



Pediatric Perspectives: Clinical Learning Across Developmental Stages

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Pediatric patients present distinct diagnostic and management challenges across care settings. The cases featured in this month's *Consultant* illustrate how age-specific physiology and presentation directly influence diagnostic strategy and treatment decisions.

Our *Photoclinic* case on **congenital hemangioma** begins at birth. Unlike infantile hemangiomas, congenital hemangiomas are fully formed at delivery, lack a postnatal proliferative phase, and require evaluation guided by subtype and natural history. Accurate classification is essential to prevent misdiagnosis and avoid unnecessary therapy.

The *Case in Point* report on **traumatic hyphema in a child with sickle cell trait** shifts attention to school-aged patients and underscores the importance of integrating genetic context into acute management. What initially appeared to be minor ocular trauma evolved into a vision-threatening condition. Recognition of sickle cell trait appropriately heightened diagnostic urgency and influenced therapeutic decision-making.

Another *Case in Point* examines **HHV-6 encephalitis in an immunocompetent infant**, reminding clinicians that serious central nervous system infections may arise outside traditional risk profiles. The case reinforces the importance of maintaining a broad differential diagnosis in infants with atypical neurologic presentations and highlights the diagnostic value of cerebrospinal fluid testing.

Finally, the *Lumps and Bumps Quiz* on **nevus sebaceous** provides deliberate practice in visual recognition of pediatric dermatologic lesions, strengthening clinicians' ability to distinguish benign entities from those warranting further evaluation.

Collectively, these cases demonstrate that effective pediatric care depends on disciplined clinical reasoning, age-specific knowledge, and thoughtful use of diagnostic tools across the continuum of child health.

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