Case reports in your own words

“Real life happens”

Last December, *Neurology® Clinical Practice* published our first issue dedicated to case reports. Feedback from a subsequent reader survey was overwhelmingly positive. Readers were enthusiastic about the issue and supportive in general of case reports as an important educational tool for the clinician in daily practice. The addition of “Practical Implications” statements for full cases was well-received, with one reader commenting that “[f]raming take-home points in the context of real cases is relevant and facilitates retention.”

Here is a snapshot of verbatim replies we received to the broad survey question: “What are the primary reasons you read case reports?”

The review and careful dissection of clinical presentations are invaluable to the practicing neurologist since so many of our patients present in a unique fashion for even the most common diseases.

I like case reports in times of suffocating Guidelines and evidence-based medicine. Patients are individuals. Real life happens.

They are fun, relevant, interesting, and easier to remember and apply to my practice vs original research (which seem to be increasingly esoteric/unrelated to the cases I encounter in my practice day in and day out and/or discuss genetic/radiologic issues that are not yet readily available in day-to-day practice).

So many classics in the literature were single case reports, or only a few cases. The evaluation of an article's worth based on numbers of citations is flawed.

More than ever, we are committed to publishing outstanding cases that have a clear message that might influence clinical practice.

We welcome your feedback!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John R. Corboy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John R. Corboy, MD, FAAN

Neurology® Clinical Practice

Case reports in your own words: "Real life happens"

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