

CC: blurry vision

HPI: 44 yo F, s/p bicuspid aortic valve repair age 14, 8 week history of blurry vision with headaches, migratory arthralgia, diarrhea, 20 lb weight loss

PSH: bicuspid aortic valve repair 1983, cesarean 2x

ROS: fever, chills, visual field defect, headache, fatigue, weight loss

VS: BP 76/43 P 88 T 36.9 RR 16 SpO2 98%

PE: upper right sternal border 4/6 systolic murmur radiating to carotids with palpable thrill

Labs:

CBC WBC 11 Hb 8.0 HCT 25 Plt 221

Blood cultures positive 2x for Strep viridans,

EKG ST elevation and peaked T waves in inferior leads

TEE 2 mm echodense lesion and severe aortic valve stenosis

Assessment: bacterial endocarditis

Plan: IV penicillin and gentamicin

You're asking me again? I've told this so many people by now. Ok, I noticed a black spot in my vision of my right eye about two months ago after I finished running a 4 mile race with my sister back home. Then I went to the eye doctor who sent me to the retina specialist, who sent me to the rheumatologist, and then they did some tests and it got me here.

Have I had any surgeries? Nope. Oh, you mean my open heart surgery. Yeah, I guess that counts as surgery. They did it the summer before I started high school. I thought you just meant recently. They opened up my chest and fixed a hole in my aorta.

Have I ever been told I have a heart murmur? Of course, all my life. I was born with it. I've been told it's a really good one. Actually, it's how I met my husband. You see, he was in chiropractor school and I was the standardized patient. Now 20 years and 4 kids later, we're still together. Did I ever tell you that my babies used to love the vibrations from my murmur? I would lay them on my chest and they snuggle up tight and fall asleep.

Everyone keeps telling me that I'm sicker than I look, but I feel fine. I mean, I had that fever last night but I'm better now, I really am. That doctor from before, she keeps telling me how I could have died from this heart infection. She didn't have to do that, what's the use of keeping me from trying to be positive? Why is everyone trying to scare me?