Combivent Respimat - Respimat Soft Mist Inhaler, a new, propellant-free inhaler product that uses a slow-moving mist to deliver the same active ingredients of Combivent inhalation aerosol in a metered-dose inhaler (Combivent MDI).

Juvisync (sitagliptin and simvastatin) - A combination prescription medication that contains two previously approved medicines in one tablet for use in adults who need both sitagliptin and simvastatin.

Cialis (tadalafil) - Now approved to treat the signs and symptoms of benign prostatic hypertrophy (BPH).

Write or print out these meds and add them to your current drug reference material.

Record Breakers

100% Accuracy on Audits

Highest September Producers

Sherri Gault - Lifespan	11,608
Andrew Wendt - SHVI	14,452
Lori Etheridge - VBHS	9,771

Cris Balmer
Ella Brock
Mary Clark
Hema Kakaiya
Lena Temples





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Transcription done accurately...done promptly

If you know of any local physicians or practices that are in need of our transcription services, please let me know. I have information I can send to them and perhaps land a new account! We can also talk about a “finder’s fee.”



Spotlight—Getting to Know You

Each month, I would like to feature one of you here in this spot—the spotlight. Do not be surprised if I contact you for more information, so that you can be the next person in the spotlight.

Since I am running behind this month (something new and different), I thought I would just tell you a little more about myself.

I am single, never married and have a boyfriend, Roy. Previous to medical transcription, I was a supervisor in a medical claims department for an insurance company. I briefly had a craft shop where I sold craft supplies as well as some handmade items. That is one thing I do miss doing, but time does not allow it anymore.

Currently, I have been doing Weight Watchers on line. It has been slow but at least I am losing! It is tough sitting on your butt all day and not gain weight!

My parents have both passed on, and I am living in the “homestead.” I have 2 sisters; one (Cindy) lives with her



L to R is Cindy, Geri and Dawn

husband in WI and my other sister (Geri) and her husband live close by here in PA (she has a beauty salon in my backyard). I have no children of my own, but I like to think of my nephew (Lyle) and 2 nieces (Alyx and Taylor) as my kids.

I look forward to talking and writing about each of you.

If you have any great ideas for this section of the newsletter, or any other sections, please do let me know.