

Review of: "[Case Report] Challenging Detection of Latent Tuberculosis in a Patient Undergoing High-Dose Corticosteroid Therapy for Acute Hemolytic Anemia and Rhupus Arthropathy"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors provide a difficult but not uncommon situation, latent TB in a patient needing immunosuppressive therapy. However, it does appear that the information about the prior positive IGRA testing was discovered later in the course, rather than at first presentation. The presentation of the patient did not allow another course of action, that is, giving corticosteroid therapy for the life-threatening hemolytic anemia. Knowing the prior positive IGRA state would probably not have changed things either. You did the best you could, diagnose the activated TB as quickly as possible with bronchoscopic specimens. The only issue might be that bronchoscopy perhaps should have been performed even earlier, i.e., using "Sutton's Law," going where the money is sooner. This is a lesson that no matter how often the principle arises, the "darned if you do and darned if you don't" (give steroids) is always difficult.