

NOW SAY "AAAHH".
THAT'S GOOD. WE'LL HAVE
A LOOK IN THOSE EARS RIGHT
AFTER I SINK THIS PUTT.



6-17

©COPYRIGHT 2015

BY BILL WHITEHEAD

DISTRIBUTED BY

CREATORS.COM Facebook.com/FreeRangeComic

Bill
Whitehead

Wayno®
& 4
PIRRO.
5.2.23

Come back with
research specimens
and you're in.



BIZARRO.COM

Dist. by King Features

©2023 BIZARRO STUDIOS

VICTORIAN MED SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

"Your baby should be arriving on this date. I just emailed you the tracking number."





I asked the surgeon if I could administer my own anesthetic. She said, "Sure. Knock yourself out!"

As soon as the anesthesiologist gets here, we'll get started.

Dist. by King Features



© Dan K. K. RO.
4.5-10


BIZARROCOMIC.BLOGSPOT.COM

BIZARRO.COM

Colonoscopy Prep Instructions

Inbox x




Butts, Angie <Angie.Butts@[REDACTED].org>
to me ▾

Wed, Jul 5, 4:26 PM (14 hours ago) ☆ ↩ Reply ⋮

Colonoscopy arrival time is: **8:00 AM** on **7/17/2023** with a driver available for pick up. (Driver may stay, or if dropping off, be available 2 to 2.5 hours later for pick up)

- Please read over instructions carefully several days prior to procedure (remember LOW fiber diet, NO nuts, seeds, berries).



"Well, his appendix has got to be in here somewhere ... Dang! It's like trying to operate in a bowl full of jelly!"

9/13/86

Aha! There's the ol' gall bladder... Dang it, Lois! Would you knock off all this squirmin' around business?



Larson

Remember how I used to beat you up
in school & call you a "science nerd"?
Ironic, huh?

And you may exper-
ience further irony
during your colonoscopy
tomorrow, too.

Doc: 10 Kids Pickles

BIZARRRO.COM

Doc: 10 Kids Pickles
BIZARRRO.COM
8-28-06



Clamp, stat. We
hit his juggler.





Psychiatrist Tom has a side gig at the nearby wildlife sanctuary.

He treats depressed alligators.

He's calling it a reptile-dysfunction clinic.

LOOKS
LIKE
THERE'S A
PROBLEM
WITH HIS
DESCENDING
COLON.

CERTAIN FOODS
INFLAME ME. BUT
A REAL DOCTOR
WOULD ALREADY
KNOW THAT. I
BET YOU HAD
TO TAKE
ANATOMY
TWICE.

WORSE...
IT'S HIS
CONDESCENDING
COLON.

1/27



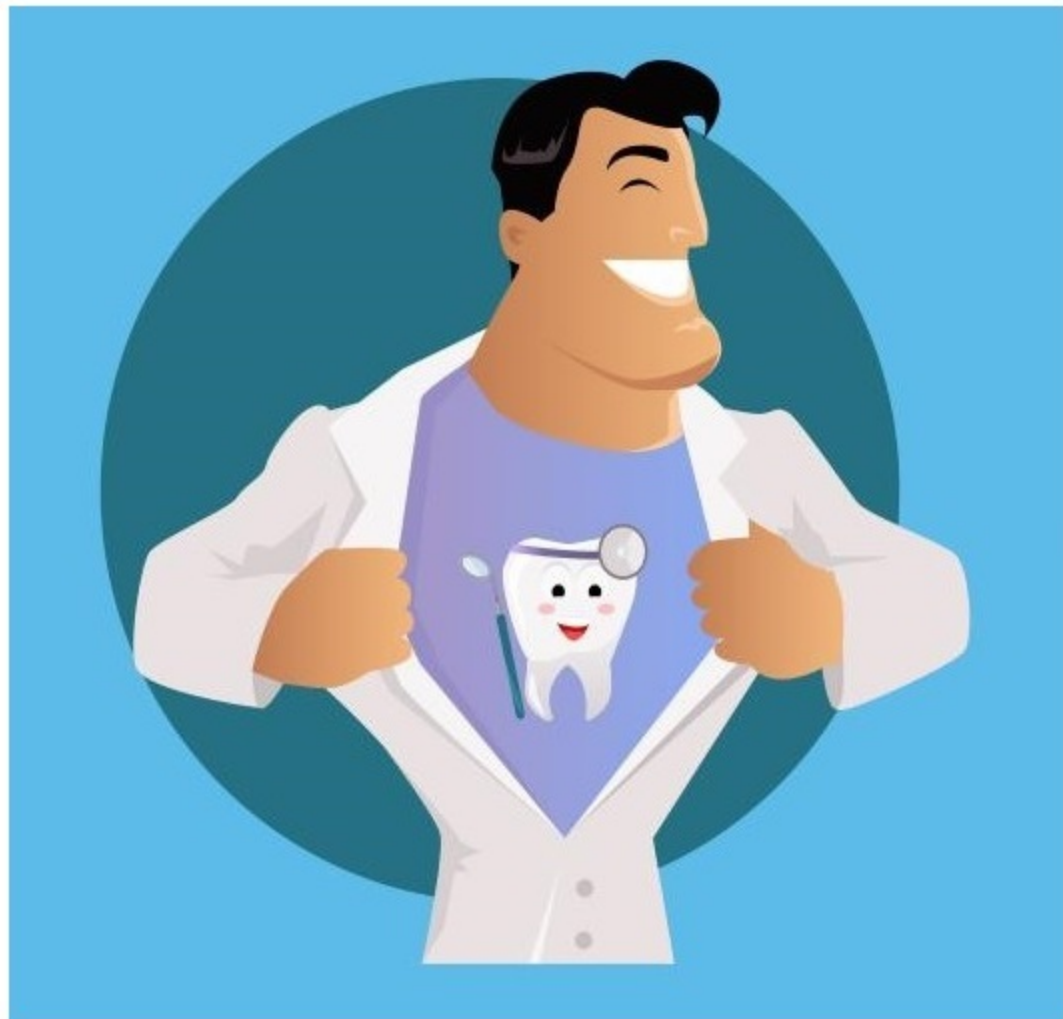
A top-down photograph of a person's feet on a light brown carpet. The soles of both feet are covered with numerous small, dark, circular lesions that resemble the pattern of a crocodile's skin. Below the feet, a pair of black Crocs shoes is visible, showing their characteristic perforated soles.

**First case of crocpox found
in U.K...**

made with mematic



**A few weeks ago, Mike said
he'd deal with his severe DDD
(dilly-dallying disorder)
as soon as possible.**



A single woman went to a dentist to have a tooth pulled, and there was instant electricity between the two of them. They made love right there in his office, and she came back week after week so they could make love over and over again. However, one day, he said sadly, "I'm afraid we're going to have to end our wonderful affair next week. I'm so sorry."

In shock, she asked, "Why??"

He said, "You have only one tooth left."



WHY IS DENTISTRY IMPORTANT?

Because even though he's missing an eyebrow, the first thing we all notice is his smile.



rubes2@earthlink.net
www.creators.com

Creators Syndicate, Inc.
© 2003 Leigh Rubin!

"I said, 'IT'S QUITE OBVIOUS TO ME, MR. SINGERMEN, THAT YOU APPEAR TO BE IN A DEEP DEPRESSION!'"

It's a mild case of overemotion sickness. I'm giving you a prescription for Melodramamine.



Wayne D
& 3
TIRK.
8-28-10

So how long have you been with
Doctors Without Clothing?

BIZARRO.COM



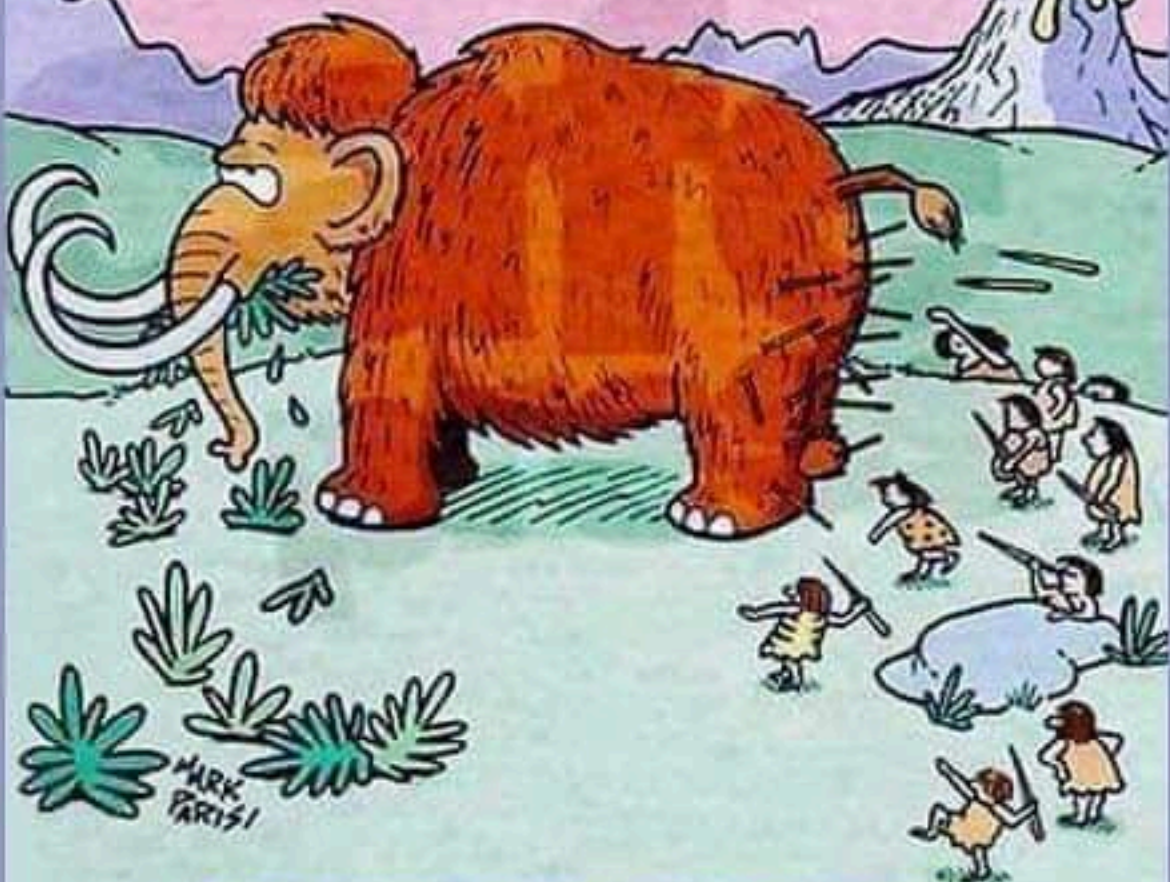
P. DODAN
TIRARO

12.31.09

Dist. by King Features

BIZARROCOMIC.BLOGSPOT.COM

THAT'S ODD... MY NECK SUDDENLY
FEELS BETTER...



EARLY ACUPUNCTURE



Flight attendant: "Is there a doctor onboard??"

My dad, nudging me: "That should've been you."

Me: "Not now, Dad!"

Dad: "Hmmp, they're not asking for a graphic designer to help, eh?"

Me: "Daaad, there's a medical emergency right now! Stop it!"

Dad: "So why don't you save the victim as a PDF and see if that helps?"



GLASBERGEN

"Frankly, I don't enjoy prostate exams any more than you do!"

4.27.23 Wayne & 3 PIRARO.

Dist. by King Features

If you subscribe
to my podcast,
your extraction
comes with
anesthesia.

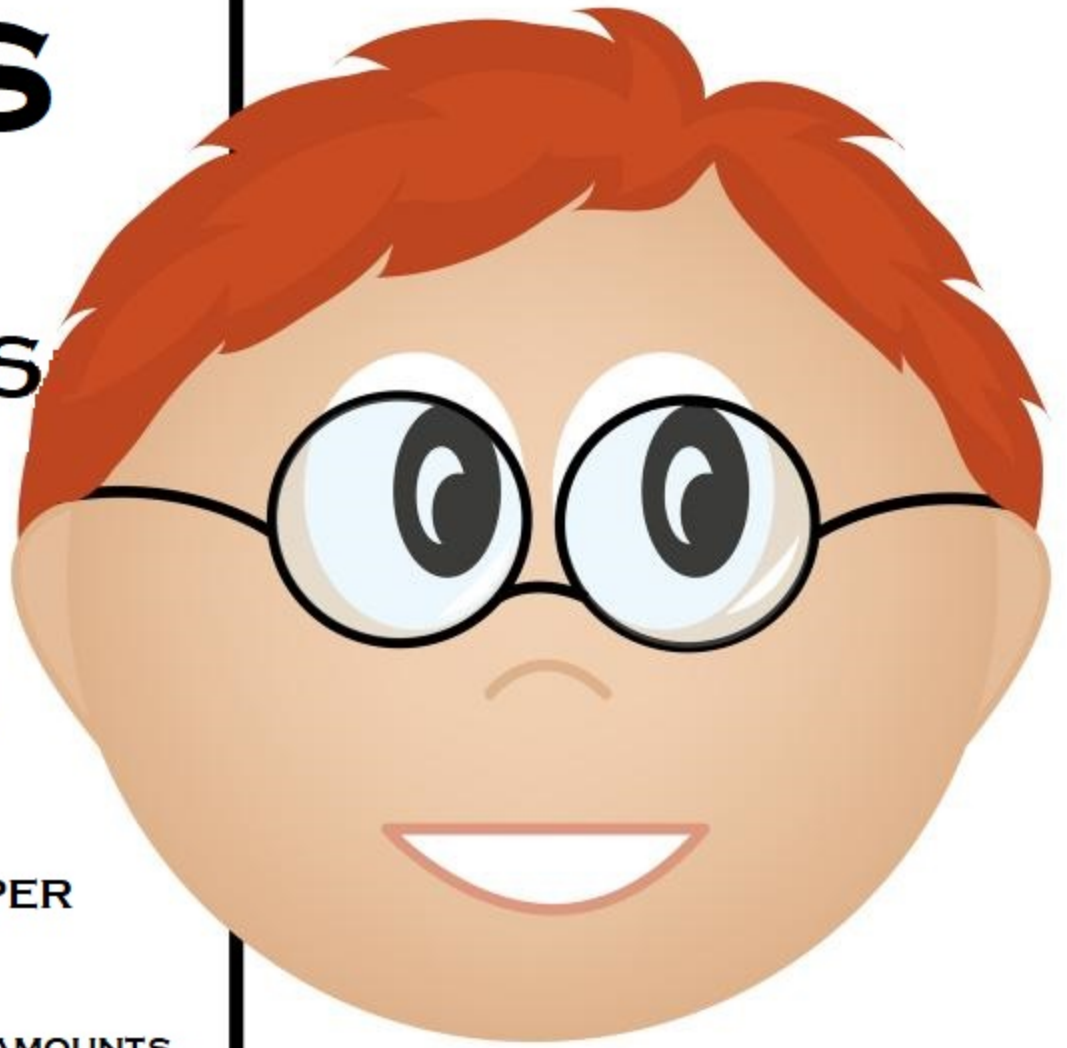
BIZARRO.COM
© 2023 BIZARRO STUDIOS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**ALL LATE
PAYMENTS
ARE SUBJECT
TO A 1.5%**

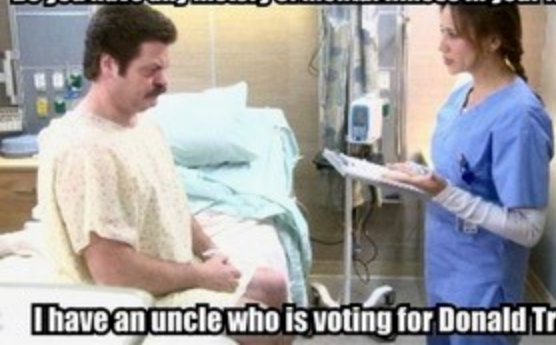
**LATE FEE CALCULATED PER
MONTH OF DELAY.**

**FAILURE TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING AMOUNTS
WILL RESULT IN
LEGAL PROCEDURES
IN ACCORDANCE
WITH APPLICABLE
UNITED STATES AND STATE LAWS**



eye doctor

Do you have any history of mental illness in your family?



I have an uncle who is voting for Donald Trump

Tell me
about your
father.

Couldn't we
talk about ME
for once, Dad?

First time in a
doctor's office?



WHAT DO YOU
WANT TO TALK
ABOUT FIRST...
THE KLEPTOMANIA
OR THE
HOARDING?



4-20

DISCOURTESY 2020

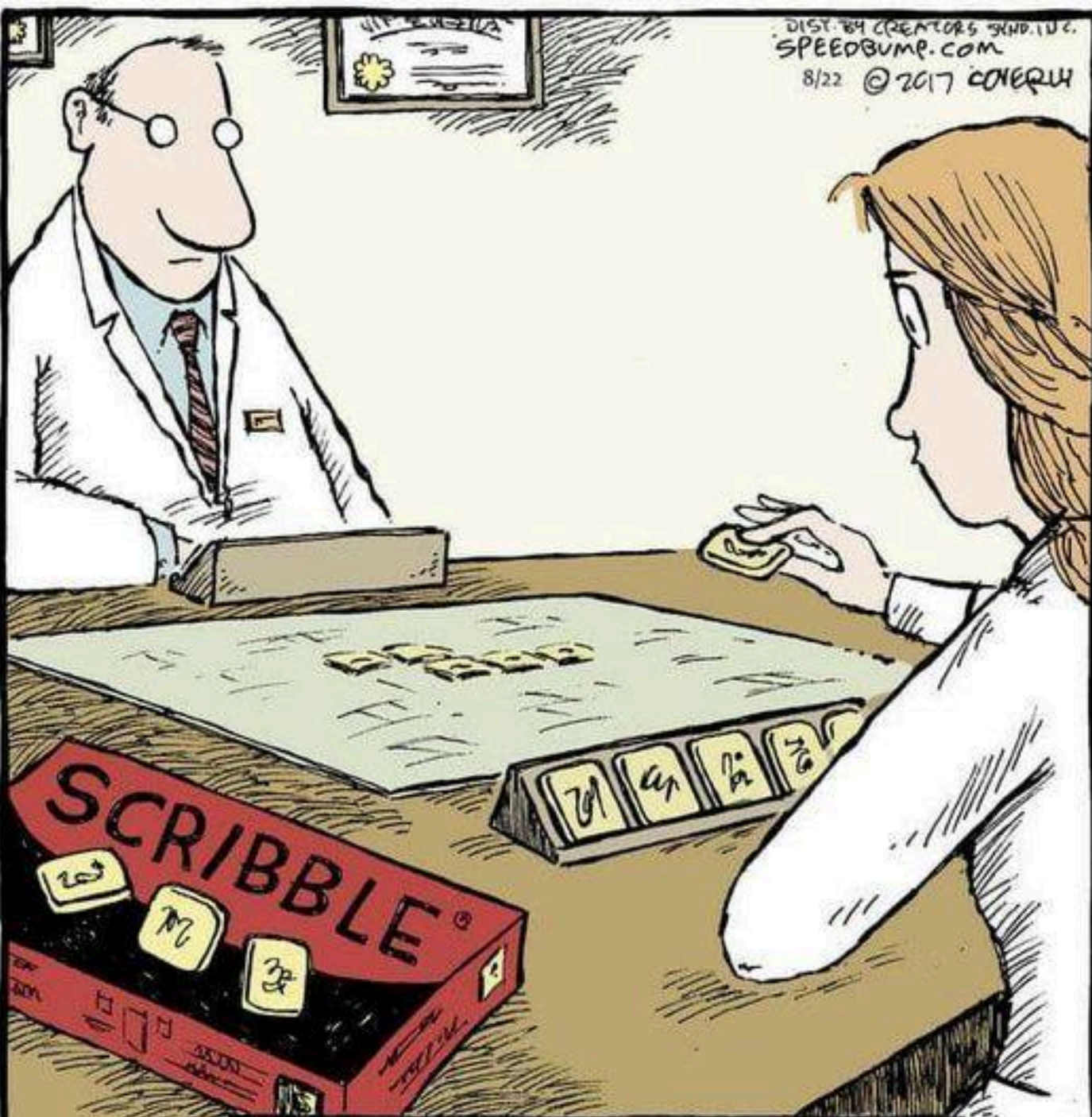
BY BILLY WHITEHEAD

DISTRIBUTED BY

CREATORS.COM

Facebook.com/FreeRangeComic

Billy
Whitehead



BOARD GAMES FOR DOCTORS



HERMAN®

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc., Dist. by Universal Uclick, 2015

"I'll give you something for gas."



My doctor told me that my emotional attachment to CBD gummies is an edible complex!



"We combined all your medications
into ONE convenient dose."



I'M SENSING
YOU MAY STILL
HAVE SOME
BOUNDARY ISSUES



YOU'LL FEEL BETTER
ONCE WE HOOK YOU
UP TO THIS IVY...

©2021 Mark Parisi Dist by Andrews McMeel



**Parking lot in front of the
Laser Eye Surgery Center.**





**England has no kidney
bank but it does have
a liver pool.**

YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE IS TOO LOW.
I WANT YOU TO SIT OUT IN THE
WAITING ROOM FOR ANOTHER TWO
HOURS.



gary
McCarty



**When you absolutely refuse to have
your annual mammography.**

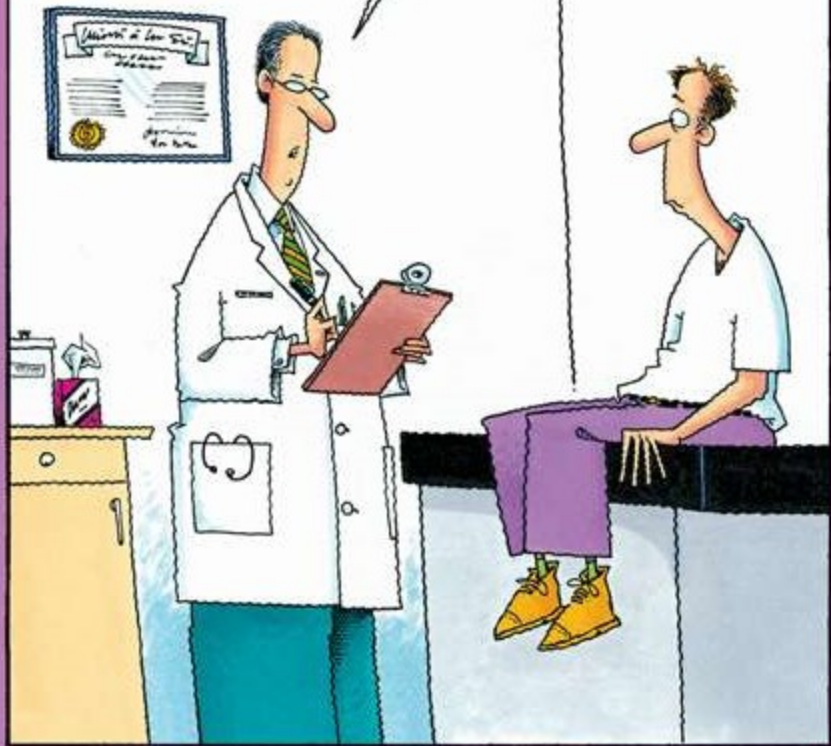
- M. E. Kabay



MEDICAL DICTIONARY

Artery	The study of paintings
Bacteria	Back door to cafeteria
Caesarean Section	A neighborhood in Rome
Dilate	To live long
Fester	Quicker than someone else
Fibula	A small lie
Labor Pain	Getting hurt at work
Medical Staff	A doctor's cane
Morbid	A higher offer
Nitrates	Higher than day rates
Node	I knew it
Outpatient	A person who has fainted
Pelvis	Second cousin to Elvis
Post Operative	A letter carrier
Recovery Room	Place to do upholstery
Seizure	Roman emperor
Tablet	A small table
Terminal Illness	Getting sick at the airport
Tumor	One plus one more

I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A
MILD SEDATIVE TO COUNTERACT
YOUR REALLY ANNOYING QUESTIONS.





"Time of death: 7:31 P.M. Which means we missed 'Jeopardy!' for nothing."

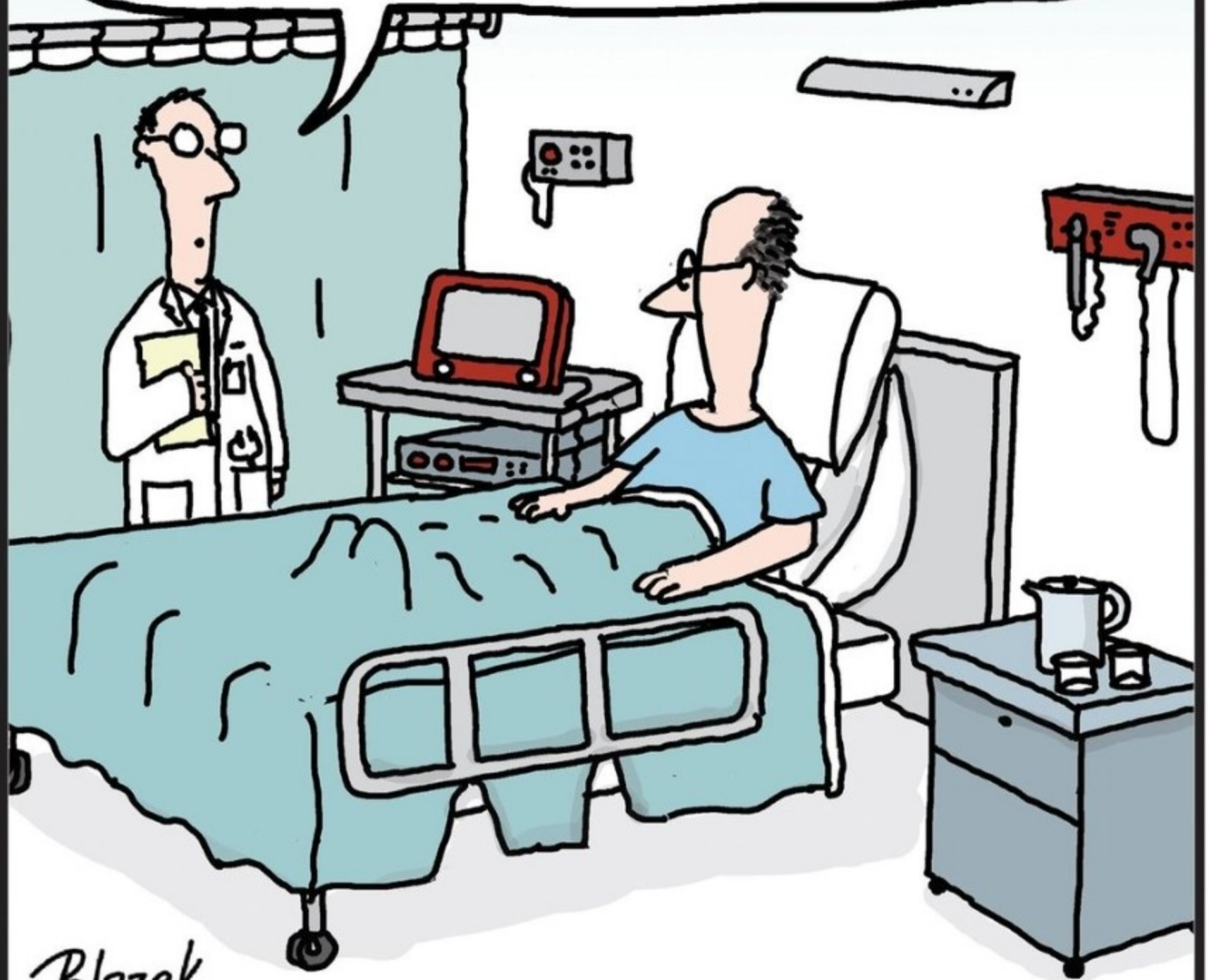




"I medicate first and ask questions later."

LOOSE PARTS

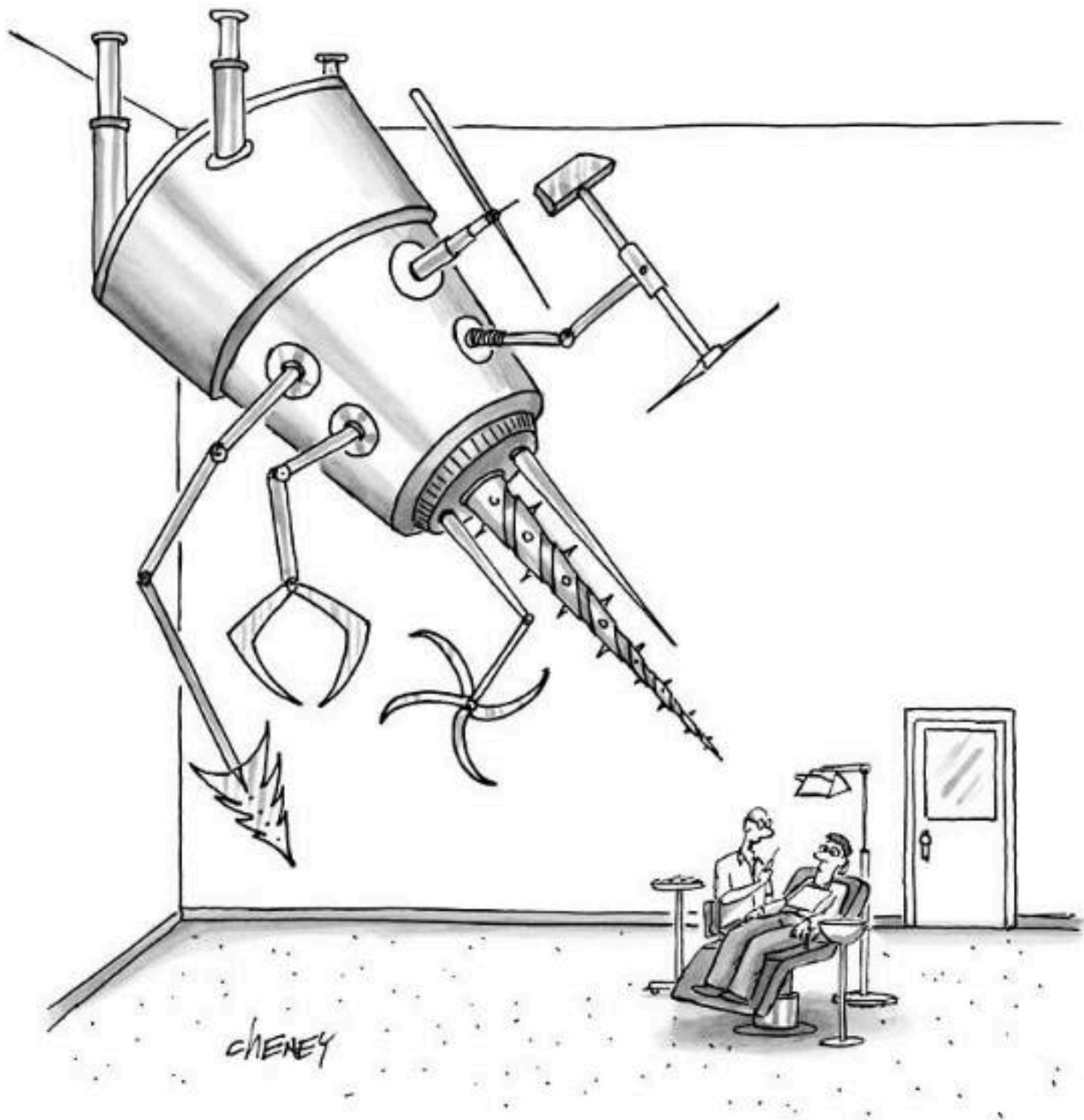
The important thing is, I've had you hooked up to an Etch-A-Sketch for a week and nobody noticed ... so Dr. Perkins owes me five bucks.



Blazek

Get this cartoon signed & framed & get signed copies of LP books at LoosePartsComic.com
©2022 Dave Blazek • looseparts@verizon.net • Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication

12-12



"First, let's get you nice and numb for this procedure."

WHEN A NURSE TAKES UP GARDENING



NURSES IN HEAVEN



Three nurses die and go up to heaven. St Peter says, "So tell me - what did you do with your life?"

The first nurse says, "Well, I worked in an emergency room and it was really challenging, but we were able to help some people and I think that was worthwhile."

St Peter says, "That's great! Come on in - I know you'll enjoy heaven."

The second nurse says, "I worked in a hospice, and it was difficult, because all the patients died. But we were kind to them and to their families and friends, and I think that was worthwhile."

St Peter says, "Excellent! Come in - you'll enjoy heaven!"

The third nurse says, "For the last two decades of my life, I worked in administration for managed-care in an HMO in the US."

St Peter wrinkles his brow and pulls out a stack of manuals, a calculator, and a pencil. He spends time writing and scrunching up the paper, but then looks up and says, "I can approve you for a five-day stay."

LET'S SEE... WE'VE
TAKEN YOU OFF SMOKING,
DRINKING, AND RICH FOOD.
WHAT ELSE DO YOU
ENJOY?

M.D.

8

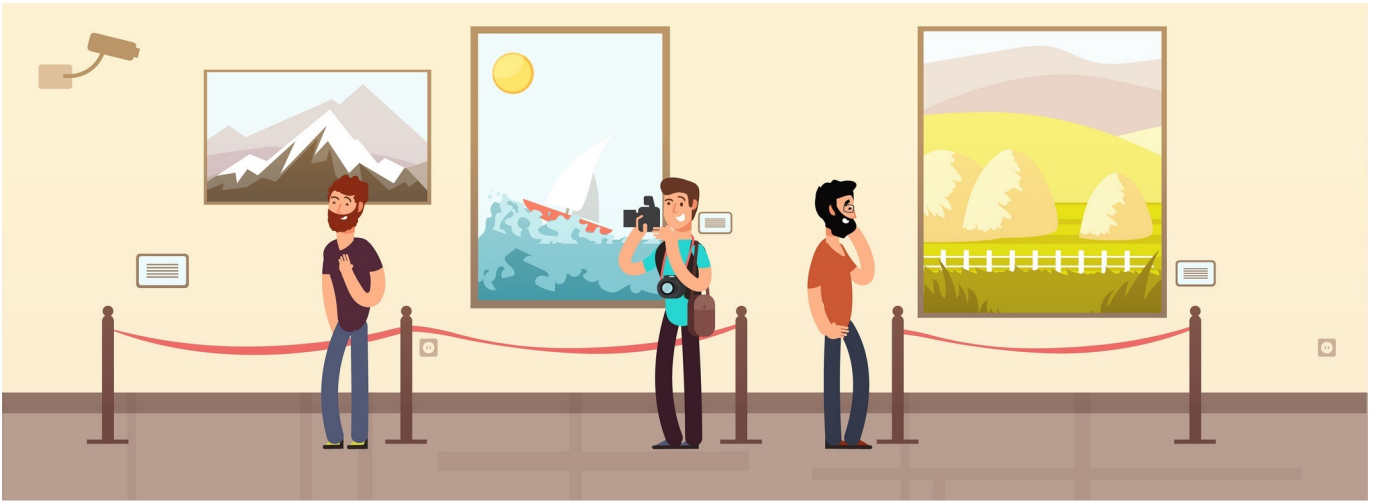
SCHWADRON



Doctor, here is the
list of donor hearts,
kidneys and livers in
alphabetical order.

Wow, it's very...

Organ-ized.



A struggling painter gets a call from the agent that has been showing her paintings at a local gallery. The agent says, "Listen, I have some good news and some bad news."

"What's the good news?" asks the painter.

Well, a guy walked into the gallery this morning and asked if your work might increase after you die. I said, 'Yes!' and he bought all 15 of your paintings!"

"Wow, that's great!" says the painter. "But what's the bad news?"

"He said he's your doctor."

While you wait, feel free to browse our pamphlets & get paranoid about symptoms you haven't even noticed yet.



THE PARTNERSHIP

Best friends graduated from medical school at the same time & decided that in spite of two different specialties, they would open a practice together to share office space. Dr Smith was a Psychiatrist & Dr Jones was a Proctologist.

They put up a sign reading

Dr Smith & Dr Jones

Hysterias & Posteriors

The town council was livid and insisted they change it. So, the docs changed it to read

Schizoids & Hemorrhoids

This was also not acceptable, so they again changed the sign to

Catatronics & High Colonics

No go. Next, they tried...

Manic Depressives & Anal Retentives

Thumbs down again. Then came..

Minds and Behinds

Still no good. Another attempt resulted in...

Lost Souls & Butt Holes

Unacceptable again! So they tried

Analysis & Anal Cysts

Not a chance!

Nuts and Butts

No way!

Freaks and Cheeks

Still no good!

Loons and Moons

Forget it!

Almost at their wits end, the docs finally came up with:

Dr Smith & Dr Jones

Specializing in Odds & Ends

Everyone loved it.



HERMAN®



11-20

© LaughingStock International Inc./dist. by United Media, 2008

**"I'm going to take you off the
nitroglycerin pills."**



Okay—now we're going to check your reflexes.





Herman

HERMAN®

www.LaughingStock.com

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc.


“Try to relax.”

Patient... seems...
reluctant... to get his...
prostate... checked...



whyatt

MRS. KIMBALL, IT'S
DIFFICULT TO DISCUSS
YOUR RESTLESS LEGS
SYNDROME WHEN YOU
KEEP WANDERING OFF.



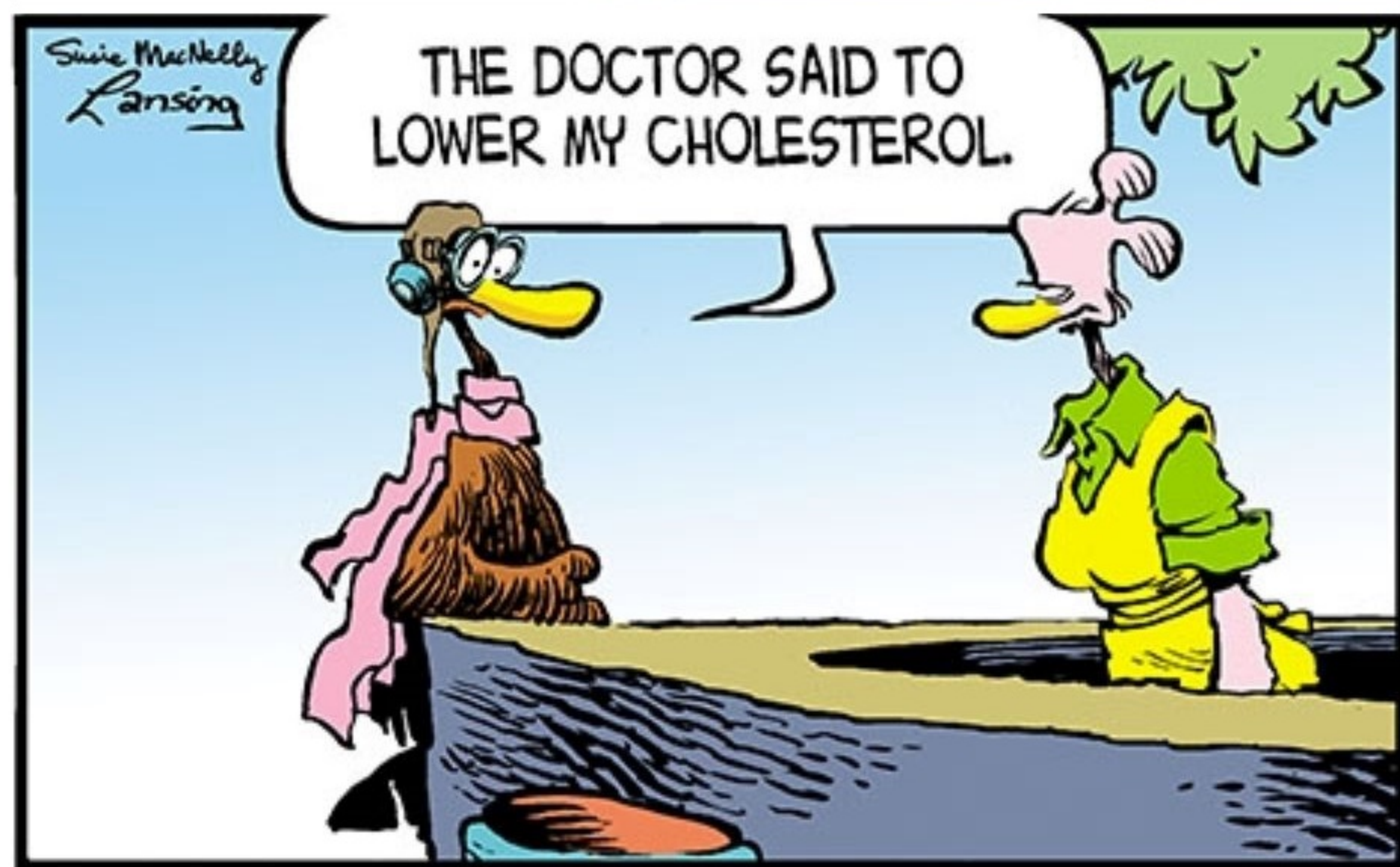
UM... LET'S SAY THE
KIDNEY FELL ON THE FLOOR,
DOES THE FIVE-SECOND
RULE APPLY?

4/12

DiePainG © 2014 c/mad05.com



When radiologists take a selfie



Tout and muscular net: Bloc Party frontman Kele Okereke pictures: Getty

Dark sense of humour 'can be dementia warning sign'

AN INCREASINGLY warped sense of humour can be an early sign of dementia, researchers warn.

by **AIDAN RADNEDGE**

when compared with

EVERYONE IN THIS GROUP



Bottom TV - Richie & Eddie

I THINK WE CAN SKIP THE
PROSTATE EXAM THIS YEAR.



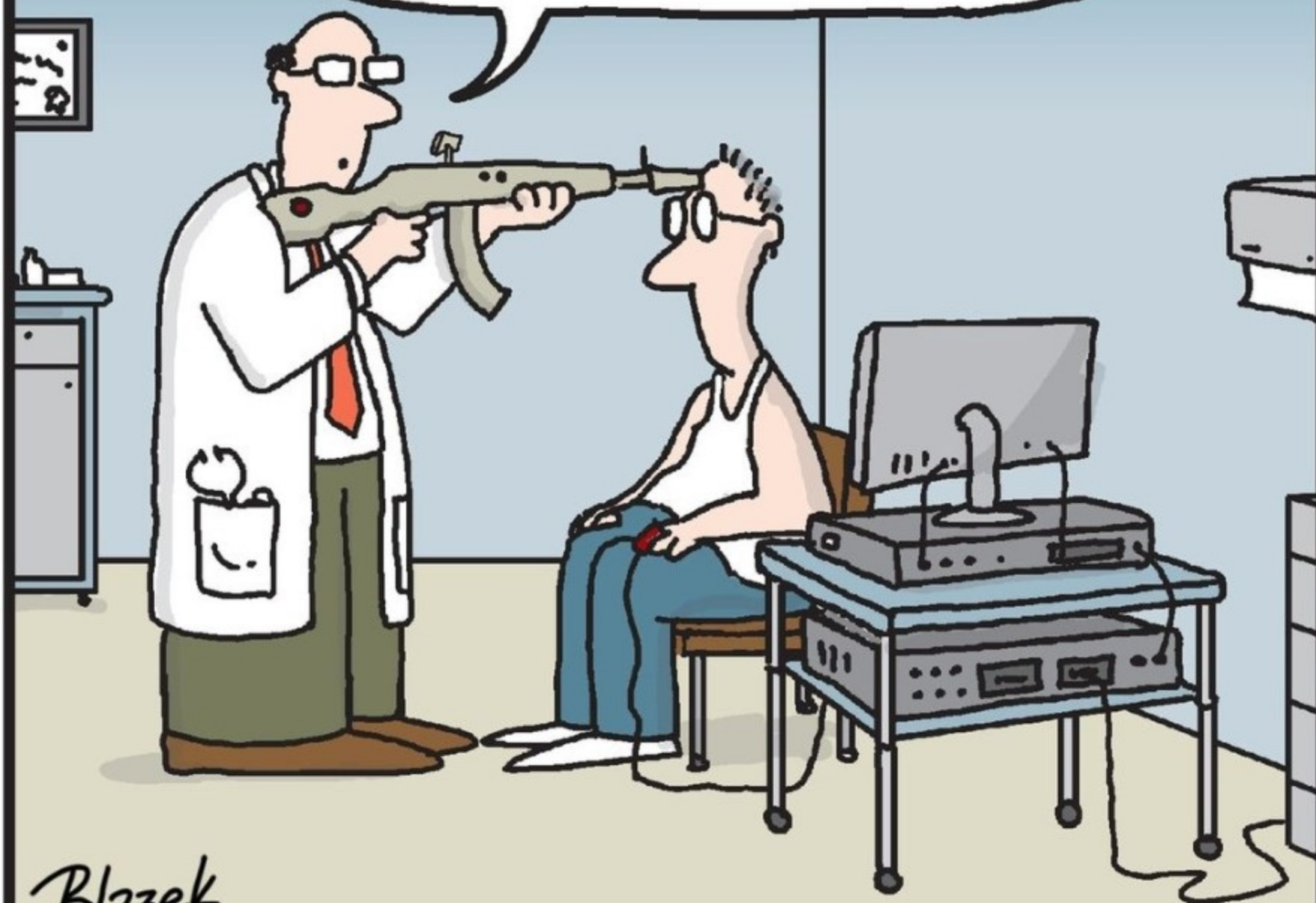
Bacon ©2010



BROADSIDE.NET

LOOSE PARTS

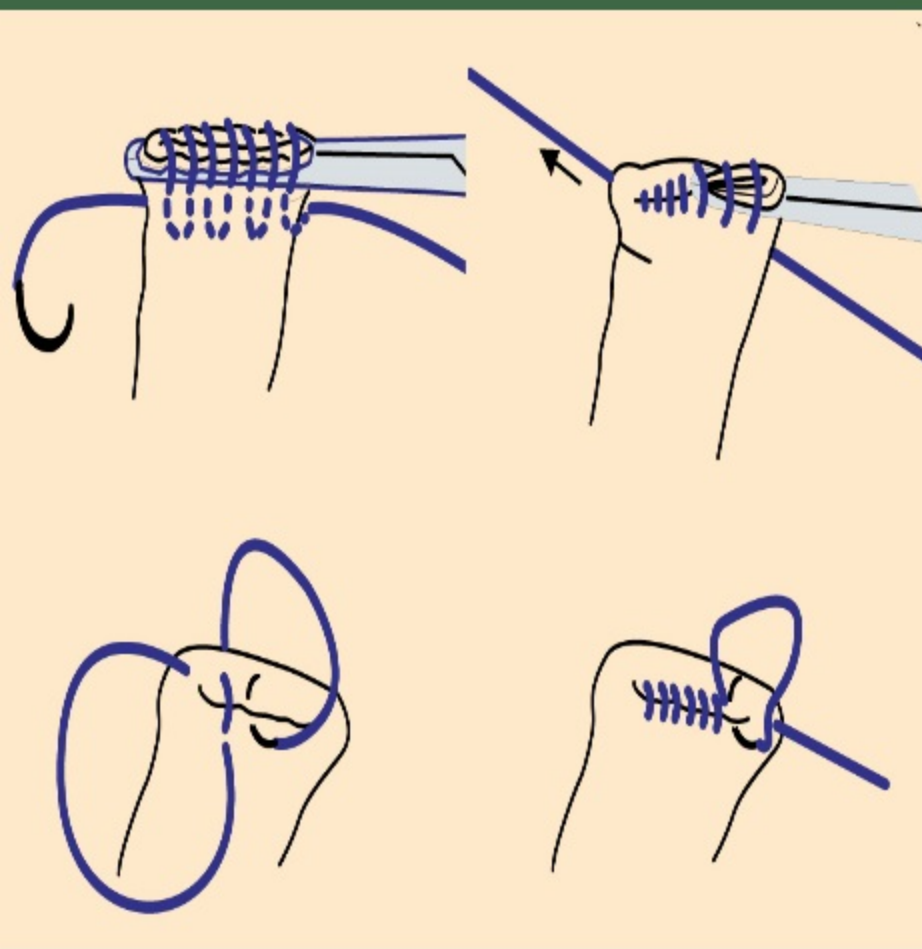
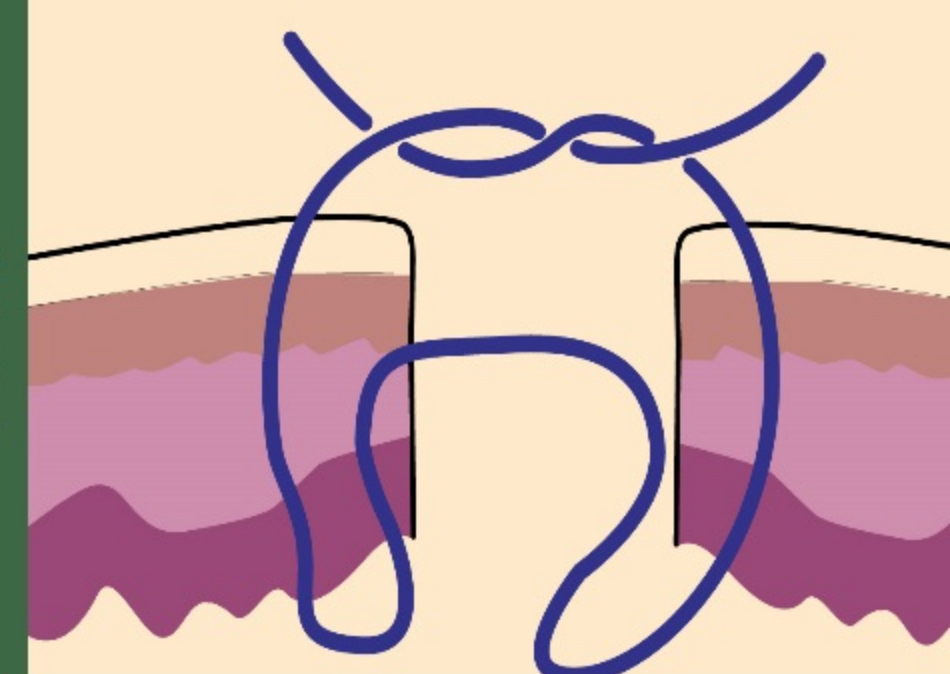
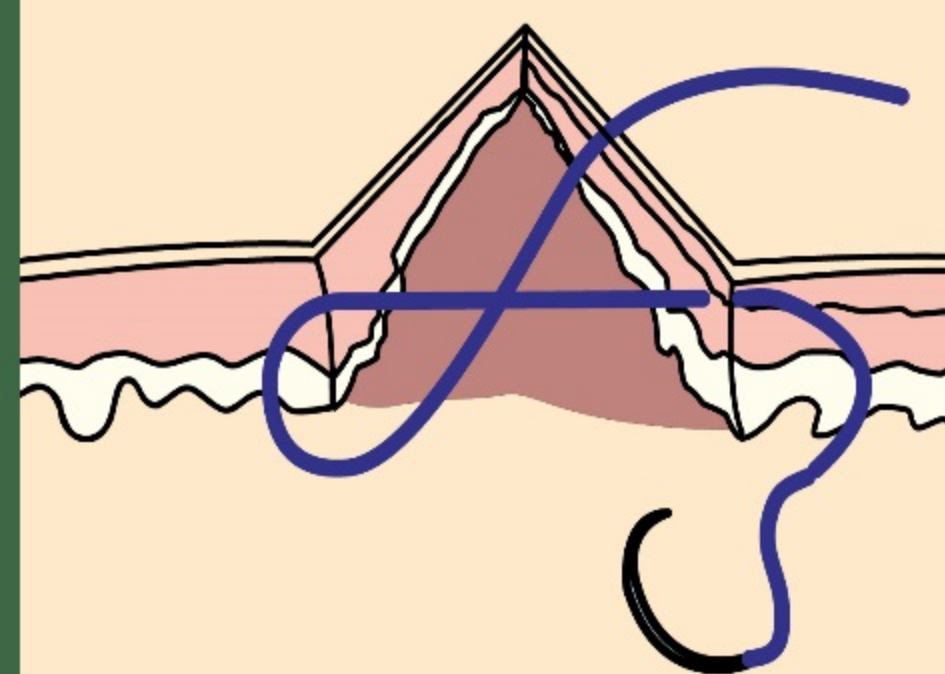
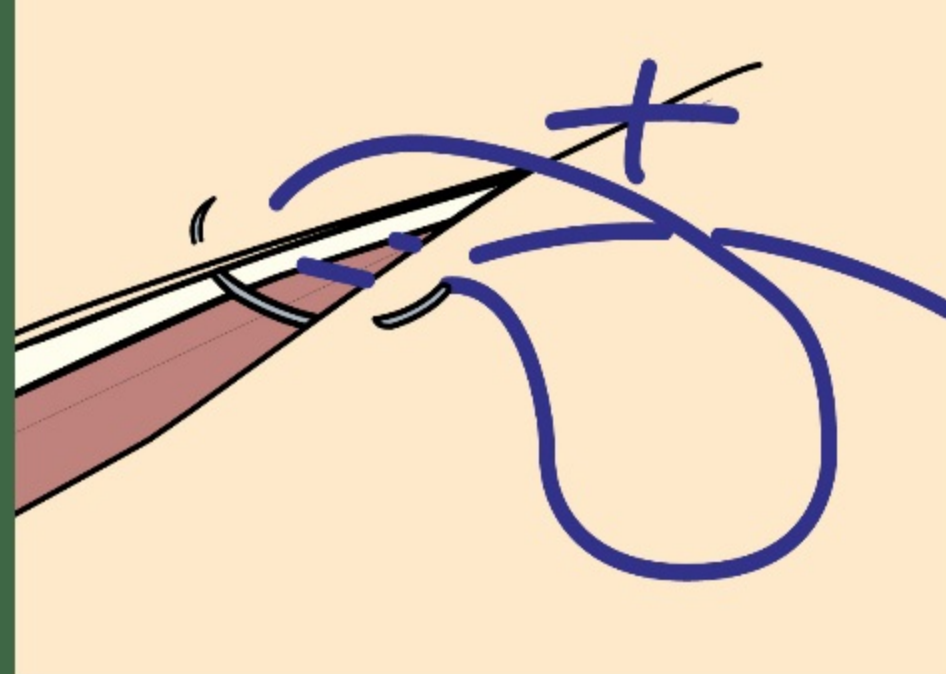
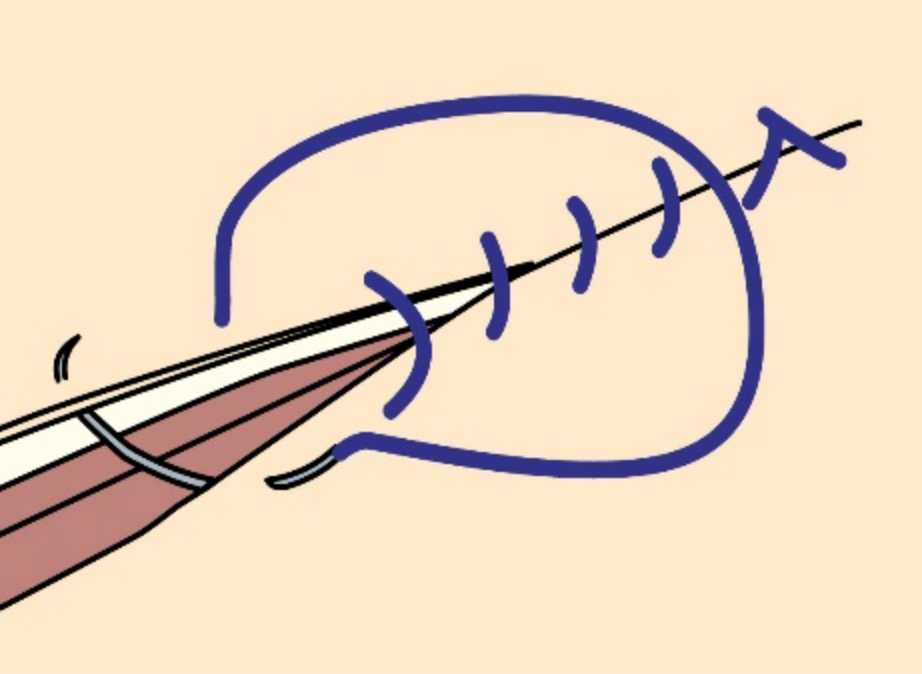
Well, the new temperature gun
doesn't show a fever.
But, man, your heart rate
just spiked.



Blazek

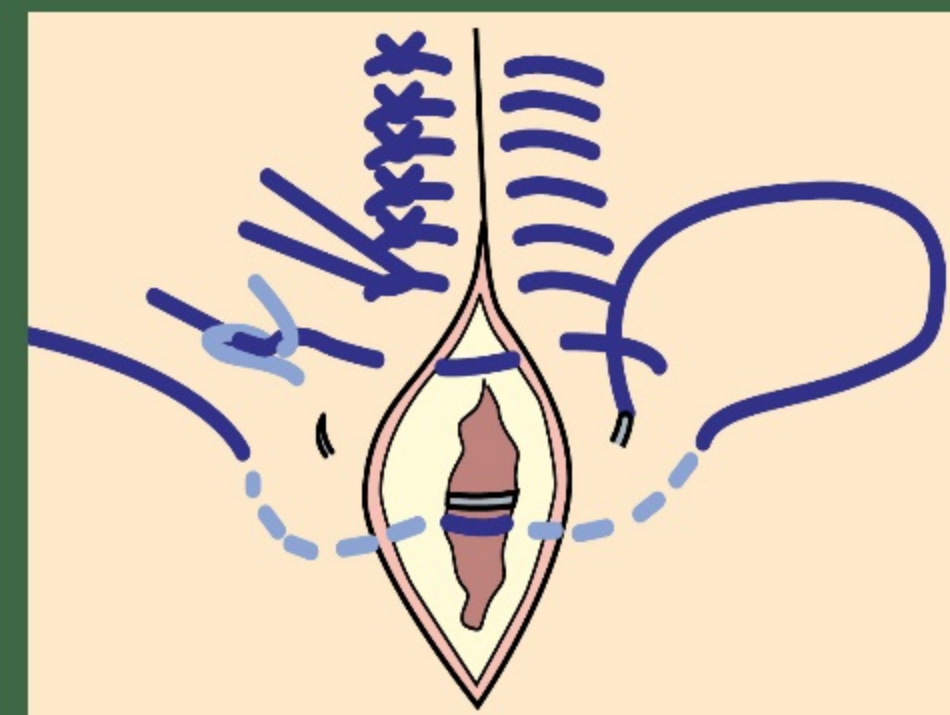
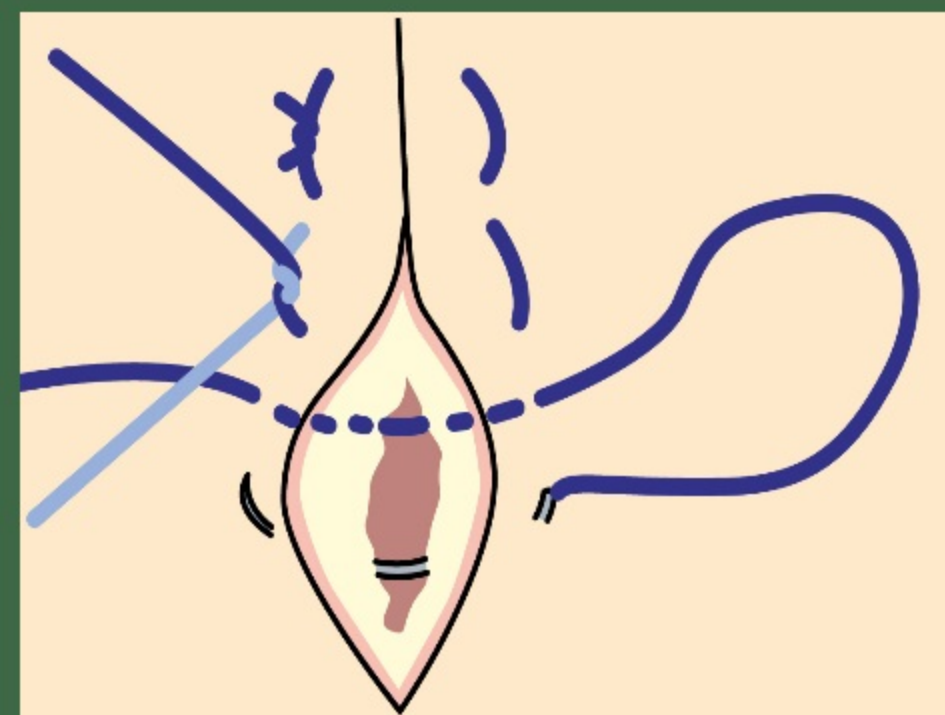
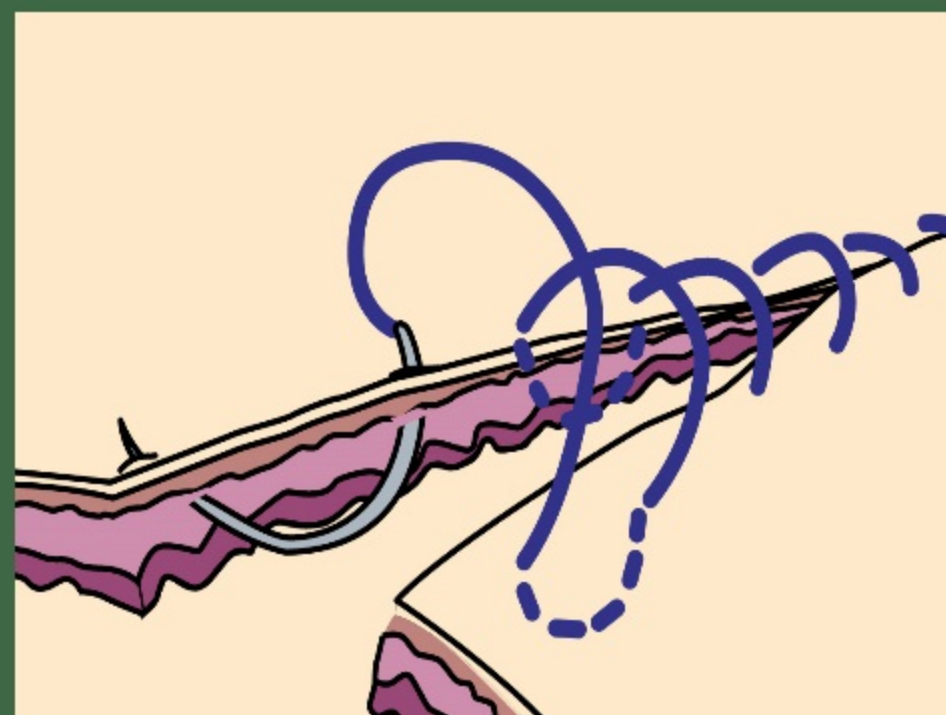
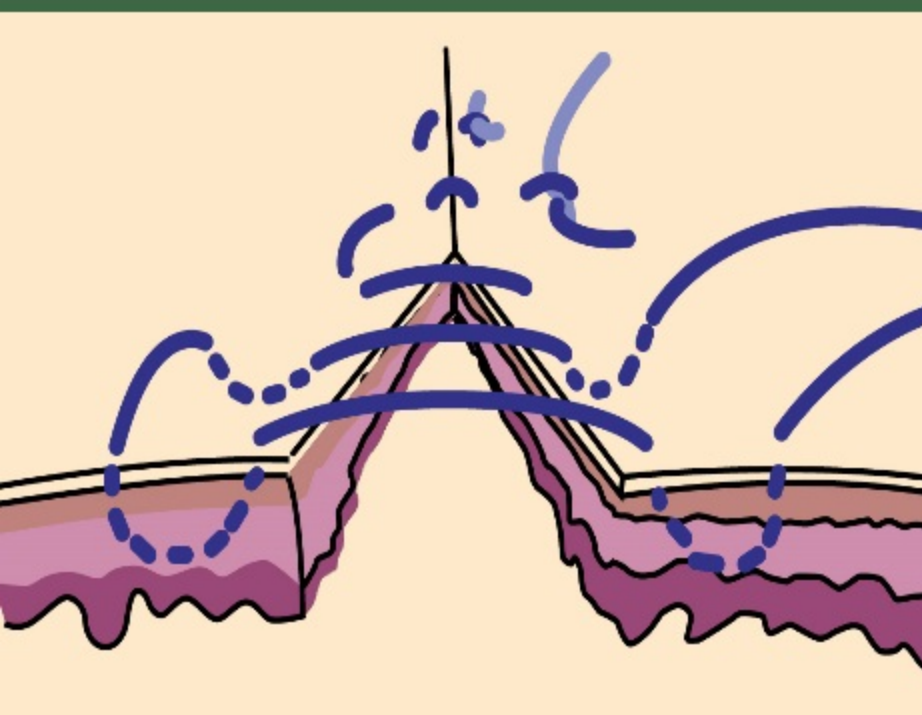
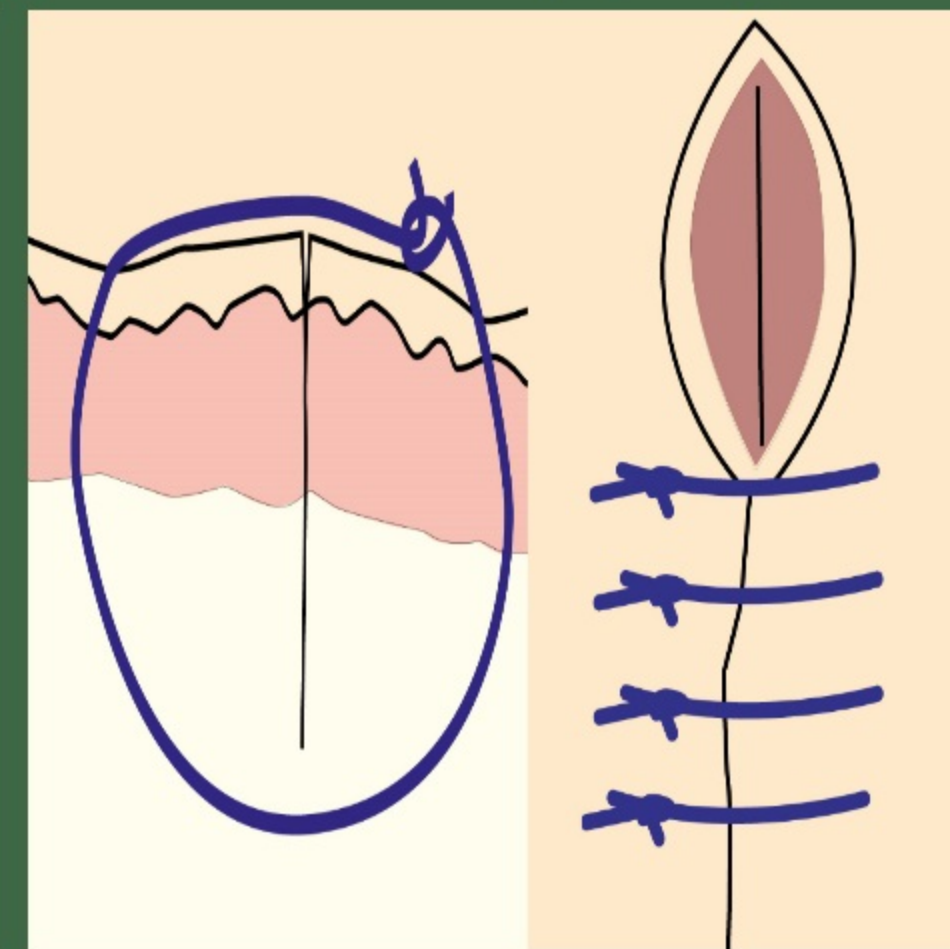
Get this cartoon signed & framed & get signed LP books at LoosePartsComic.com
©2021 Dave Blazek • looseparts@verizon.net • Washington Post News Service & Syndicate

8-24



**I told the surgeon I would like
to close up my own incision by
myself.**

She said, "OK, suture self."





"The real question is, where'd you get all these pictures of my mother?"

Pat Byrnes June 28, 2021

YEP. LOOKS LIKE STEP THROAT.



Treatment for headaches in 1895.



Says here you're
a type O.

That must
be a typo.

© 2012 P. F. W.
4-23-12



I HOPE YOU REALIZE
THIS IS A TOTALLY
UNNECESSARY SURGERY.

I HAVE CHILDREN.
I'D DO ANYTHING FOR
THREE AND A HALF HOURS
OF GENERAL ANESTHESIA.



WELL, WELL - IT SEEMS
YOUR WEIGHT IS PERFECT.
YOU JUST HAPPEN TO BE
ELEVEN FEET TOO SHORT.




You've got gall stones, kidney stones, and bladder stones...
Welcome to the Stone Age.






Shaw

"You're clinically boring."



Welcome to Plastic Surgery Addicts Anonymous.

EATLIVER.COM



I'm seeing a lot of new faces in the crowd this week, and I have to say, I'm disappointed.

Of course, this head transplant is only temporary, until we can find a suitable human donor. In the meantime, keep the house very cool & moist.



Our usual colonoscopy equipment
is down today, so we're going to be
using a tapeworm with a GoPro
strapped to its head.



Blazek

Get signed Loose Parts books at LoosePartsComic.com

©2011 Dave Blazek • looseparts@verizon.net • Dist. by Washington Post Writers Group



"And I want you to meet Coco, your
anthropologist."

FROM NOW ON,
STOMP YOUR PEG LEG
OR SOMETHING.
NO MORE
APPLAUDING.



Our next available appointment is in
TWO MONTHS. Will you still be alive?

Well if you sense you're not going to
make it, cancel 24 hours ahead or
we'll have to charge your estate.





"You'll be kept awake throughout the operation."





HERMAN®

4-18

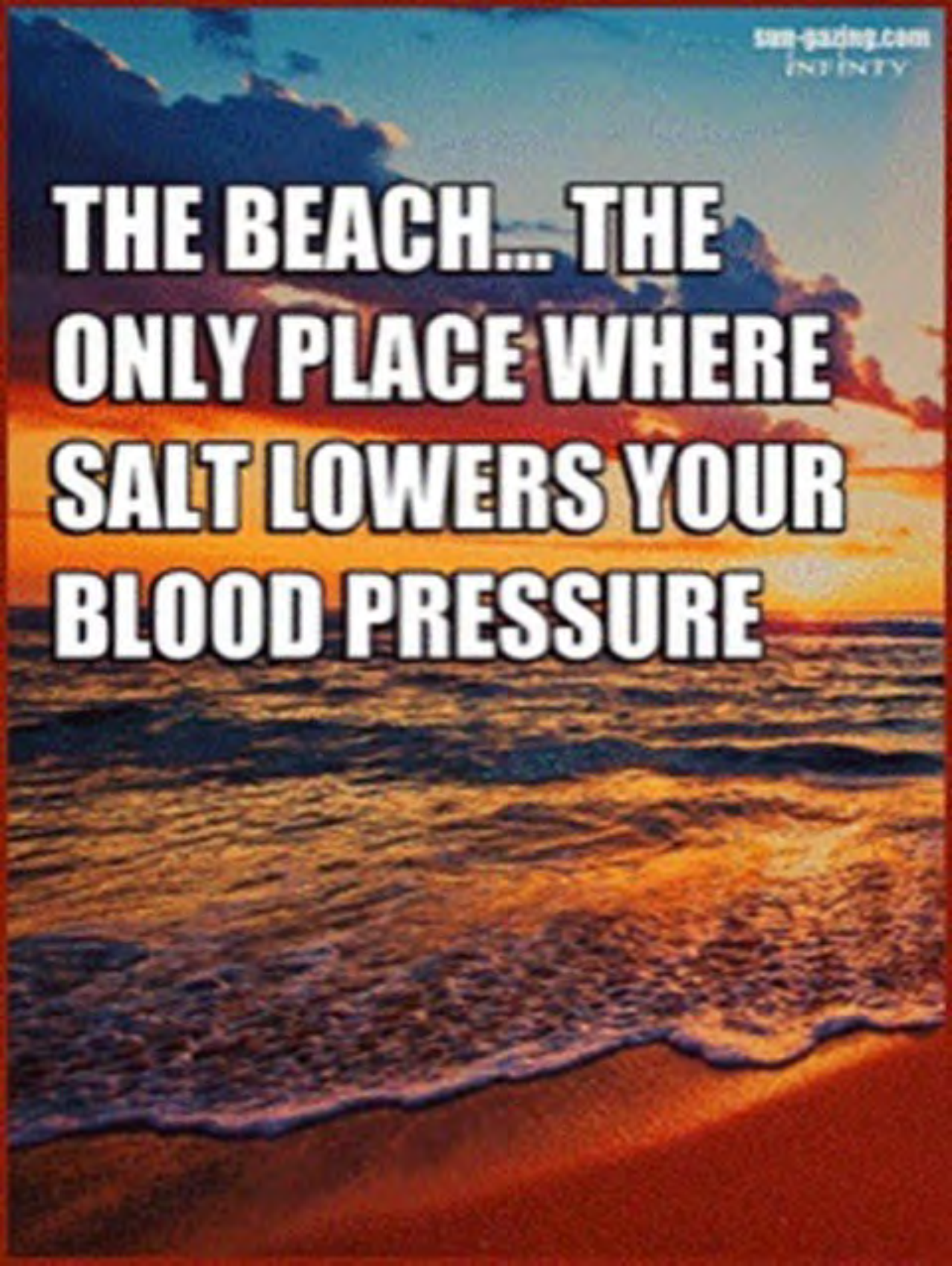
© LaughingStock International Inc. Dist. by Universal UClick for UFS. 2014

**"I'm your anesthetist and he's
my backup man."**

GOOD NEWS! ...
YOUR CHOLESTEROL
IS THE VERY, VERY
BAD KIND!



**THE BEACH... THE
ONLY PLACE WHERE
SALT LOWERS YOUR
BLOOD PRESSURE**





Testing whether laughter *is* the best medicine



HERMAN®

11-12

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc., Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS, 2018

**“Did you see a large woman on
a bike go past here?”**

Blazek



11-10

Removing the unmitigated gall bladder

IT APPEARS YOUR
EARBUDS BLOOMED



HOSPITAL CHART BLOOPERS (Actual writings from hospital charts)

- 1 . The patient refused autopsy.
2. The patient has no previous history of suicides.
3. Patient has left white blood cells at another hospital.
4. She has no rigors or shaking chills, but her husband states she was very hot in bed last night.
5. Patient has chest pain if she lies on her left side for over a year.
6. On the second day the knee was better and on the third day it disappeared.
7. The patient is tearful and crying constantly. She also appears to be depressed.
- 8 The patient has been depressed since she began seeing me in 1993.
9. Discharge status: Alive but without permission.
10. Healthy appearing decrepit 69-year old male, mentally alert but forgetful.
11. Patient had waffles for breakfast and anorexia for lunch.
12. She is numb from her toes down.
13. While in ER, she was examined, x-rated and sent home.
14. The skin was moist and dry.
15. Occasional, constant infrequent headaches.
16. Patient was alert and unresponsive.
17. Rectal examination revealed a normal size thyroid. (OMG! that is some examination)
18. She stated that she had been constipated for most of her life, until she got a divorce.
19. I saw your patient today, who is still under our car for physical therapy.
20. Both breasts are equal and reactive to light and accommodation.
21. Examination of genitalia reveals that he is circus sized.
- 22 The lab test indicated abnormal lover function.
23. Skin: somewhat pale but present.
24. The pelvic exam will be done later on the floor.
25. Patient has two teenage children, but no other abnormalities!!

**A COLLECTION OF MEDICAL INTERVIEW RECORDS WRITTEN BY VARIOUS
PARAMEDICS, EMERGENCY ROOM RECEPTIONISTS, AND (WE ARE AFRAID) A
DOCTOR OR TWO AT MAJOR HOSPITALS.**

- The baby was delivered, the cord clamped and cut and handed to the pediatrician, who breathed and cried immediately.
- Exam of genitalia reveals that he was circus sized.
- The skin was moist and dry.
- Rectal exam revealed a normal size thyroid.
- The patient had waffles for breakfast and anorexia for lunch.
- She stated that she had been constipated for most of her life until 1989 when she got a divorce. Between you and me, we ought to be able to get this lady pregnant.
- The patient was in his usual state of good health until his airplane ran out of gas and crashed.
- I saw your patient today, who is still under our car for physical therapy.
- The patient lives at home with his mother, father, and pet turtle, who is presently enrolled in day care three times a week.
- Bleeding started in the rectal area and continued all the way to Los Angeles.
- Both breasts are equal and reactive to light and accommodation.
- She is numb from her toes down.
- Exam of genitalia was completely negative except for the right foot.
- While in the emergency room, she was examined, X-rated and sent home.
- The lab test indicated abnormal lover function.
- The patient was to have a bowel resection. However he took a job as a stockbroker instead. Occasional, constant, infrequent headaches.
- Coming from Detroit, this man has no children.
- Examination reveals a well-developed male lying in bed with his family in no distress.
- Patient was alert and unresponsive.
- When she fainted, her eyes rolled around the room.





"It's just a simple Rorschach ink-blot test, Mr. Bromwell, so just calm down and tell me what each one suggests to you."



SOMEONE'S
OUT TO GET
BOTH OF US?
WELL, NOW
YOU'RE JUST
BEING SILLY!

12-1

©COPYRIGHT 2017
BY BILL WHITEHEAD
DISTRIBUTED BY
CREATORS.COM Facebook.com/FreeRangeComic

Bill
Whitehead

Botox





"Whoa! *That* was a good one! Try it, Hobbs — just poke his brain right where my finger is."



Linger

HERMAN®

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc., Dist. by Universal Uclick, 2015

“Butcher Harris is doing this one tomorrow morning.”



*"Three out of four doctors recommend calmonal to
start you on your way to drug dependency."*



"You may experience irritability and pain in the hands and wrist...and that's just from trying to get the cap off."

Here, try these.

WELL-MEANING OPTOMETRIST
NEARLY RUINS A YOUNG
PICASSO'S CAREER.



"No doubt about it, Bob ... You're infected with tiny fighter planes. What's worse ... you're a carrier."



A medical student was so brilliant that he had several options for his specialization. He was considering specialties as diverse as neurology and urology.

His advisor gave him this advice:

"Just realize that urethra good at your internship or bladder than the others. But a good student in urology can become a *pro stat!*"

The student chose neurology and a new advisor.



Do you ever feel like your body's *check-engine* light is on but you're still going on as if, "Nah, it'll be fine"?

Your cholesterol is
THROUGH THE ROOF!



11-8
© DAN
PIRARO

1999 Dist. by Universal Press Synd.

WWW.UXPRESS.COM



Psychiatrist Tom has a side gig at the nearby wildlife sanctuary.

He treats depressed alligators.

He's calling it a reptile-dysfunction clinic.



A patient insisted on closing up their own incision, so the surgeon shrugged and said, "Suture self."

Okay, Ferdman, you're up.
Is that an ascending or
descending colon?



9-22

Get this cartoon signed &
framed & get a signed copy of the
NEW LP book at LoosePartsComic.com

©2002 Dave Blazek looseparts@verizon.net - Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication

Blazek

Okay, Ferdman, you're up.
Is that an ascending or
descending colon?

■
■



9-22

Get this cartoon signed &
framed & get a signed copy of the
NEW LP book at LoosePartsComix.com

©2002 Dave Blazek looseparts@verizon.net - Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication

Blazek

Colonoscopy Journal

I called my friend Andy Sable, a gastroenterologist, to make an appointment for a colonoscopy.

A few days later, in his office, Andy showed me a color diagram of the colon, a lengthy organ that appears to go all over the place, at one point passing briefly through Minneapolis.

Then Andy explained the colonoscopy procedure to me in a thorough, reassuring and patient manner.

I nodded thoughtfully, but I didn't really hear anything he said, because my brain was shrieking, "HE'S GOING TO STICK A TUBE 17,000 FEET UP YOUR BEHIND!"

I left Andy's office with some written instructions, and a prescription for a product called "MoviPrep," which comes in a box large enough to hold a microwave oven. I will discuss MoviPrep in detail later; for now suffice it to say that we must never allow it to fall into the hands of America's enemies.

I spent the next several days productively sitting around being nervous.

Then, on the day before my colonoscopy, I began my preparation. In accordance with my instructions, I didn't eat any solid food that day; all I had was chicken broth, which is basically water, only with less flavor.

Then, in the evening, I took the MoviPrep. You mix two packets of powder together in a one-liter plastic jug, then you fill it with lukewarm water. (For those unfamiliar with the metric system, a liter is about 32 gallons). Then you have to drink the whole jug. This takes about an hour, because MoviPrep tastes – and here I am being kind – like a mixture of goat spit and urinal cleanser, with just a hint of lemon..

The instructions for MoviPrep, clearly written by somebody with a great sense of humor, state that after you drink it, "a loose, watery bowel movement may result."

This is kind of like saying that after you jump off your roof, you may experience contact with the ground.

MoviPrep is a nuclear laxative. I don't want to be too graphic, here, but have you ever seen a space-shuttle launch? This is pretty much the MoviPrep experience, with you as the shuttle. There are times when you wish the commode had a seat belt. You spend several hours pretty much confined to the bathroom, spurting violently. You eliminate everything. And then, when you figure you must be totally empty, you have to drink another liter of MoviPrep, at which point, as far as I can tell, your bowels travel into the future and start eliminating food that you have not even eaten yet.

After an action-packed evening, I finally got to sleep.

The next morning my wife drove me to the clinic. I was very nervous. Not only was I worried about the procedure, but I had been experiencing occasional return bouts of MoviPrep spurtage. I was thinking, "What if I spurt on Andy?" How do

you apologize to a friend for something like that? Flowers would not be enough.

At the clinic I had to sign many forms acknowledging that I understood and totally agreed with whatever the heck the forms said. Then they led me to a room full of other colonoscopy people, where I went inside a little curtained space and took off my clothes and put on one of those hospital garments designed by sadist perverts, the kind that, when you put it on, makes you feel even more naked than when you are actually naked..

Then a nurse named Eddie put a little needle in a vein in my left hand. Ordinarily I would have fainted, but Eddie was very good, and I was already lying down. Eddie also told me that some people put vodka in their MoviPrep.

At first I was ticked off that I hadn't thought of this, but then I pondered what would happen if you got yourself too tipsy to make it to the bathroom, so you were staggering around in full Fire Hose Mode. You would have no choice but to burn your house.

When everything was ready, Eddie wheeled me into the procedure room, where Andy was waiting with a nurse and an anesthesiologist. I did not see the 17,000-foot tube, but I knew Andy had it hidden around there somewhere. I was seriously nervous at this point.

Andy had me roll over on my left side, and the anesthesiologist began hooking something up to the needle in my hand.

There was music playing in the room, and I realized that the song was "Dancing Queen" by ABBA. I remarked to Andy that, of all the songs that could be playing during this particular procedure, "Dancing Queen" had to be the least appropriate.

"You want me to turn it up?" said Andy, from somewhere behind me.

"Ha," I said. And then it was time, the moment I had been dreading for more than a decade. If you are squeamish, prepare yourself, because I am going to tell you, in explicit detail, exactly what it was like.

I have no idea. Really. I slept through it. One moment, ABBA was yelling "Dancing Queen, feel the beat of the tambourine," and the next moment, I was back in the other room, waking up in a very mellow mood.

Andy was looking down at me and asking me how I felt. I felt excellent. I felt even more excellent when Andy told me that It was all over, and that my colon had passed with flying colors. I have never been prouder of an internal organ.

* * *

Dave Barry is a Pulitzer Prize-winning humor columnist for the *Miami Herald*.



There's no easy way to tell you this, Mr. Harris. You have pseudopseudohypoparathyroidism.*

2
P. 2010N
TIRSB
6-29-09



It's harmless, it's just not easy to say. *A real condition!

BIZARRO.COM



“We lose a little dexterity, but we gain a lot of confidence.”



**You're the tenth doctor who's told
me I'm suffering from paranoia.**

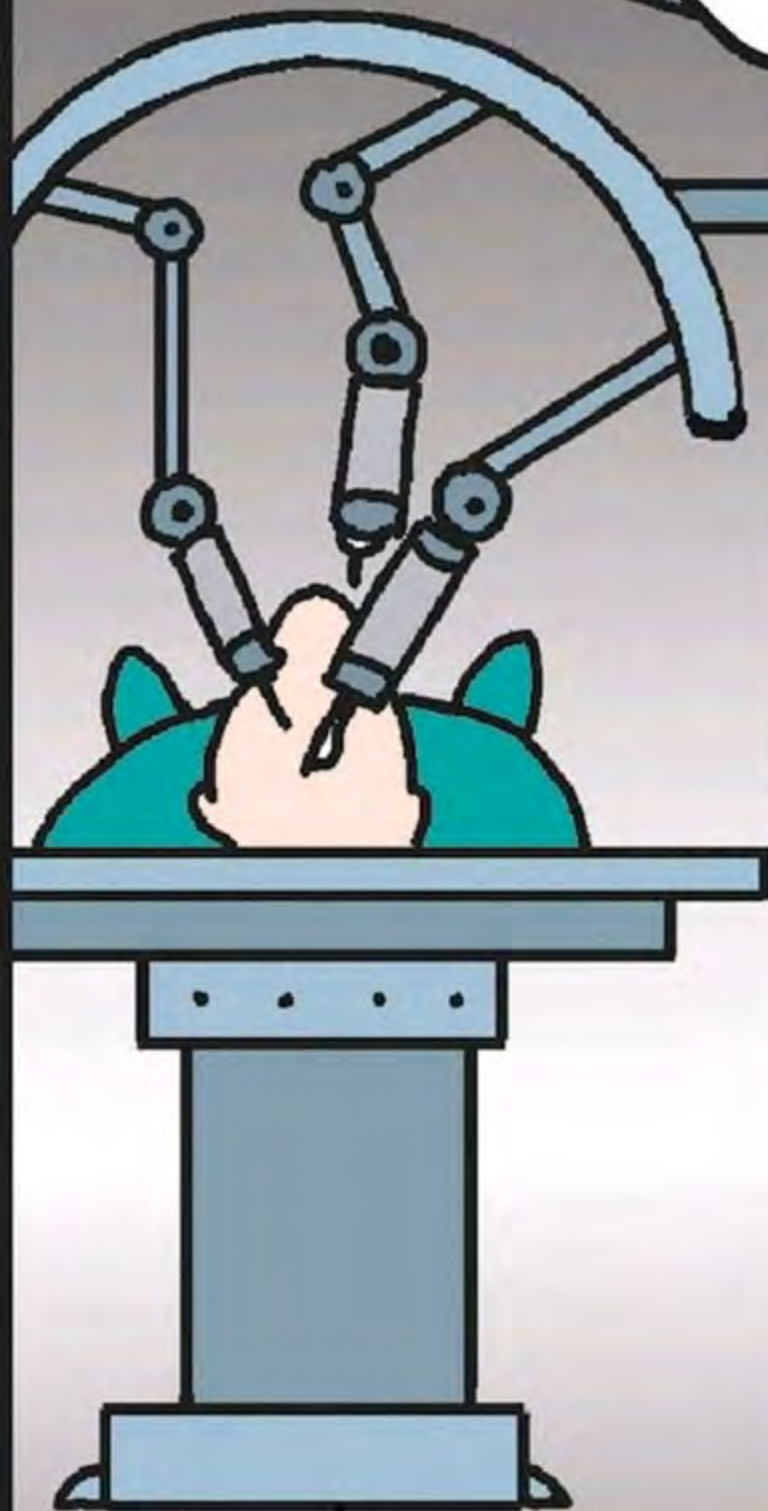
**What is this, some kind of
conspiracy?**

THANK YOU...
I STAND
CORRECTED.

CHIROPRACTOR



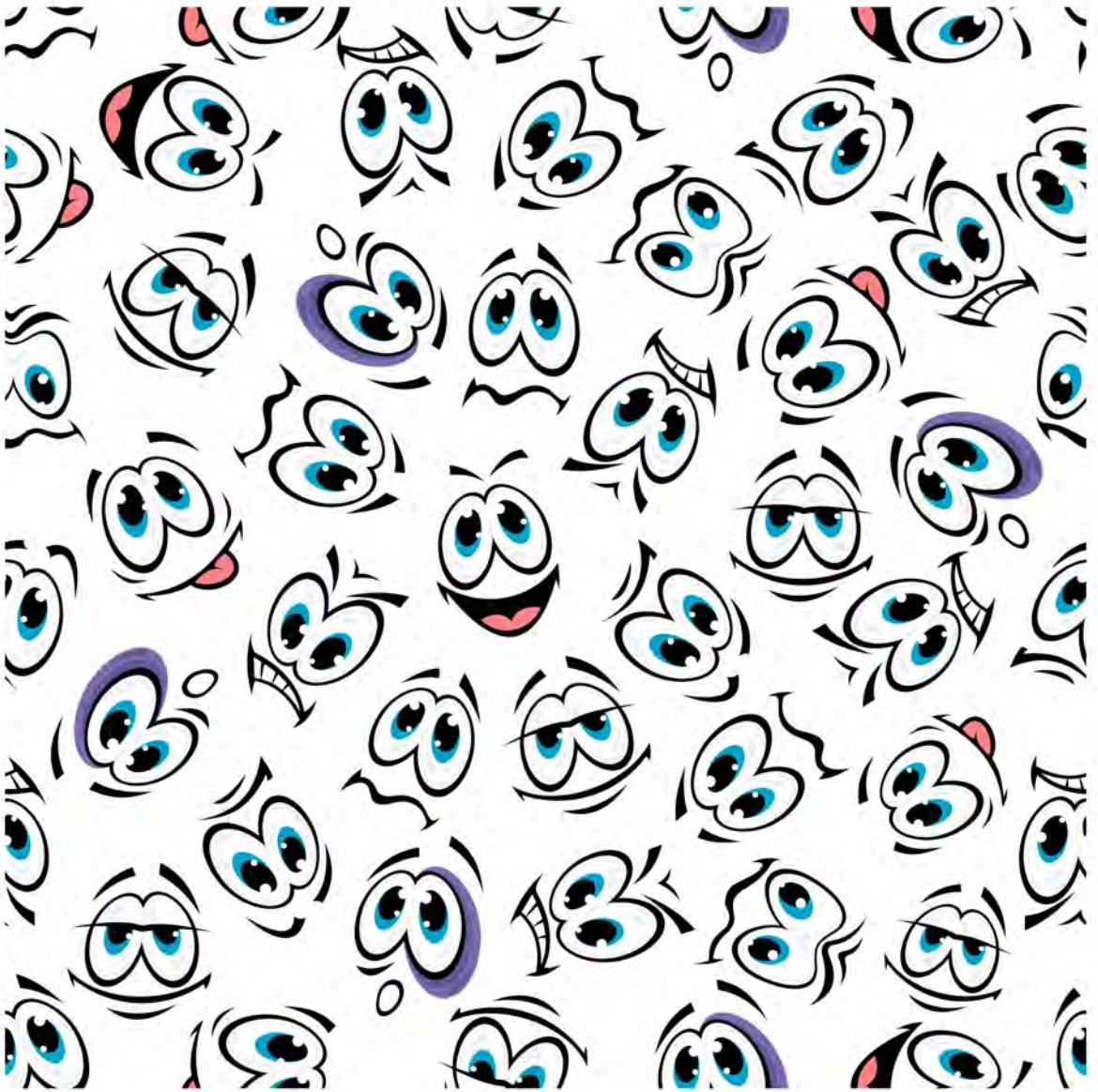
Now, as I cut into the most critical part of the cortex, could someone move my cat?



Blazek



“I’m no golf expert, but this probably counts as another stroke.”



*My doctor asked if anyone in my family
suffered from mental illness. I said,
"No, we all seem to enjoy it."*

We've diagnosed you as having too much money & we're going to treat you until you're cured.



A patient cured
is a customer lost.



FIRST DAY OF MED SCHOOL





"We're running a little behind, but we'd be happy to have our anesthesiologist put you under for a few hours, until the doctor is ready to see you."



The last moments of Dr. Steven Puckett, D.D.S.



Woman sitting across from
man in a train compartment:
"Every time you smile, I feel
like inviting you to my place!"

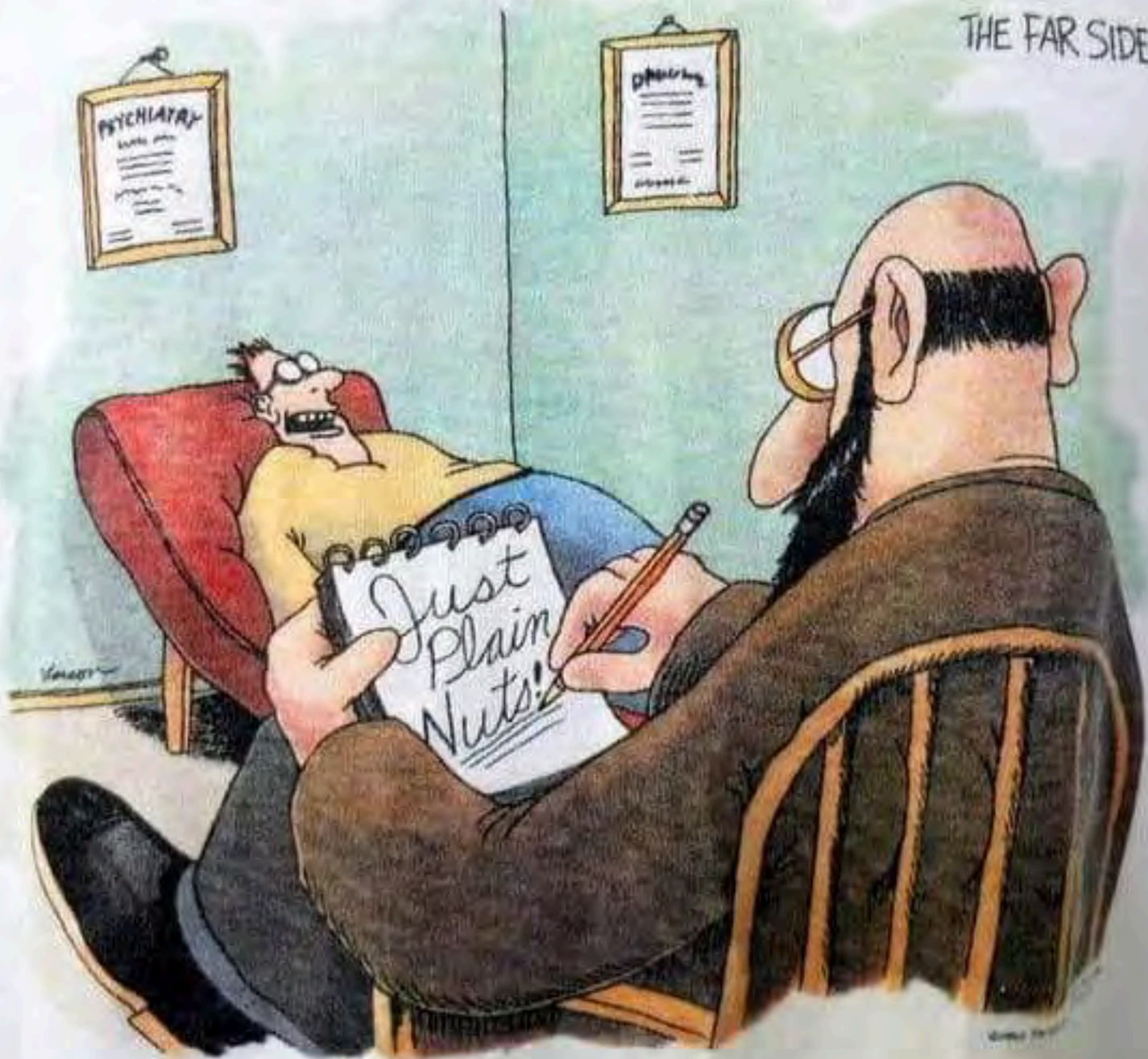
Man, "Awww... that's lovely.
Are you single?"


Woman: "No, I'm a dentist."



“We’re looking for a pediatrician who reflects our design sensibility.”

THE FAR SIDE





YOU HAVE
PINK EYE.



"There's your problem."




“Wheat bran, prunes and black coffee for breakfast?! What was I thinki — oh, noooo...”

**Hypochondria is the only
disease I haven't got.**





WELL, TECHNICALLY,
NO, YOU DON'T HAVE
SEASONAL AFFECTIVE
DISORDER.



I CAN'T ENJOY
THE STUFF I STEAL
BECAUSE I SET
FIRE TO IT ALL!

KLEPTO-PYROMANIA

Bill
Whitehead

4-2
©COPYRIGHT 2013
BY BILL WHITEHEAD
DISTRIBUTED BY
CREATORS.COM
[Facebook.com/FreeRangeComic](https://www.facebook.com/FreeRangeComic)



Let's try reducing your dosage.

Dr. King Features

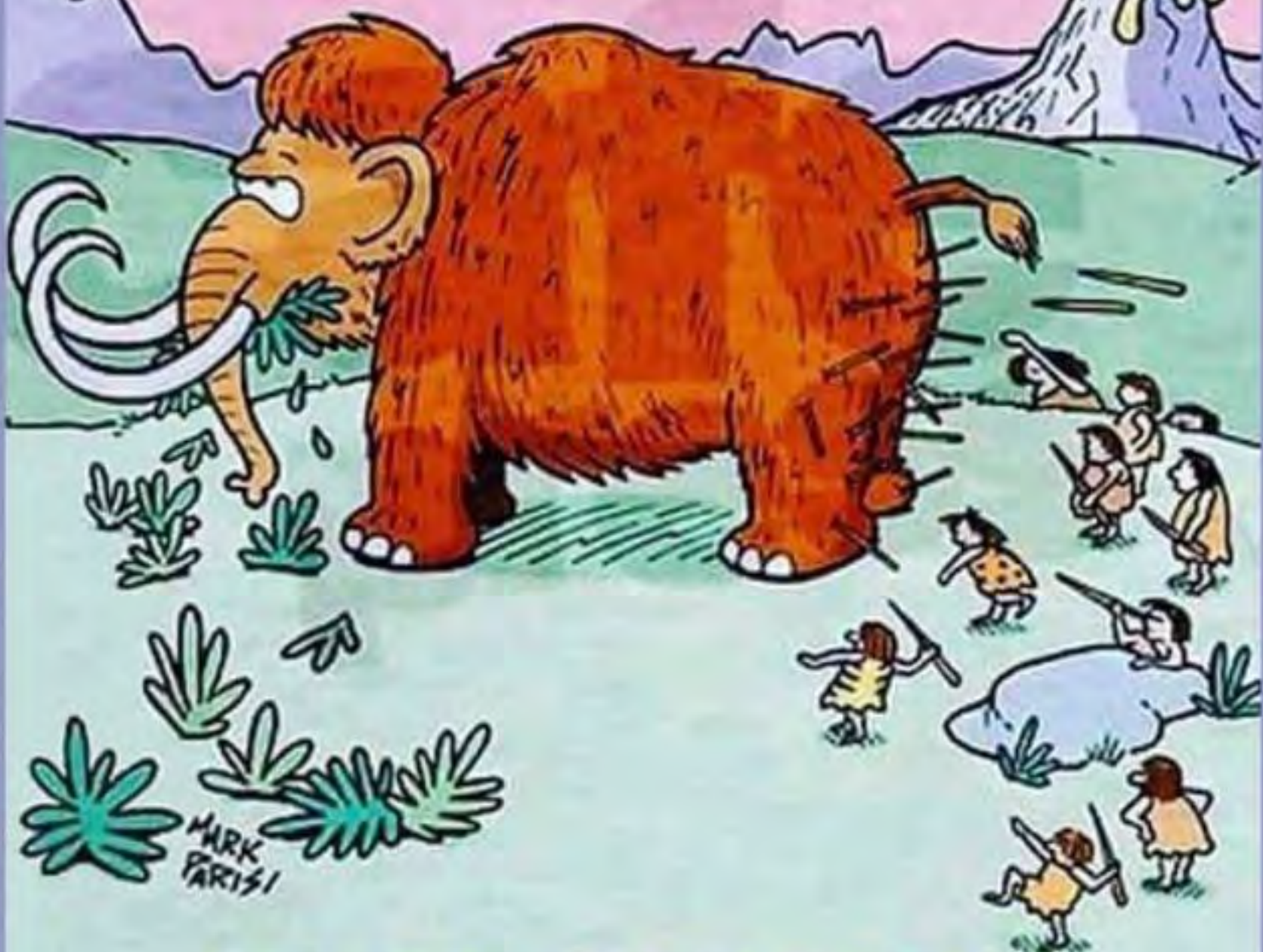


BEZARROCOMIC.BLOGSPOT.COM



2 P 10.28.09
© 2011 P. P.

THAT'S ODD... MY NECK SUDDENLY
FEELS BETTER...

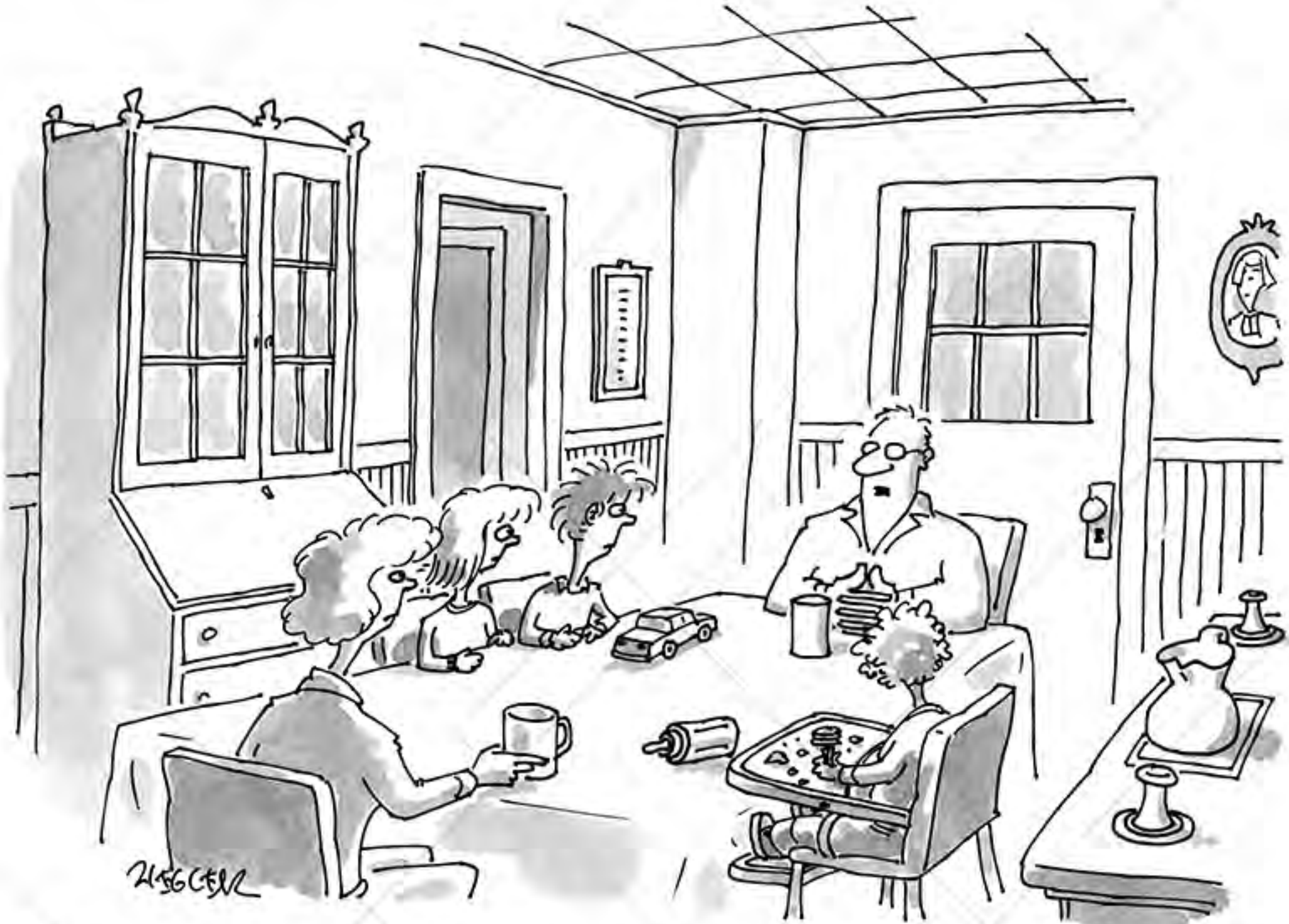


MARK
PARISI

EARLY ACUPUNCTURE

There are no known side effects to this medication, but several notable SPECIAL effects.





"Kids, your mother and I have spent so much money on health insurance this year that instead of vacation we're all going to go in for elective surgery."



Herman
HERMAN®

6-20

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc., Dist. by Universal Uclick, 2015

**"I'm sure you'll agree, we don't
want an epidemic."**

MAYBE YOU'RE NOT THE LESSER OF TWO EVILS. MAYBE YOU JUST HAVEN'T FOUND THE EVIL THAT BEST SUITS YOUR TALENTS.



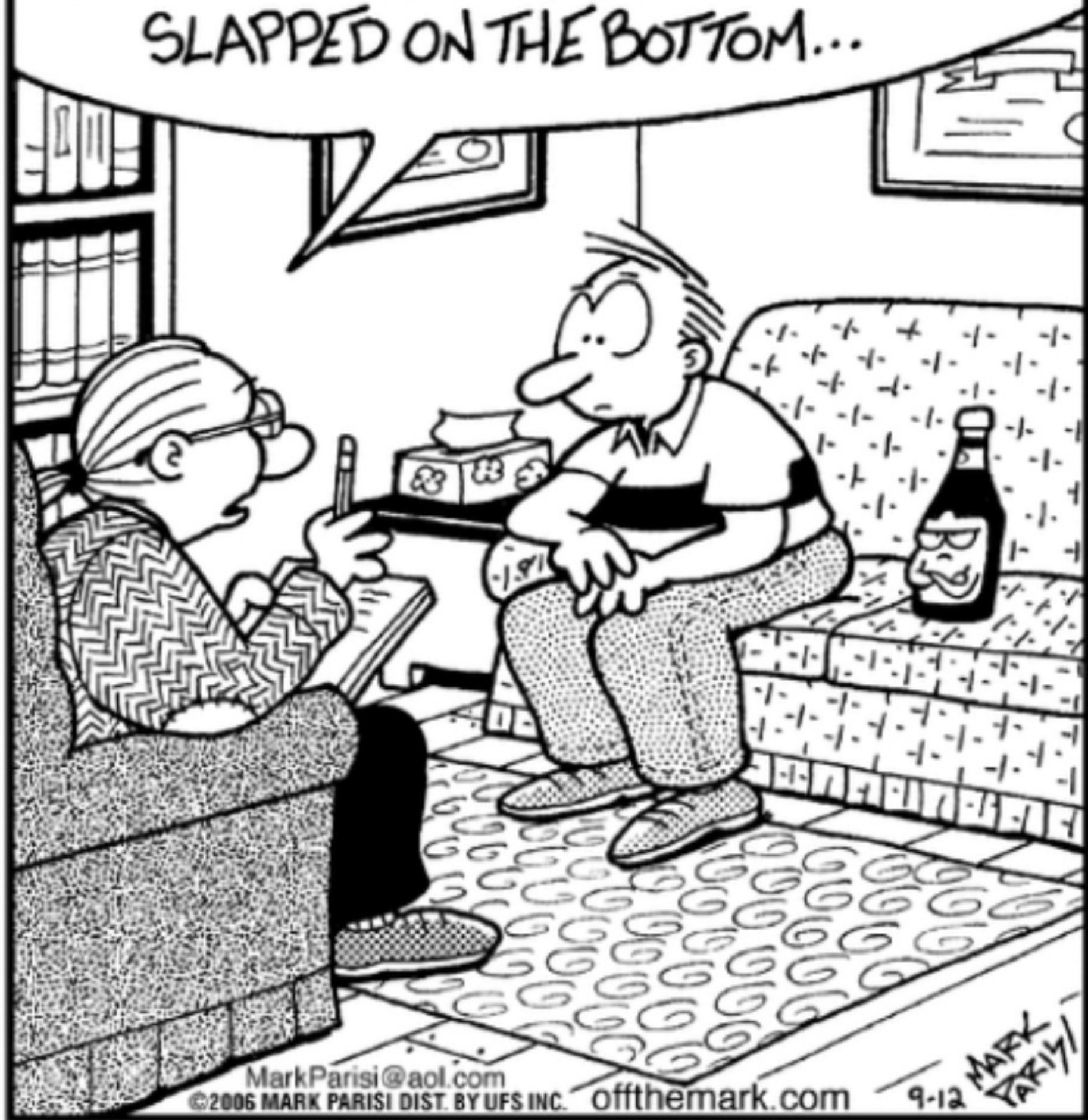


A patient comes to his doctor's office five days after his last visit. The doctor says, "Heavens, Mr Peebles, you look awful! What's happened?"

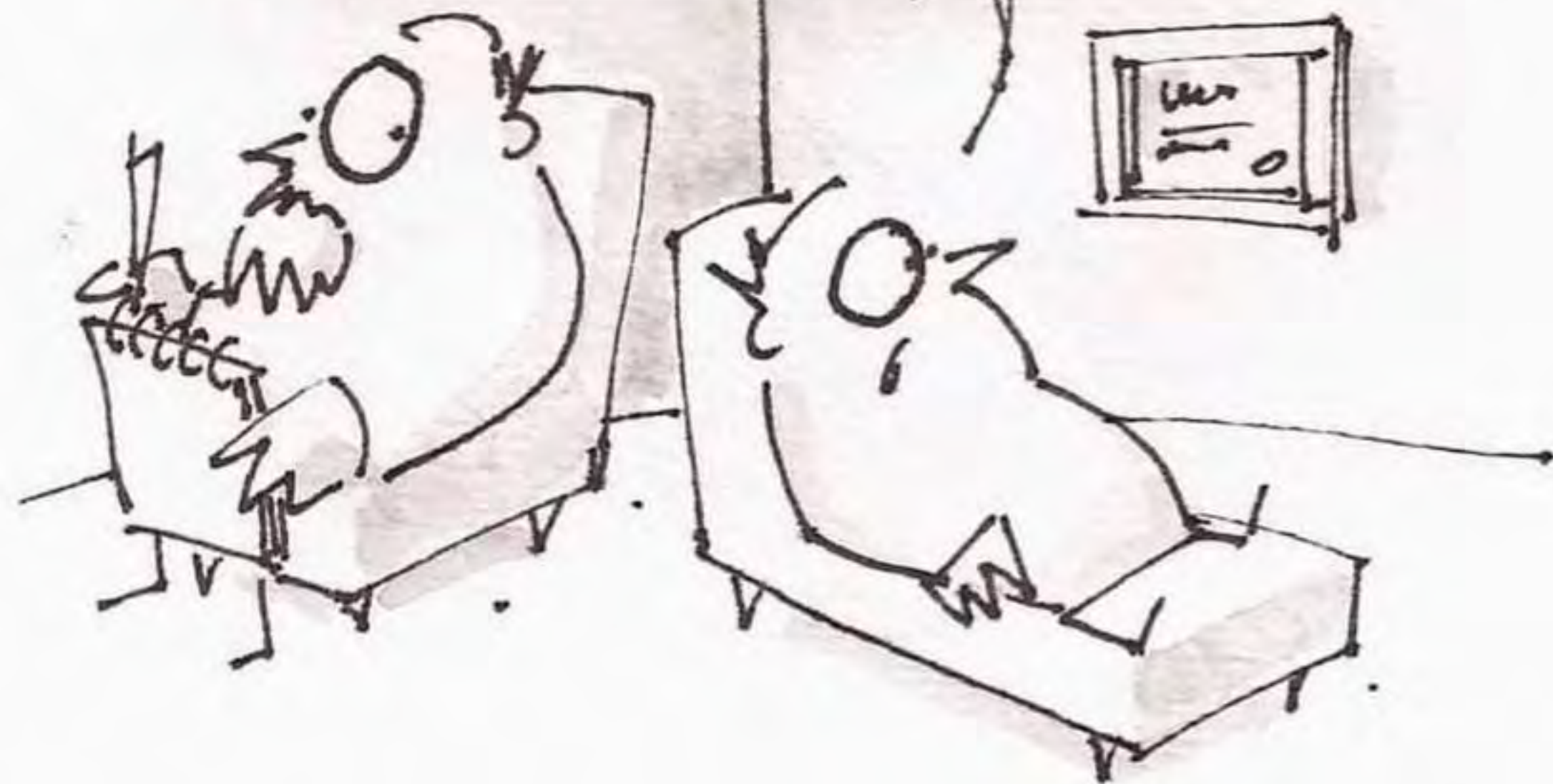
The patient replies, "Well, you told me to take this medicine for three days and then skip a day, but all that skipping was exhausting!"

-Prairie Home Companion

LET'S EXPLORE OTHER SOLUTIONS
THAT DON'T INCLUDE ANYONE GETTING
SLAPPED ON THE BOTTOM...



I have this fear that
people are writing down
everything I say



aldbratt

OH, SORRY, I JUST
THOUGHT THE CAT FACE
FILTER WAS SO CUTE.

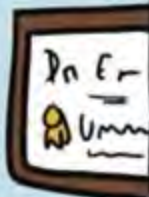


©2010
CORY LY

DIST. BY CREATORS / SPEEDBUMP.COM 12.21

YOUR FLY IS DOWN.

SCOTT
HILBURN
10/1



THIS SHOULD HELP.

THANKS, DOC.

ZOLOFT
10 mg.
Dr. E



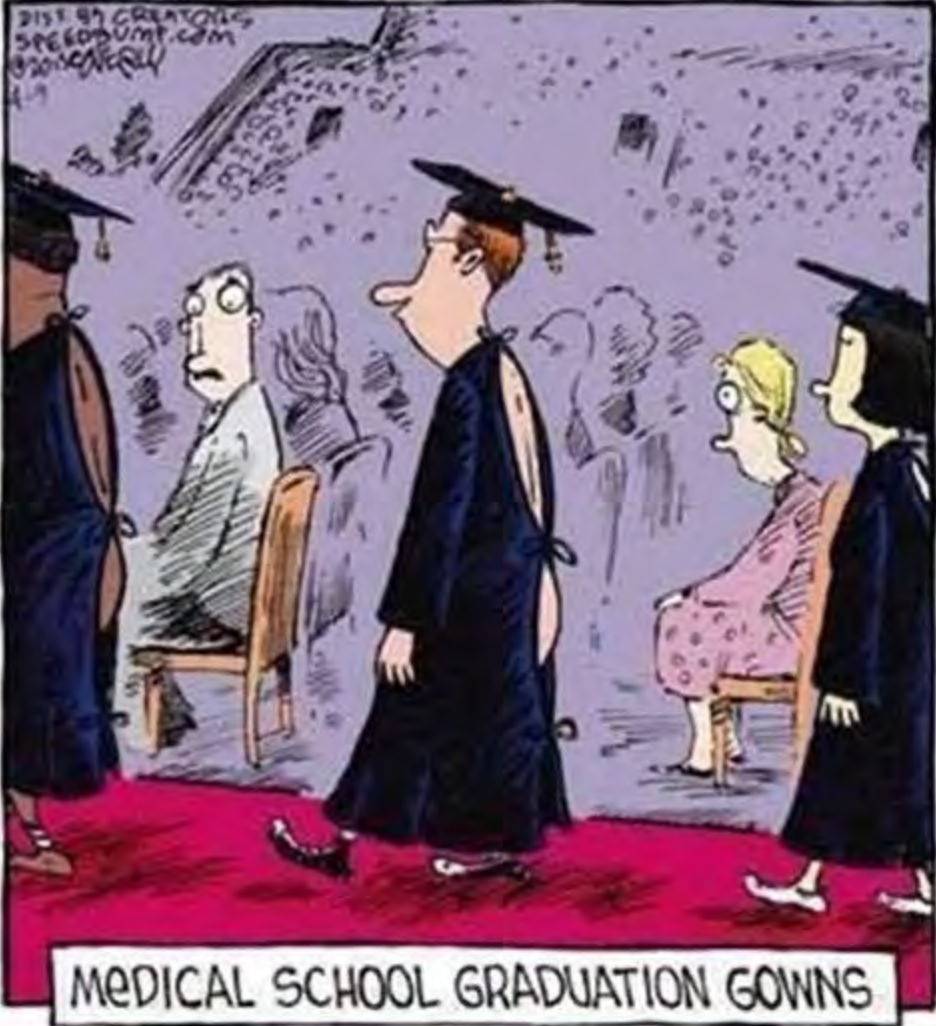


"No, it's not water. You seem to
be retaining food."

I SAW THE
DENTIST JOKE
YOU POSTED
ONLINE.
SO THAT'S YOUR
IDEA OF
FUNNY, HUH?



2151 97 CREATORS
SPEEDBUMP.COM
©2010 SCOTT KILBY



MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATION GOWNS



"First step is the hardest. You've got to admit that you don't have a problem."



“The good news is, for the most part, you’re as healthy as a horse.”



Ralph finally agreed to have his hearing tested after years of complaints by his wife Brenda.

After he received his new hearing aids, he commented to his buddy Sam that ever since he had received the devices, Brenda had finally started speaking clearly.



"AMAZING — YOU HAVE THE HEART OF A
375-YEAR-OLD MAN."

Helium?

Will it kill the pain?

No, but when you
scream, it's funny.





FREQUENTLY-ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT HMOs

Q. What does HMO stand for?

A. This is actually a variation of the phrase, "HEY MOE." Its roots go back to a concept pioneered by Moe of the Three Stooges, who discovered that a patient could be made to forget about the pain in his foot if he was poked hard enough in the eyes.

Q. I just joined an HMO. How difficult will it be to choose the doctor?

A. Just slightly more difficult than choosing your parents. Your insurer will provide you with a book listing all the doctors in the plan. These doctors basically fall into two categories -- those who are no longer accepting new patients, and those who will see you but are no longer participating in the plan. But don't worry; the remaining doctor who is still in the plan and accepting new patients has an office just a half-day's drive away and has a diploma from a Third World Country.

Q. Do all diagnostic procedures require pre-certification?

A. No. Only those you need.

Q. Can I get coverage for my preexisting conditions?

A. Certainly, as long as they don't require any treatment.

Q. What happens if I want to try alternative forms of medicine?

A. You'll need to find alternative forms of payment.

Q. I think I need to see a specialist, but my doctor insists he can handle my problem. Can a general practitioner really perform a heart transplant right in his office?

A. Hard to say, but considering that all you're risking is the \$15 copayment, there's no harm in giving him a shot at it.

Q. Will health care be different in the next century?

A. No. But if you call right now, you might get an appointment by then.



“Come on. I haven’t got all day.”



“Does that hurt?”

I never really thought my problems
were very interesting before.

Dist. by King Features





**A man arrived
at a doctor's
office and
informed the
receptionist
that he was
invisible.**

**The doctor said
she couldn't see
him today.**



"You may experience irritability and pain in the hands and wrist...and that's just from trying to get the cap off."



"If it doesn't itch, don't worry about it."



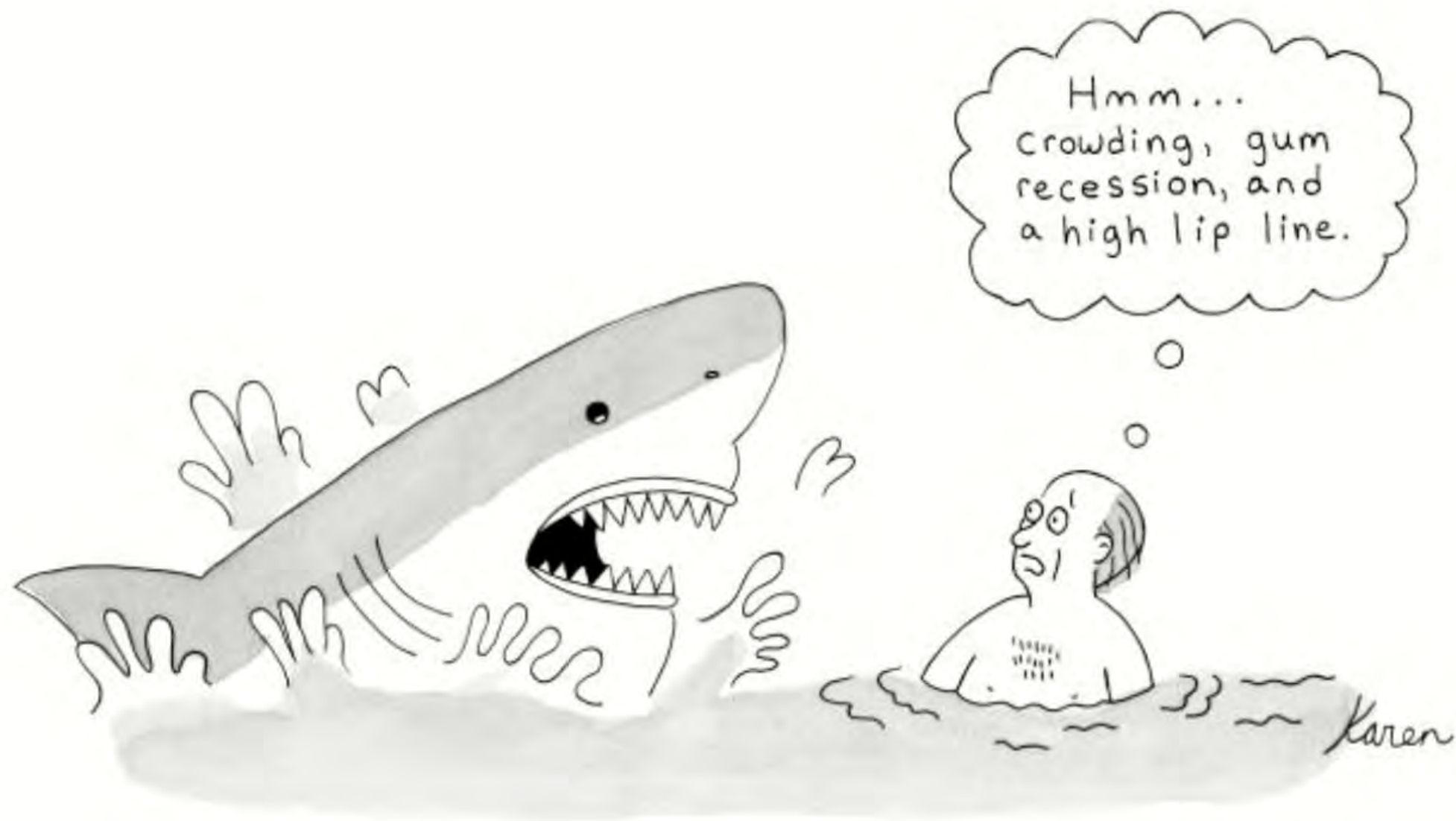
Linger

HERMAN®

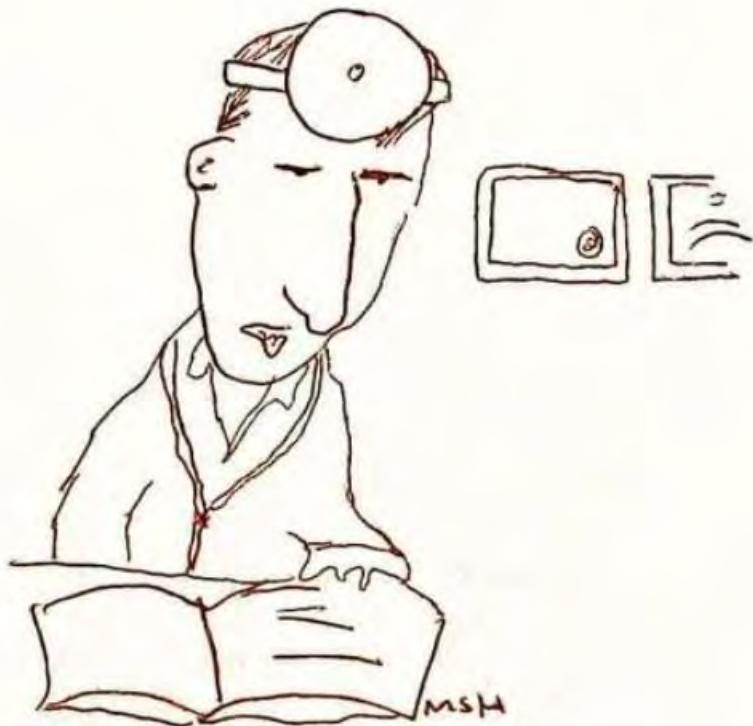
9-11

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc., Dist. by Universal Uclick, 2015

**“Why did your nurse want to know
my ‘next-of-kin’?”**



The last moments of Dr. Steven Puckett, D.D.S.



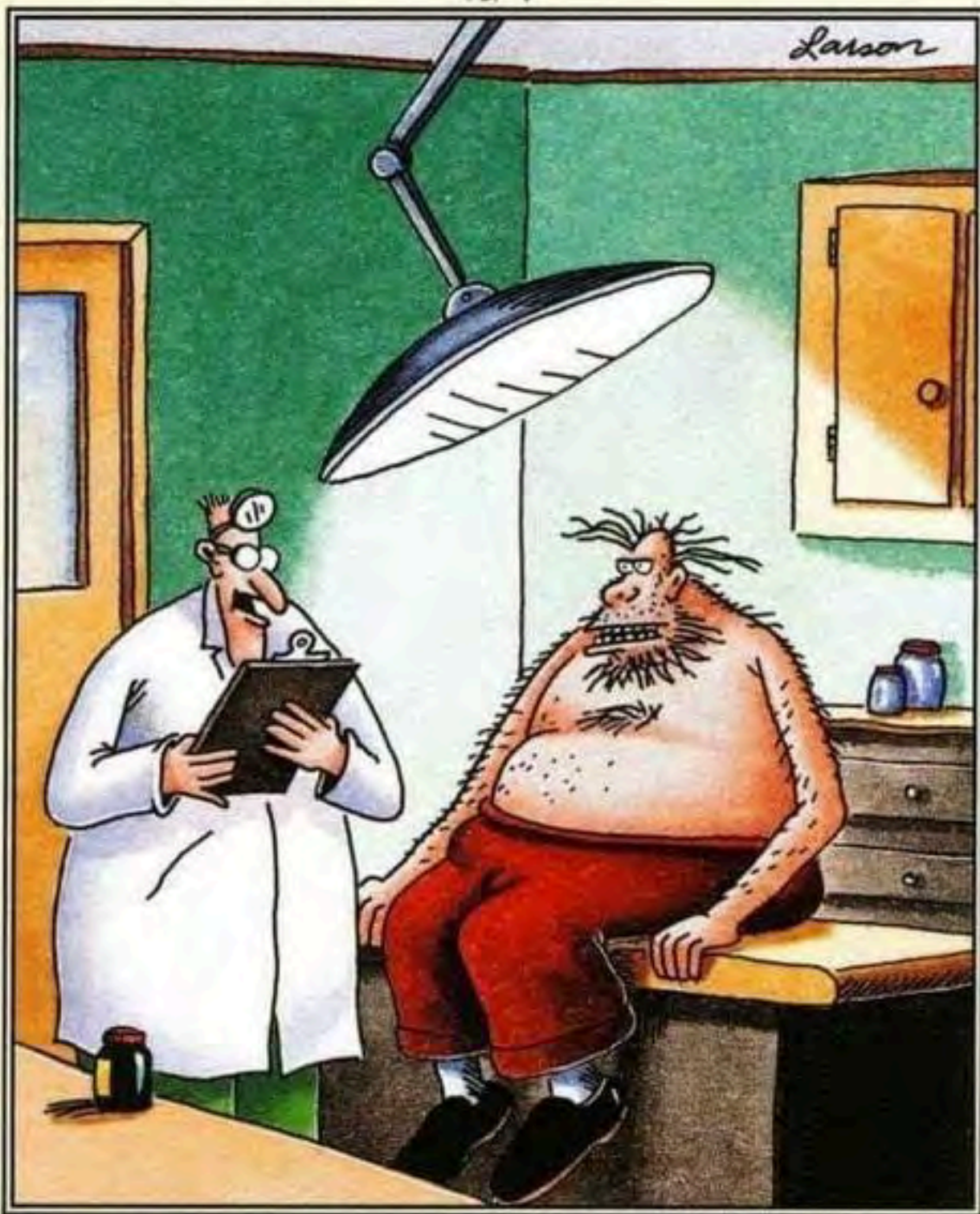
"THE AMA SAYS ANTIBIOTICS,
BUT THE FOUNDING FATHERS SAY LEECHES"

THESE X-RAYS SUGGEST THAT WE
MAY HAVE LEFT A SURGICAL
ASSISTANT INSIDE YOU...





“Which leg is it?”



“Well, Mr. Rosenberg, your lab results look pretty good—although I might suggest your testosterone level is a tad high.”

YOUR LID IS CRACKED,
AND YOUR LABEL IS PEELING,
BUT YOU ARE **FAR** AWAY
FROM YOUR EXPIRATION
DATE.



AT THE MAYO CLINIC

WE'VE GOT: ALLEGRA, LUNESTA,
LEVITRA, BONIVA, AVANDIA,
ABREVA, BYETTA, SPIRIVA, ZETIA,
LYRICA, VIAGRA, CONCERTA,
AMITIZA, JANUVIA, HUMIRA,
CYMBALTA, ZOMETA, EVISTA,

RELENZA, ORENCIA,
ZYPREXA, LOVAZA,
ONGLYZA, MERIDIA,
INVOKANA, JUBLIA,
KEYTRUDA, VICTOZA,
NAMENDA, VASCEPA,
PRACEVIA, OSPHENA,
SIMBRINZA, PRADAXA,
BELSOMRA, NEULASTA,
BRILINTA, STELARA,
NUEDEXTA, KYBELLA,
FARXIGA, LATUDA,
OTEZLA, EPCLUSA,
TREMIFYA, FASERNA,
INBRIJA, XOFLUZA...



If you're here for the
Premature Ejaculators
meeting, you've come
too soon





Herman

HERMAN™

10-23

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc., Dist. by Universal Uclick, 2014

**"If you remember, I did mention
possible side-effects."**

THERE ISN'T
A THING WRONG
WITH YOU, MR. FENGLER!
THE CARTOONIST IS
JUST MESSING
WITH YOU!



8-18

©COPYRIGHT 2022
BY DILL WHITEHEAD
DISTRIBUTED BY
CREATORS.COM

PHILIP WHITEHEAD

Now, then—where's that
unwanted mole?



9/14/82



“So, Mr. Fenton ... let’s begin
with your mother.”

So how long have you been with
Doctors Without Clothing?



BIZARRO.COM

DON
TIRARO
12.31.09

Dist. by King Features

BIZARROCOMIC.BLOGSPOT.COM

Not much on the supermarket shelves yesterday so I decided to improvise.

Dinner last night was a risotto I made with some mushrooms I foraged for locally.



Not only was it delicious, but soon after a Welsh male voice choir of purple elephants showed up and sang the whole of Meatloaf's Bat Out of Hell album, accompanied by a light show 😊



Herman
HERMAN®

“Oh no! I’ve broken my nail.”

100% NATURAL REMEDIES

IF THIS
MESSAGE
IS PRESENT
THIS IMAGE IS
BEING USED
WITHOUT
PERMISSION
©

CHRIS MADDEN



...WHICH REMINDS
ME OF THE TIME I...
(BLAH-BLAH-BLAH-BLAH-
BLAH-BLAH-BLAH-BLAH).
AND THAT BRINGS ME
TO WHY I CAME HERE
IN THE FIRST PLACE...
I'VE GOT A NAGGING
PAIN IN THE NECK!

THAT
MAKES
TWO OF
US!



Bill
Whithead

©COPYRIGHT 2018
BY BILL WHITHEAD
DISTRIBUTED BY
8-9
Facebook.com/FreeRangeComic
CREATORS.COM

MY ANATOMY EXAM:



IDENTIFY THIS NERVE



"That just never gets old!"

NEW TERMINOLOGY FOR VIAGRA

In Pharmacology, all drugs have two names, a trade name and generic name. For example, the trade name *Tylenol* has a generic name of *Acetaminophen*. *Aleve* is also called *Naproxen*. *Amoxil* is also call *Amoxicillin* and *Advil* is also called *Ibuprofen*.

The FDA has been looking for a generic name for Viagra. After careful consideration by a team of government experts, it recently announced that it has settled on the generic name of Mycoxafloppin. Also considered were Mycoxafailin, Mydixadrupin, Mydixarizin, Dixafix, and of course, Ibepokin.

Pfizer Corp. announced today that Viagra will soon be available in liquid form, and will be marketed by Pepsi Cola as a power beverage suitable for use as a mixer. It will now be possible for a man to literally pour himself a stiff one. Obviously we can no longer call this a soft drink, and it gives new meaning to the names of “cocktails”, “highballs” and just a good old-fashioned “stiff drink”. Pepsi will market the new concoction by the name of: MOUNT & DO.

* * *

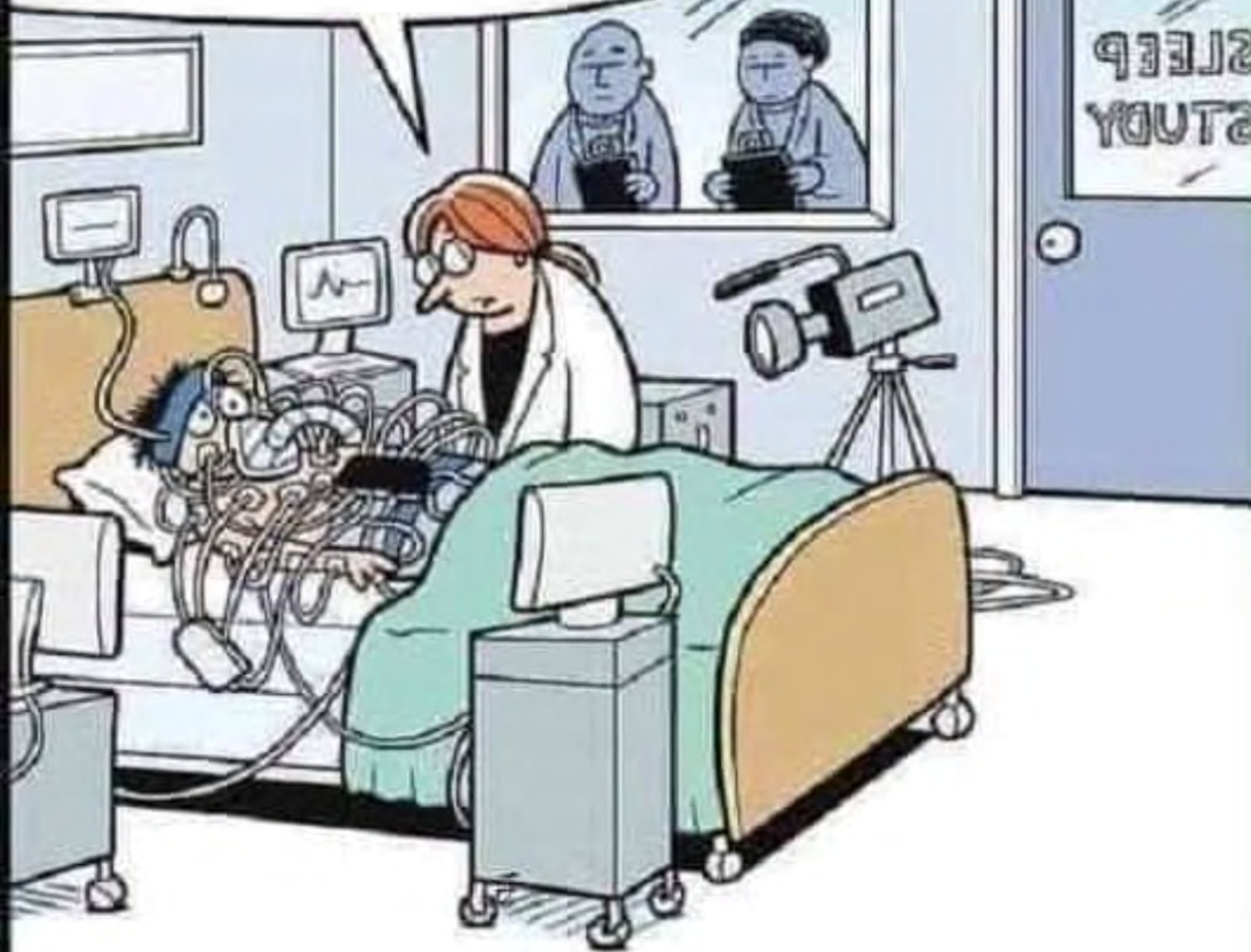
Thought for the day: There is more money being spent on breast implants and Viagra today than on Alzheimer’s research. This means that by 2040, there should be a large elderly population with perky boobs and huge erections and absolutely no recollection of what to do with them.





“The bad news is you have two weeks to live. The good news is I’m taking you off your greens-only diet.”

OK, NOW JUST
SLEEP NORMALLY...





"Doctor, what on earth was wrong with that nun who just came running out of your office? She looked terribly pale!"

"Well," says the doctor, "I examined her and told her she was pregnant."

"Is she??"

"No, but I sure as hell cured her three-day bout of hiccups!"

-Prairie Home Companion



A man suffered a serious heart attack while shopping in a store. The store clerks called 911 when they saw him collapse to the floor. The paramedics rushed the man to the nearest hospital where he had emergency open heart bypass surgery.

He awakened from the surgery to find himself in the care of nuns at the Catholic Hospital. A nun was seated next to his bed holding a clipboard loaded with several forms, and a pen. She asked him how he was going to pay for his treatment. "Do you have health insurance?" she asked.

He replied in a raspy voice, "No health insurance."

The nun asked, "Do you have money in the bank?"

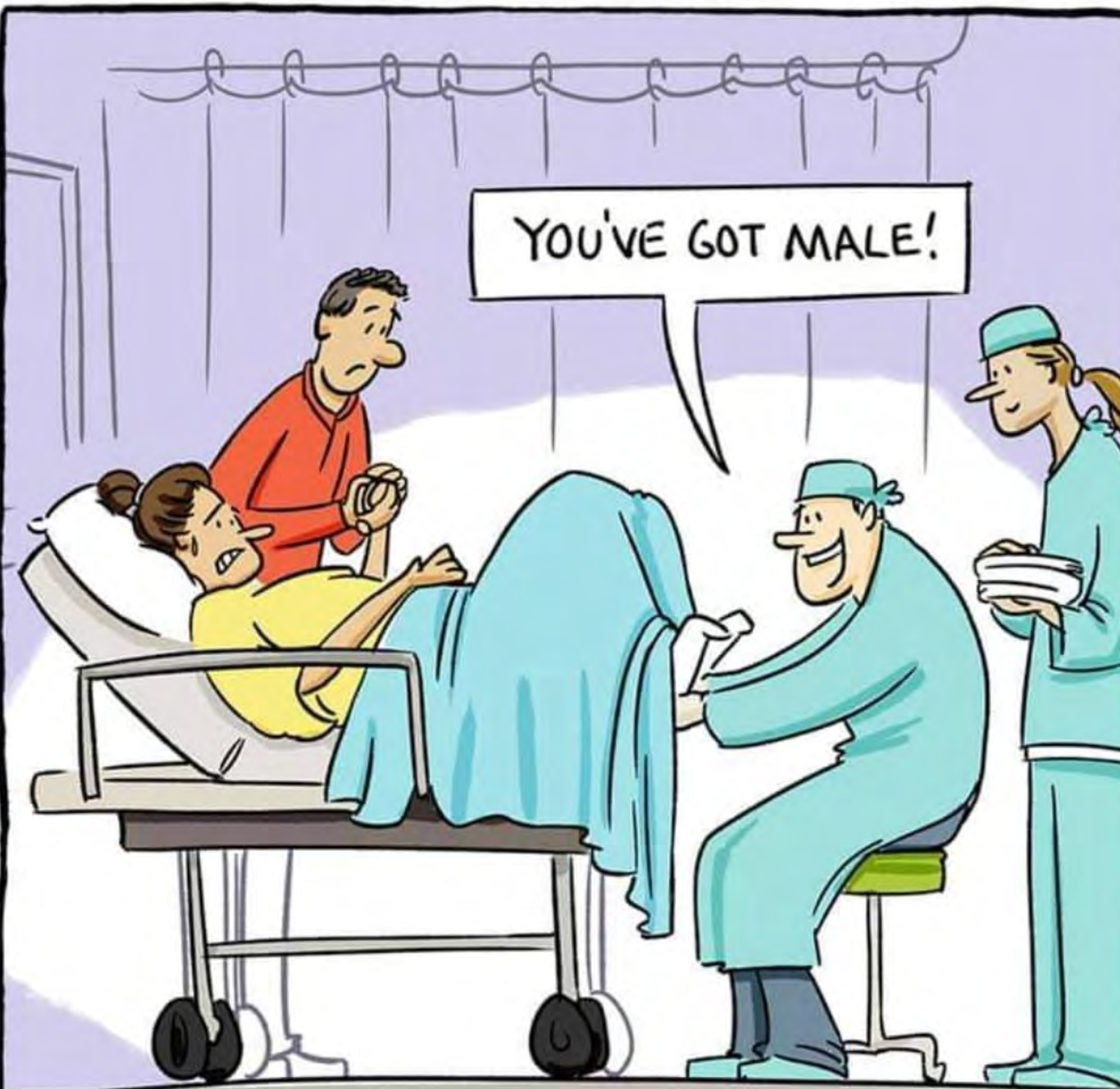
He replied, "No money in the bank."

"Do you have a relative who could help you with the payments?" asked the irritated nun.

He said, "I only have a spinster sister, and she is a nun."

The nun became agitated and announced loudly, "Nuns are not spinsters! Nuns are married to G-d."

The patient replied, "Perfect. Send the bill to my brother-in-law."



YOU'VE GOT MALE!

AOL GUY FINDS A SECOND
CAREER IN OBSTETRICS



*My dentist removed
the wrong tooth
yesterday!*

*He apologized and
assured me that it was
an aspendental
mistake.*

LET'S FIRST DISCUSS
YOUR FEAR OF OPENING
UP TO WOMEN...





HERMAN®

10-25 © LaughingStock Licensing Inc., Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS, 2017

**“I’d say it’s your gall bladder, but if
you insist on a second opinion,
I’ll say kidneys.”**

NOW LET'S TRY THE THIRD
LINE WITH VERY, VERY
POOR LIGHTING...



THESE HIGH TECH BRAIN SCANS TELL US A LOT ABOUT YOUR HUSBAND'S COGNITIVE FUNCTIONS, HIS MEMORY... WE CAN EVEN FIND OUT IF HE THINKS THAT OUTFIT MAKES YOU LOOK FAT..





Linger

HERMAN®

11-30

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc., Dist. by Universal Uclick, 2016

"I get a real sharp pain when I do this."



Five members of a surgical team are debating which profession makes the best patients at the operating table on Labor Day.

"I like to see accountants on my operating table because everything inside is numbered," says the first surgeon.

The second person replies, "Yes, but you should look into electricians! Inside, everything is color coded."

"No, I really think librarians are the best; everything inside them is in alphabetical order," says the third team-member.

"You know, I like construction workers...those guys always understand when you have a few parts left over at the end, and when the job takes longer than you said it would," says the fourth surgeon.

But the fifth surgeon shut them all up when she declares, "You're all wrong. Politicians are the easiest to operate on. There's no guts, no heart, and no spine, and the head and butt are interchangeable."



HERMAN®

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc.

**“It’s just a simple little operation, but
we want you to pay now.”**

Too legible.

MEDICAL SCHOOL
PENMANSHIP CLASS

DAN
PIRRO.
12.21.05

PHARMACY

ASK
ABOUT
OUR
ANTI-
DÉPRESSANTS



MarkParisi@aol.com

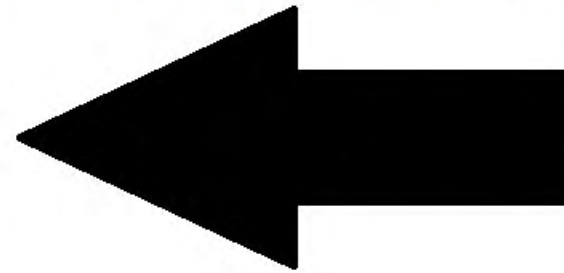
MARK
PARISI / 4.9

offthemark.com

©2007 MARK PARISI DIST. BY UFS INC.



**Xenophobia:
fear of a
villain like
this one.**



**Xenophobia:
fear of
warrior
princesses.**





Kanin

"Enough medical mumbo jumbo, just give it to me straight, Doc—will I ever be able to play piano again?"



**DRS SMITH & JONES
PLASTIC SURGEONS**

WE CAN
HELP YOU
PICK
YOUR
NOSE!

Now that you know what I look like in my underwear, can I buy you a cup of coffee & get to know more about you?



WORLD'S WORST PICK-UP LINES #37

PHIL, YOU STILL
WORKING AT THAT
LAB, DELIVERING
URINE SAMPLES?

NO, I GOT
PROMOTED -
NOW, I'M THE
STOOL PIGEON!



These aren't Weight
Watchers diet pills.
You've been reading
them upside down.







"He's waking up! Places, people!"



“We had to put a steel plate in your leg.”

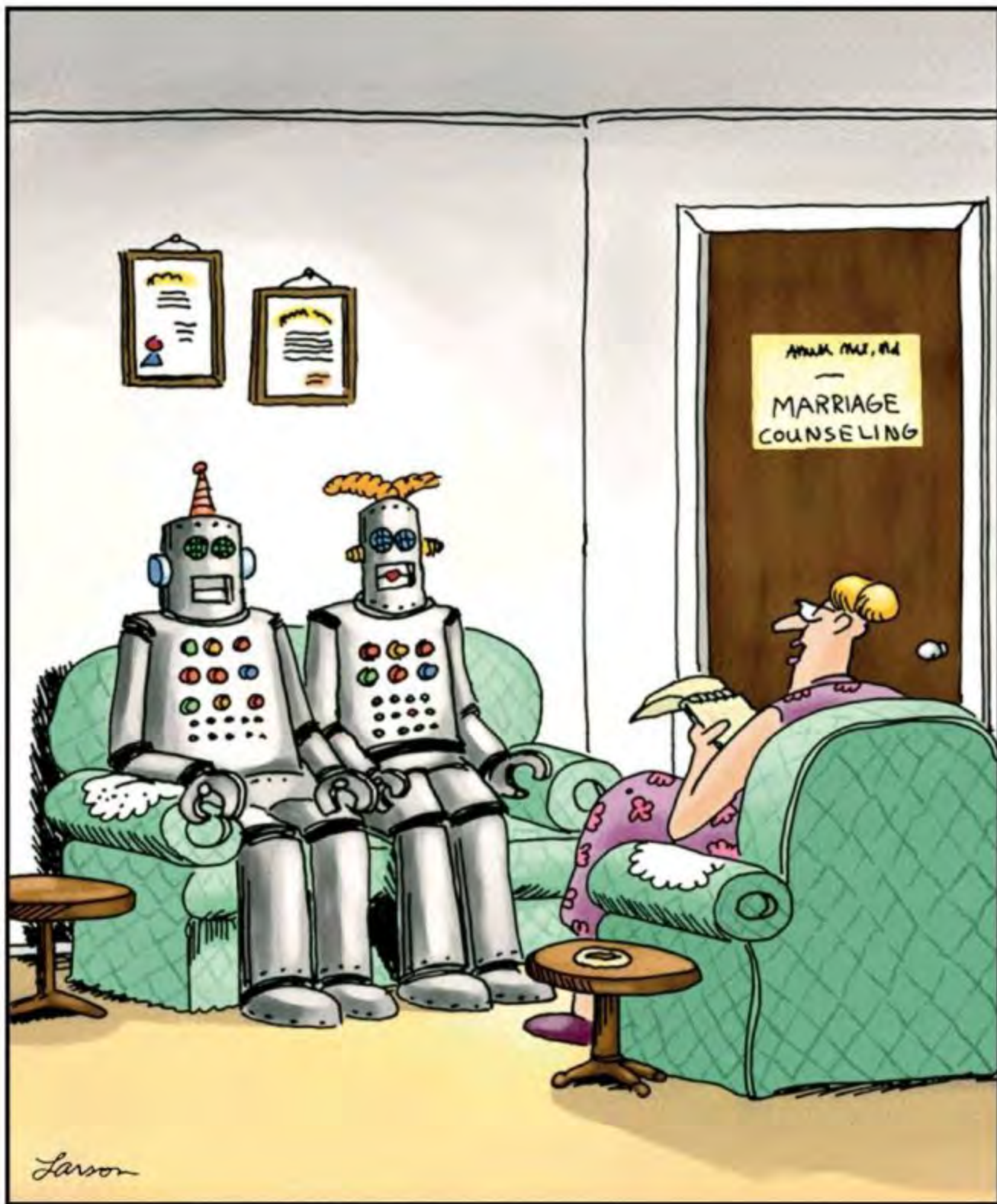
THE SPECIALIST GAVE
ME THIS MEDICINE FOR
MY HEARING LOSS. HE
SAID TWO DROPS A DAY
IN MY BEER, BUT SO
FAR I HAVEN'T NOTICED
ANY IMPROVEMENTS.





Linger

**"You're suffering from very high
food pressure."**




“The problem, as I see it, is that you both are extremely adept at pushing each other’s buttons.”

The second time Hansel and Gretel found a house made of cookies and candy, they sent someone else in to test-nibble it first.




This technique became known as Munch Housen by Proxy.

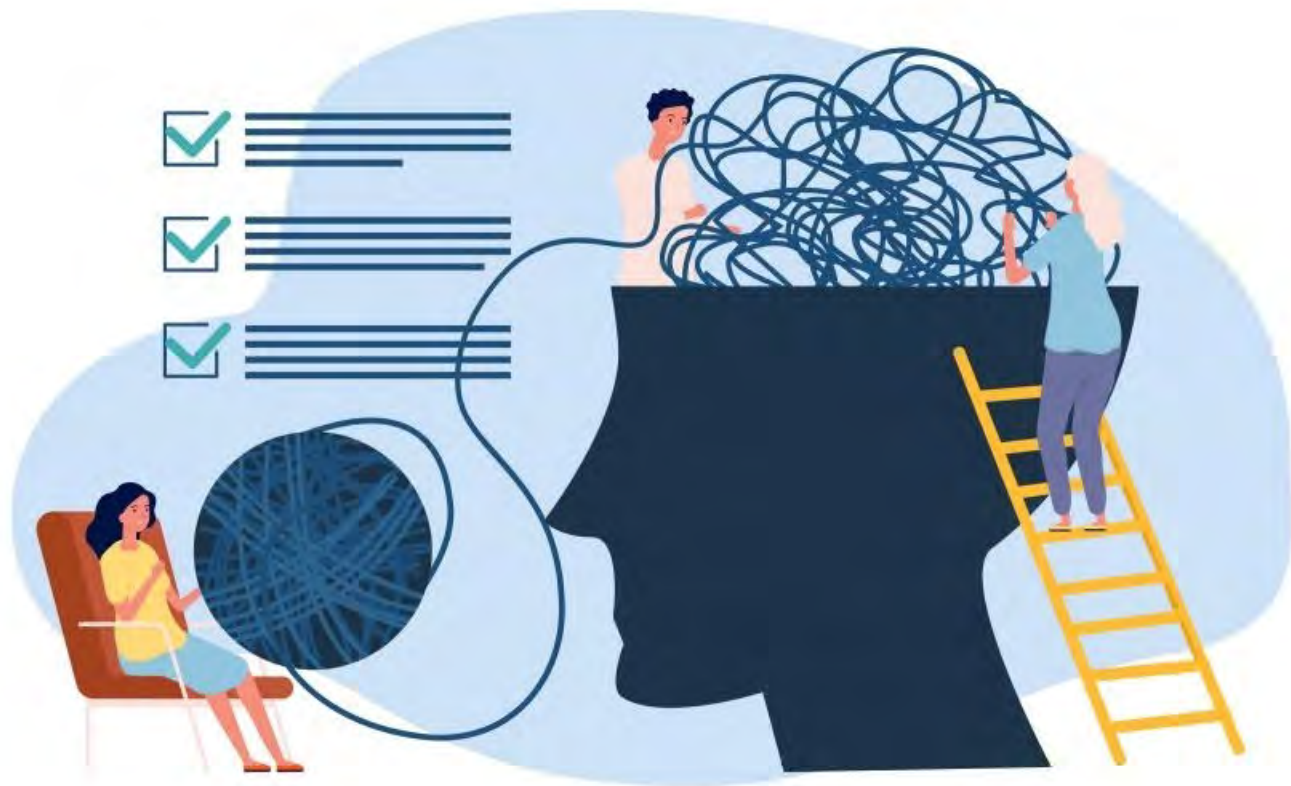
A woman with long, curly brown hair and glasses is sitting in the center of a circle of people. She is holding a small white object in her hands. The people around her are seen from the back or side, creating a sense of being part of the group. The setting appears to be a modern, brightly lit room with white walls and large windows in the background.

Welcome to Plastic Surgery Addicts Anonymous.

EATLIVER.COM

The woman is still in the center of the circle, holding the same white object. Her expression is slightly more serious or disappointed than in the first image. The group of people remains the same, and the setting is unchanged.

I'm seeing a lot of new faces in the crowd this week, and I have to say, I'm disappointed.



When a beautiful woman enters the room, the man who watches everyone else instead of the woman is a psychologist.*

* or gay.

Thanks to Stan S for the addition.

- Prairie Home Companion



Kanin

"I'm not actually doing anything—this is just punishment for not flossing."



Having dumped the bag of ashes on the table, Stew hid behind the door and waited for the X-ray technician's reaction.

The treatment you need is extremely expensive & your policy doesn't cover it.
Accordingly, I'm going to prescribe an intensive program of insurance fraud.





“Your previous provider refused to share your electronic medical records, but not to worry—I was able to obtain all of your information online.”

I'm going to refer you
to a meteorologist.

Dist. by Kona Features

BIZARRO.COM



BIZARROCOMIC.BLOGSPOT.COM

© 2009
P. F. Bizarro
1-13-09



Linger

HERMAN®

© LaughingStock International Inc., Dist. by Universal Uclick for UHF, 2014

“Try to relax.”

SHE'S NOW ENTERING REM...
WHICH, OF COURSE, STANDS
FOR RAPID EAR MOVEMENT



WE CAN REMOVE IT... BUT
IT'LL COST A FORTUNE.





"Oops! I just deleted all your files. Can you repeat everything you've ever told me?"

STEVEN BEGAN TO WONDER IF
HIS SURGERY WAS AS NECESSARY
AS THEY FIRST SAID.

We've decided to replace your
large and small intestines with
two medium ones.



Blazek

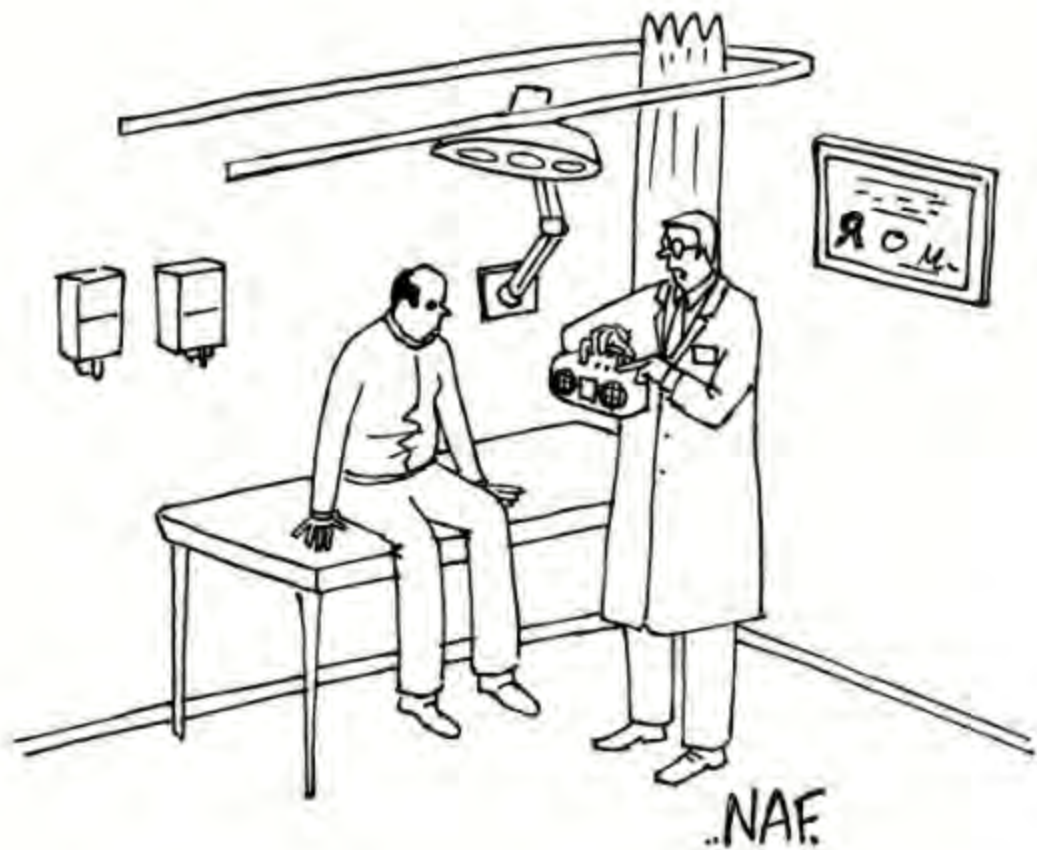
Get signed Loose Parts books at LoosePartsComic.com!

©2010 Dave Blazek • looseparts@verizon.net • Dist. by Washington Post Writers Group



"Your new hip and knee replacements come with a remote control app. You can choose Tap, Waltz, Foxtrot, Cha-cha, Jitterbug, Texas Two-Step, Irish Folk Dance, and Disco."

ΩΩ



*"Before I give you your results,
I'm going to put on some very sad music."*

THE RUSSIAN DOCTOR

*[Told to Mich & Deborah by a
Ukrainian colleague in 1983 in a
heavy Russian accent.]*

Doctor: Is good, is good.

Patient: Vat is good, doctor?

Doctor: Is good is not me

&

Doctor: How old are you?

Patient: I will be 42 in three weeks.

Doctor: No, you won't.

ΩΩΩ

THE RUSSIAN DOCTOR

*[Told to Mich & Deborah by a
Ukrainian colleague in 1983 in a
heavy Russian accent.]*

Doctor: Is good, is good.

Patient: Vat is good, doctor?

Doctor: Is good is not me

&

Doctor: How old are you?

Patient: I will be 42 in three weeks.

Doctor: No, you won't.

ΩΩ

MR. BRUNELLE EXPLAINS IT ALL

LIFE'S LITTLE SECRETS, REVEALED!



OK, MR. BRUNELLE, FINAL CHECK-IN QUESTION. ON A SCALE OF ONE TO TEN, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY YOUR PAIN LEVEL IS TODAY...?

WELL, DOC...LEMME SEE...



MY HEAD IS A "9", MY BACK IS AN "8", MY FOOT IS A "7, BUT WILL SHOOT UP TO A "10" UNEXPECTEDLY, MEANWHILE, MY GUT IS A "6.5...OR MAYBE 6.9..."



JUST LEMME USE MY CALCULATOR HERE...LESSEE... ARTHRITIC KNEE DIVIDED BY THE SQUARE ROOT OF THE STIFF NECK JOINTS, TIMES THE DOUBLE EAR ACHES...



I'M SORRY I ASKED...

ARE WE INCLUDING EMOTIONAL PAIN IN THE EQUATION....?





If you can't afford a doctor because you live in the USA where health care is not freely available to everyone (as it is in all other rich countries), go to an airport and pretend you are taking a flight. Go through the security screening. You'll get a free X-RAY; if you're a woman you will get a free breast exam. If you mention Al Qaeda, you'll get a free colonoscopy.

Do you take a lot
of selfies?





"There's no shooting, we just make you keep smoking."



“So would anyone in the group care to respond to what Clifford has just shared with us?”

WELL, WELL - IT SEEMS
YOUR WEIGHT IS PERFECT.
YOU JUST HAPPEN TO BE
ELEVEN FEET TOO SHORT.





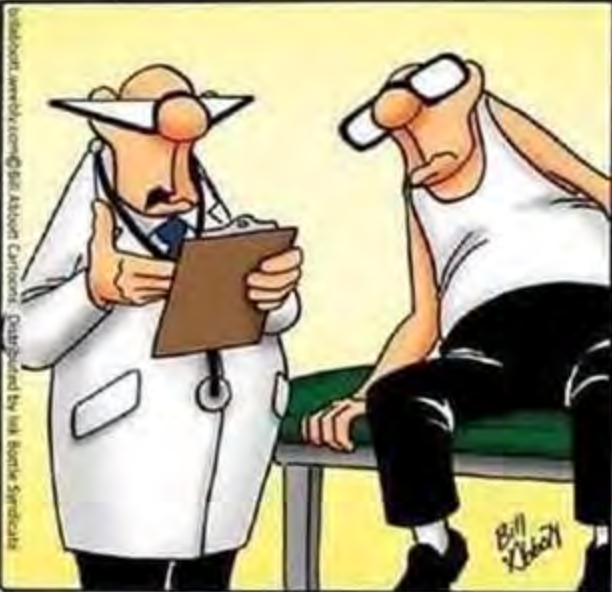


Wouldn't it
be nice if you
read a medicine
bottle that says...

Warning: May
cause permanent
weight loss,
remove wrinkles,
and increase
energy.



"I sure hope we can sign up for health care before we die of natural causes."



“High sodium, high cholesterol, lots of toxins - your blood test is remarkably similar to a potato chip.”



"Siri, where is the heart?"



BLOPER

"You can't sleep? Have you tried meditating, then reading for an hour, then going to the couch, then back to bed, then counting backward from ten million, then taking a sleeping pill?"

OK, NOW JUST
SLEEP NORMALLY...





A precious case from Middle Earth

Nadia Bashir, Nadia Ahmed, Anushka Singh, Yen Zhi Tang, Maria Young, Amina Abba and Elizabeth L Sampson

BMJ 2004;329:1435-1436
doi:10.1136/bmj.329.7480.1435

Updated information and services can be found at:
<http://bmj.com/cgi/content/full/329/7480/1435>

	<i>These include:</i>
Rapid responses	4 rapid responses have been posted to this article, which you can access for free at: http://bmj.com/cgi/content/full/329/7480/1435#responses
	You can respond to this article at: http://bmj.com/cgi/eletter-submit/329/7480/1435
Email alerting service	Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article - sign up in the box at the top right corner of the article

Topic collections	Articles on similar topics can be found in the following collections Other Psychiatry (662 articles)
--------------------------	---

Notes

To order reprints of this article go to:
<http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/reprintform>

To subscribe to *BMJ* go to:
<http://www.bmjournals.com/subscriptions>

A precious case from Middle Earth

Nadia Bashir, Nadia Ahmed, Anushka Singh, Yen Zhi Tang, Maria Young, Amina Abba, Elizabeth L Sampson

Tolkien's character Gollum is certainly disturbed, but is he physically or mentally ill? Gandalf the Wizard provides the history

Sméagol (Gollum) is a single, 587 year old, hobbit-like male of no fixed abode. He has presented with anti-social behaviour, increasing aggression, and preoccupation with the "one ring."

Sméagol comes from a wealthy and influential family, his grandmother being a wise woman in the river folk community. Nothing is known about Sméagol's birth or schooling. He was spiteful to others and had only one friend, Deagol, whom he later murdered after stealing the ring from him. For Sméagol this was an important life event; the ring enabled him to disappear and listen secretly to conversations. His family and community, appalled by his actions and believing he was a thief and murderer, banished him to a solitary life in the misty mountains. He lived for many years with the ring as his only friend and began to detest the outside world—loathing the sun, moon, and wind. He ate only live animals or raw fish. Eventually Sméagol created Gollum, the outsider, who had a more violent personality. When Gollum was 25, the ring was stolen by Bilbo Baggins.¹ Since then Gollum has had obsessional thoughts and has dedicated his life to reacquiring it, sometimes with violence.

His forensic history consists of Deagol's murder and the attempted murder of Samwise Gamgee. He has no history of substance misuse, although like many young hobbits he smoked "pipe weed" in adolescence. Sméagol has forgotten many memories of his childhood, and we have limited collateral history on his premorbid personality. Before obtaining the ring he was an inquisitive child with odd interests, who enjoyed causing mischief and solitary activities such as burrowing under trees to look at roots. He dislikes himself, stale raw fish, and "hobbitses."



Gollum, from the film trilogy *Lord of the Rings*

Mental state examination

On general examination, Gollum is a pale, emaciated hobbit, with scanty hair and big eyes: "A skulking gangrel creature with an ill-favoured look."² He is unkempt and wearing only the remains of a loin cloth. He displays animal-like behaviour, including crawling and hopping. He shows no evidence of clinical depression, although he subjectively feels sad and is anxious to be reunited with his "precious"—the ring. Objectively, he is emotionally labile and becomes jittery and nervous when discussing the ring. His speech is abnormal and he repeats phrases and noises—for example, "Yes, yes, yes" and "Gollum, gollum." In *The Hobbit* Tolkien writes of the many solitary years Gollum spent in the misty mountains: "He always spoke to himself through never having anyone else to speak to."²

There is no disorder of the form of thought. He uses neologisms such as "triksy" and "hobbitses." Gollum has nihilistic thoughts, believing that he is a murderer, liar, and thief; although there is some basis in fact for this and he shows little guilt or remorse. He is preoccupied with, and deeply desires, the ring. He has obsessive thoughts but no compulsions, though he would do anything for the ring. He is hostile towards Frodo, the current owner of the ring. He has paranoid ideation about Sauron ("the eye is always watching") and about Samwise Gamgee ("the fat hobbit... he knows"). Gollum has difficulty controlling his thoughts and actions, exacerbated by prolonged contact with the ring. As Gandalf and Frodo have similar symptoms in the presence of the ring, we can attribute this somatic passivity to the ring. There are features of dissociation. Sméagol has separated his personality and is now Gollum as well.

He shows no evidence of any cognitive impairment. He has poor insight into his condition but he is aware of the Gollum-Sméagol dissociation.

Diagnosis

Several differential diagnoses need to be considered, and we should exclude organic causes for his symptoms. A space occupying lesion such as a brain tumour is unlikely as his symptoms are long standing. Gollum's diet is extremely limited, consisting only of raw fish. Vitamin B-12 deficiency may cause irritability, delusions, and paranoia. His reduced appetite and loss of hair and weight may be associated with iron deficiency anaemia. He is hypervigilant and does not seem to need much sleep. This, accompanied by his bulging eyes and weight loss, suggests hyperthyroidism. Gollum's dislike of sunlight may be due to the photosensitivity of porphyria. Attacks may be induced by starvation and accompanied by paranoid psychosis.

An internet search found over 1300 sites discussing the nature of Gollum's "mental illness." We asked 30 randomly selected medical students if they thought Gollum

Department of Mental Health Sciences, Royal Free and University College Medical School, London NW3 2PF

Nadia Bashir

medical student

Nadia Ahmed

medical student

Anushka Singh

medical student

Yen Zhi Tang

medical student

Maria Young

medical student

Amina Abba

medical student

Elizabeth L

Sampson

lecturer in old age psychiatry

Correspondence to:

E L Sampson

[e.sampson@](mailto:e.sampson@rfc.ucl.ac.uk)

rfc.ucl.ac.uk

BMJ 2004;329:1435-6

Taking a leaf out of an old book

had a mental illness. Schizophrenia was the most common diagnosis (25 students), followed by multiple personality disorder (three). On initial consideration schizophrenia seems a reasonable diagnosis. However, in the context of the culture at the time it is unlikely. Delusions are false, unshakeable beliefs, not in keeping with the patient's culture. In Middle Earth, the power of the ring is a reality. The passivity phenomena Gollum experiences are caused by the ring, and these symptoms occur in all ring bearers. Gollum does not fulfil the ICD-10 criteria for the diagnosis of schizophrenia.³

The presence of two personalities, Gollum and Sméagol, raises the possibility of multiple personality disorder. In this diagnosis one personality is suppressed by the other and the two personalities are always unaware of each other's existence.³ In this case, Gollum and Sméagol occur together, have conversations simultaneously, and are aware of each other's existence.

Gollum displays pervasive maladaptive behaviour that has been present since childhood with a persistent

disease course. His odd interests and spiteful behaviour have led to difficulty in forming friendships and have caused distress to others. He fulfils seven of the nine criteria for schizoid personality disorder (ICD F60.1), and, if we must label Gollum's problems, we believe that this is the most likely diagnosis.

We thank Peter "Treebeard" Raven for his encouragement.

Contributors and sources: NB, NA, AS, YZT, MY, and AA came up with the idea and participated in the design, analysis, interpretation of data, and writing of the article. ELS was responsible for writing the paper and revising it critically for publication and is the guarantor.

Funding: ELS is funded by the Royal Free and University College Medical School and Camden and Islington Mental Health and Social Care Trust

Competing interests: We are all of short stature and have very large, hairy feet.

1 Tolkien JRR. *The lord of the rings*. London: George Allen & Unwin, 1954-5.

2 Tolkien JRR. *The hobbit*. London: George Allen & Unwin, 1937.

3 World Health Organization. *International statistical classification of disease and related health problems*. 10th revision. Geneva: WHO, 1992.

YOU'RE COMPLETELY, 100%
HEALTHY... I'M REFERRING YOU
TO A DOCTOR WHO SPECIALIZES
IN THAT.



6-9
SPEEDBUMP.COM
© 2010 COVERLY

DIST. BY CREATORS



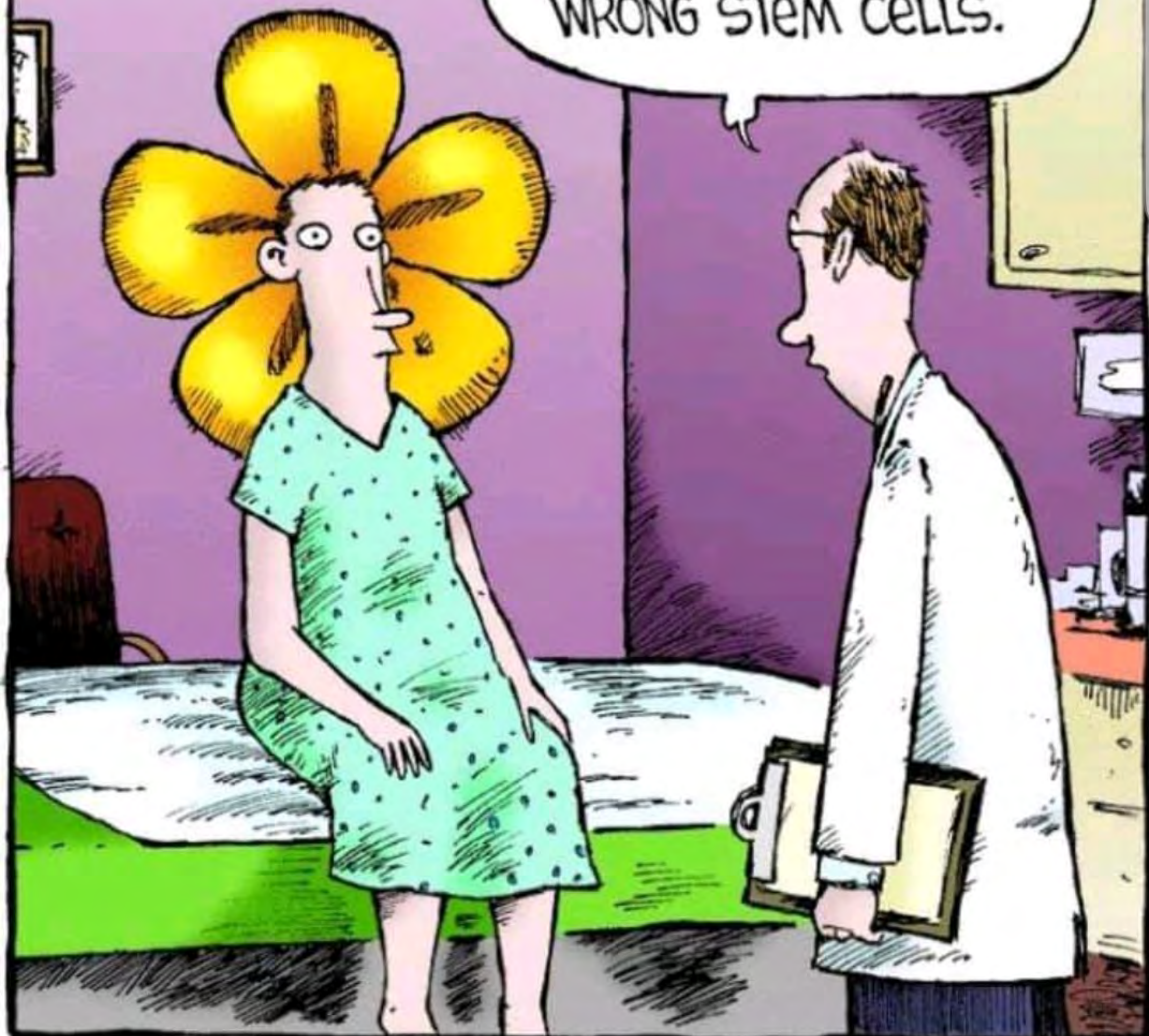
"You have sprouts. It's something couch potatoes get after sitting for too long."



HERMAN®

“You’ve got to start sometime. Why don’t you operate on this one?”

I'M THINKING WE
INJECTED YOU WITH THE
WRONG STEM CELLS.



OUR CONSTANT RESCHEDULING
OF YOUR STRESS TEST WAS THE
FIRST PART OF THE STRESS TEST.



© 2001
COWLEY
SPEED
BUMP.COM
DIST. BY CREATORS

WARNING !!!



Patient will be charged Extra
for annoying the doctor with
self-diagnosis gotten off the
internet



P
U
S
H



How many surgeons does it take to change a lightbulb?

None. You don't need it out today, but if it continues to give you trouble in the future, you should consider removing it. Call my office to schedule a date six months from now if you can afford the copay.

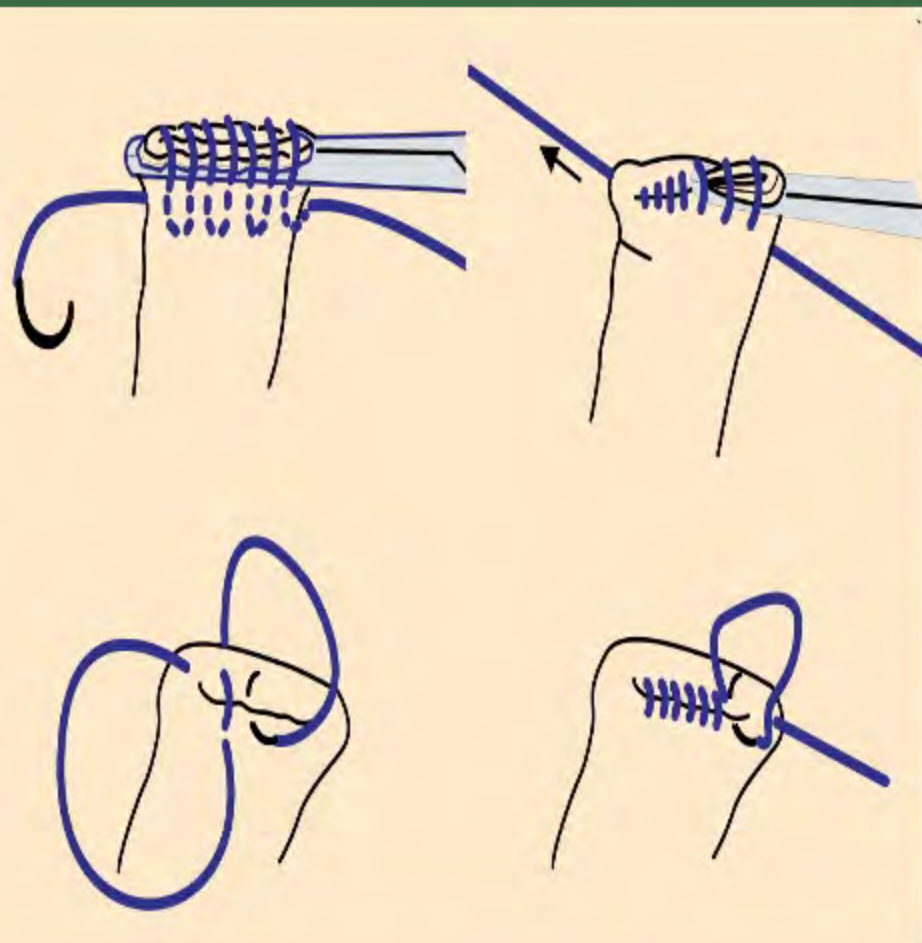
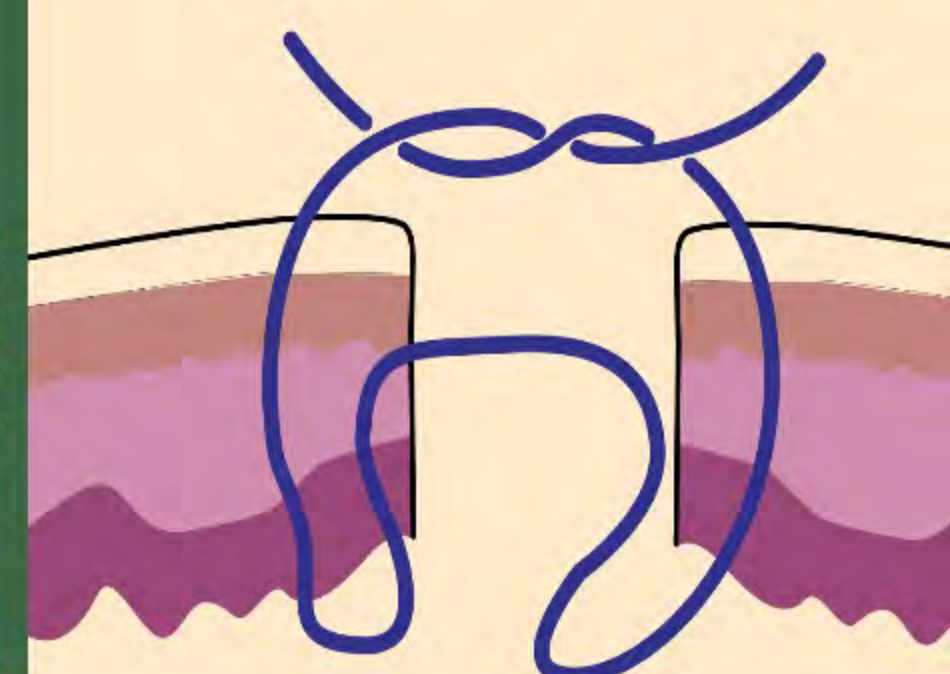
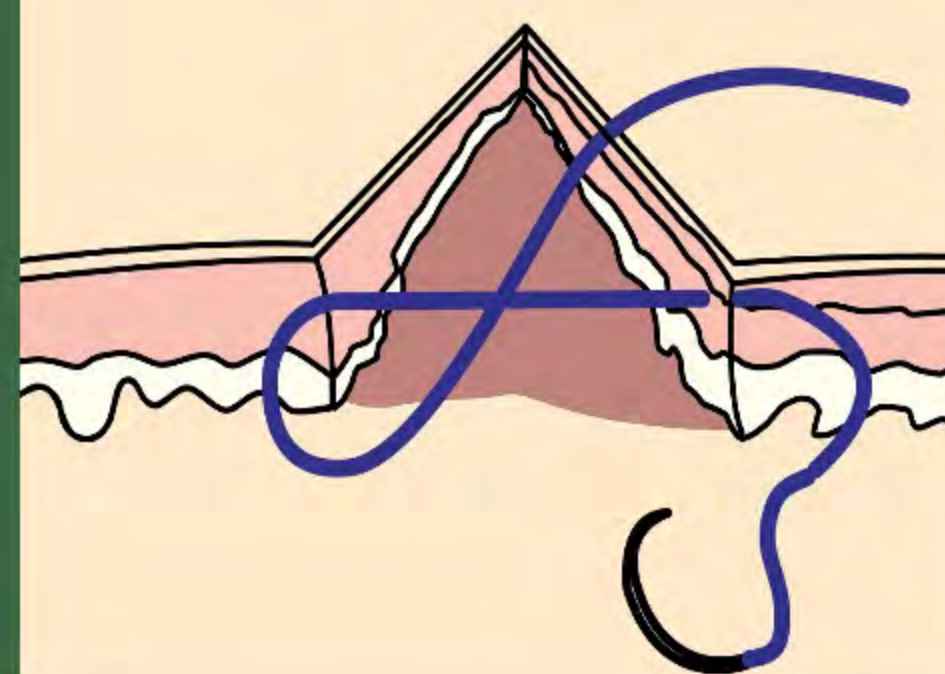
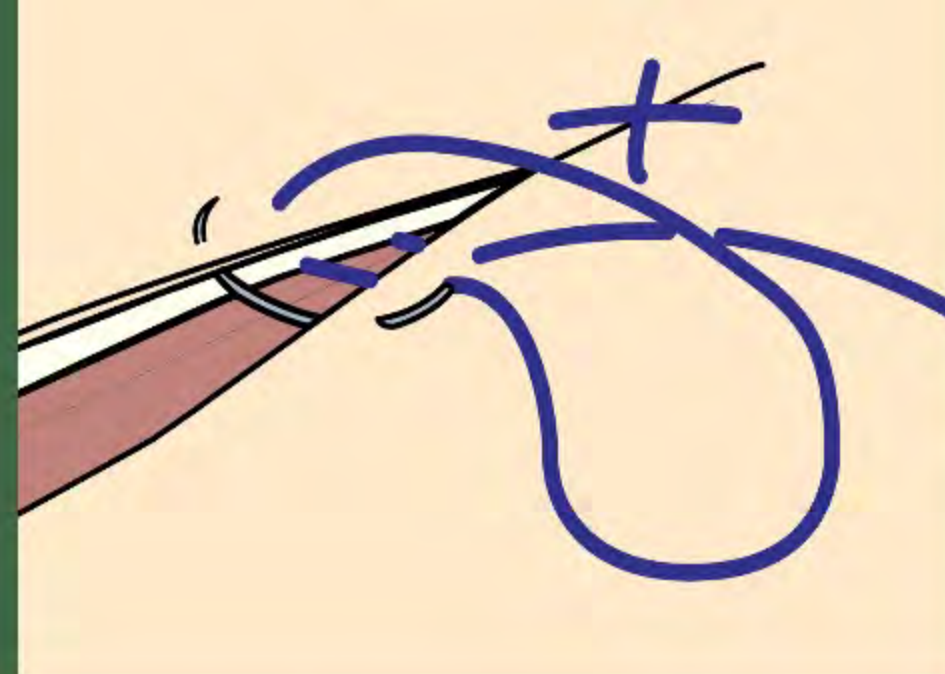
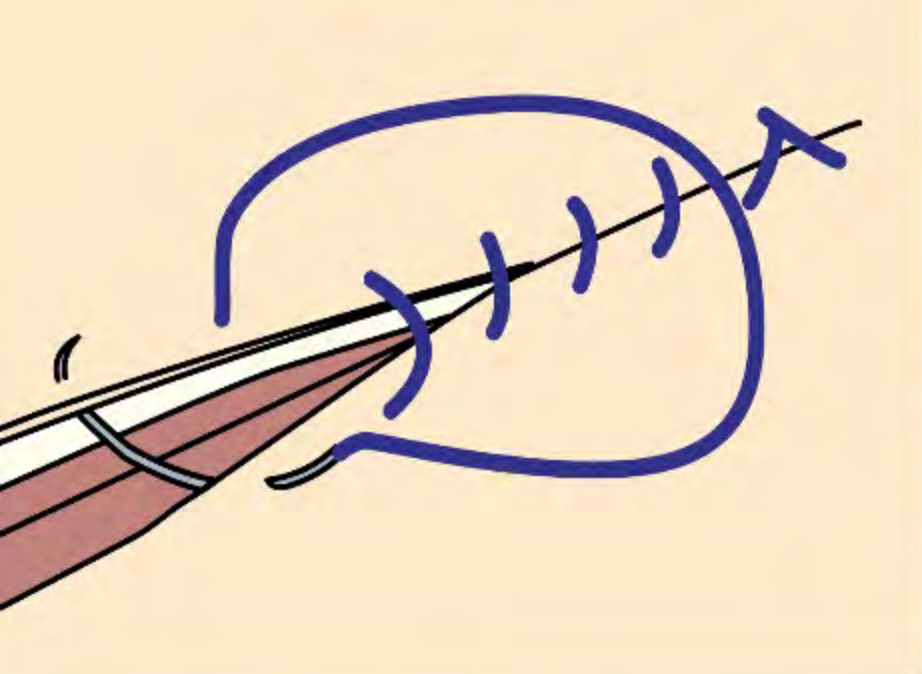
-Prairie Home Companion

Johnson, you idiot!
You've armed the damn
thing! She's gonna
blowwwww!



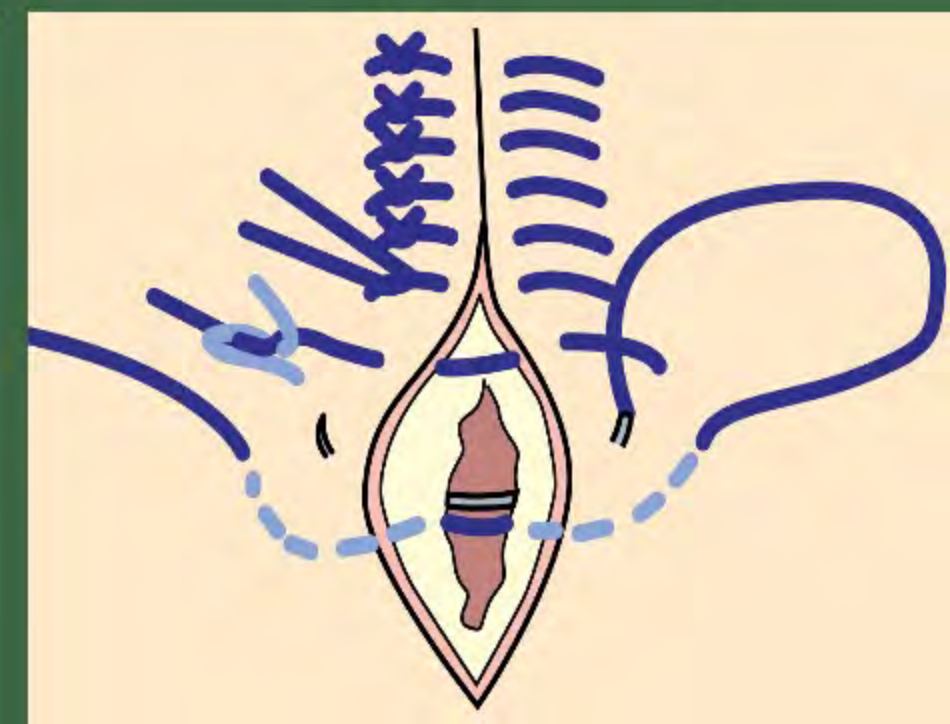
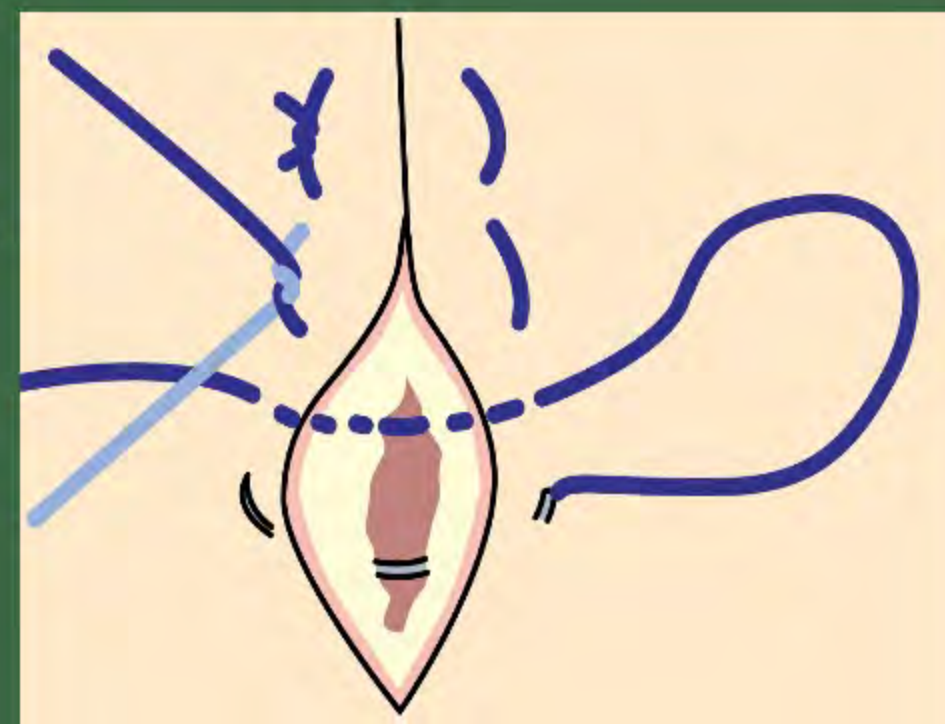
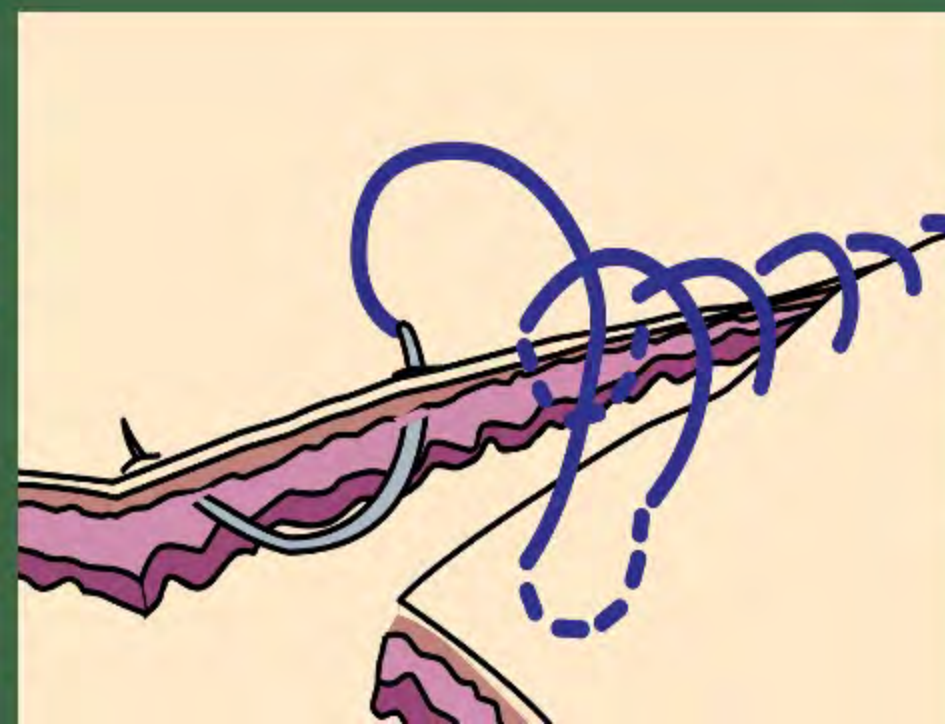
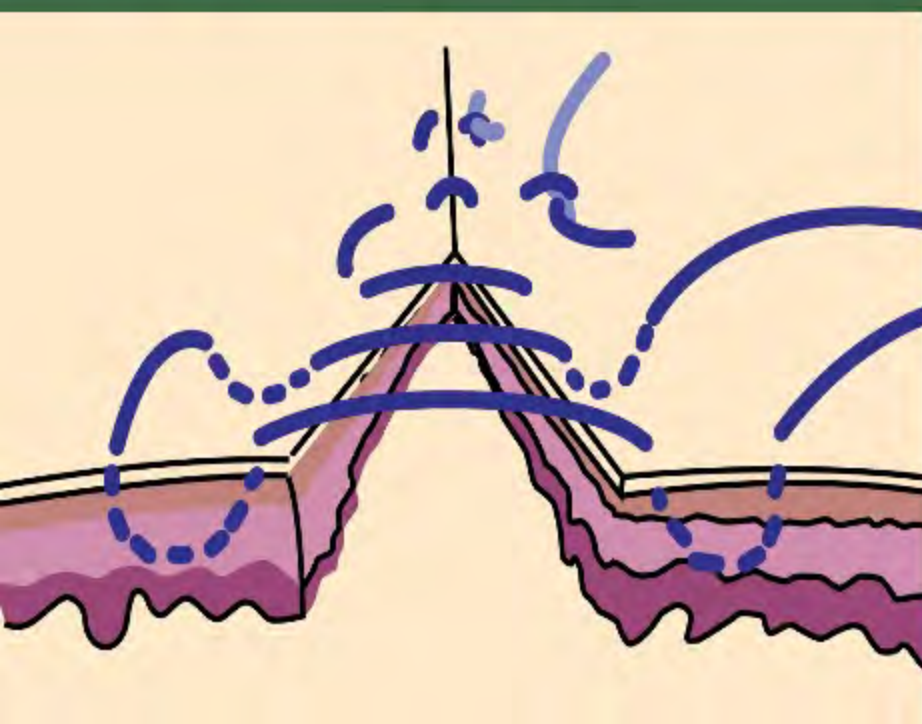
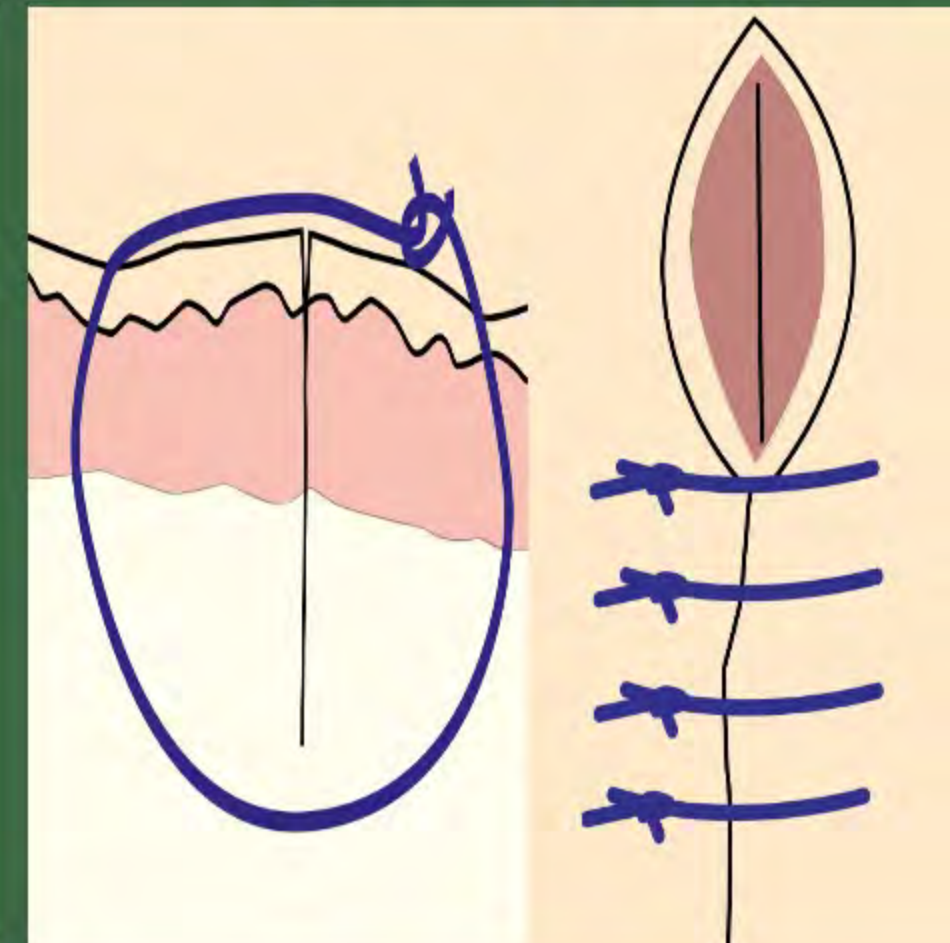
**Wow, I think you
went too far with
the plastic surgery!**





**I told the surgeon I would like
to close up my own incision by
myself.**

She said, "OK, suture self."



FEELS LIKE
THERE'S
CORROSION
AROUND MY
KNEE.

HMM ... I DON'T SEE ANY
REDDISH-BROWN OXIDE.
SOUNDS LIKE A CASE OF
RUSTLESS LEG SYNDROME.

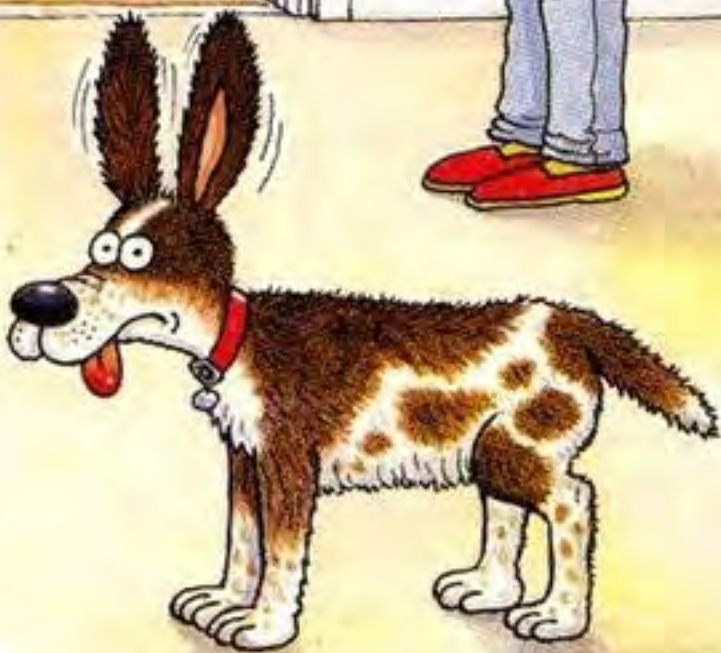


SCOTT
HILBURN

3/4

©2022 Scott Hilburn/Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

HAVE YOU SEEN THE
VIAGRA TABLET I LEFT
ON THE COFFEE TABLE?



Mack.

The second time Hansel and Gretel found a house made of cookies and candy, they sent someone else in to test-nibble it first.



This technique became known as Munch Housen by Proxy.



"The real question is, where'd you get all these pictures of my mother?"



HERMAN®

9-8

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc., Dist. by Universal Uclick, 2014

**“The results of your tests were
negative. Get lost!”**

PEOPLE ALWAYS TRY
TO TAKE ADVANTAGE
OF ME.

DilbertCartoonist@gmail.com

I KNOW
WHAT YOU
MEAN.

I LOST FIVE
POUNDS AND MY
HUSBAND DIDN'T
NOTICE!

I CAME HOME LAST
NIGHT AND HE HADN'T
EVEN CLEANED THE
GARAGE LIKE HE
PROMISED.

I HAD TO PARK
ON THE STREET!

IS IT MY IMAGINA-
TION, OR HAVE YOU
FOUND A CLEVER WAY
TO MAKE PEOPLE PAY
TO LISTEN TO YOU
COMPLAIN?

TELL ME MORE
ABOUT HOW YOU
THINK I'M
CLEVER.

© 2012 Scott Adams, Inc. All rights reserved. www.dilbert.com

YOU'RE
OVERTHINKING
EVERYTHING!





“That too tight?”

I'm afraid you've been a
conch potato far too long.

BIZARRO.COM

Drawn by Universal Press Synd.

RODAN
PIRARO
8.22.02

I'M TAKING ANGER MANAGEMENT
CLASSES AND TRACKING MY
WEEKLY PROGRESS...

comics.com



YOU GOTTA HELP ME, DOC! I
KEEP SEEING PALINDROMES
AND IT FREAKS ME OUT!!!



I'M GONNA
PRESCRIBE
YOU XANAX.

QWIK

WHILE YOU WATCH THESE
HAPPY-GO-LUCKY PEOPLE
WHO SUPPOSEDLY USE
OUR DRUG, WE'LL RECITE A
LONG LIST OF NAUSEATING,
POSSIBLY FATAL
SIDE EFFECTS...



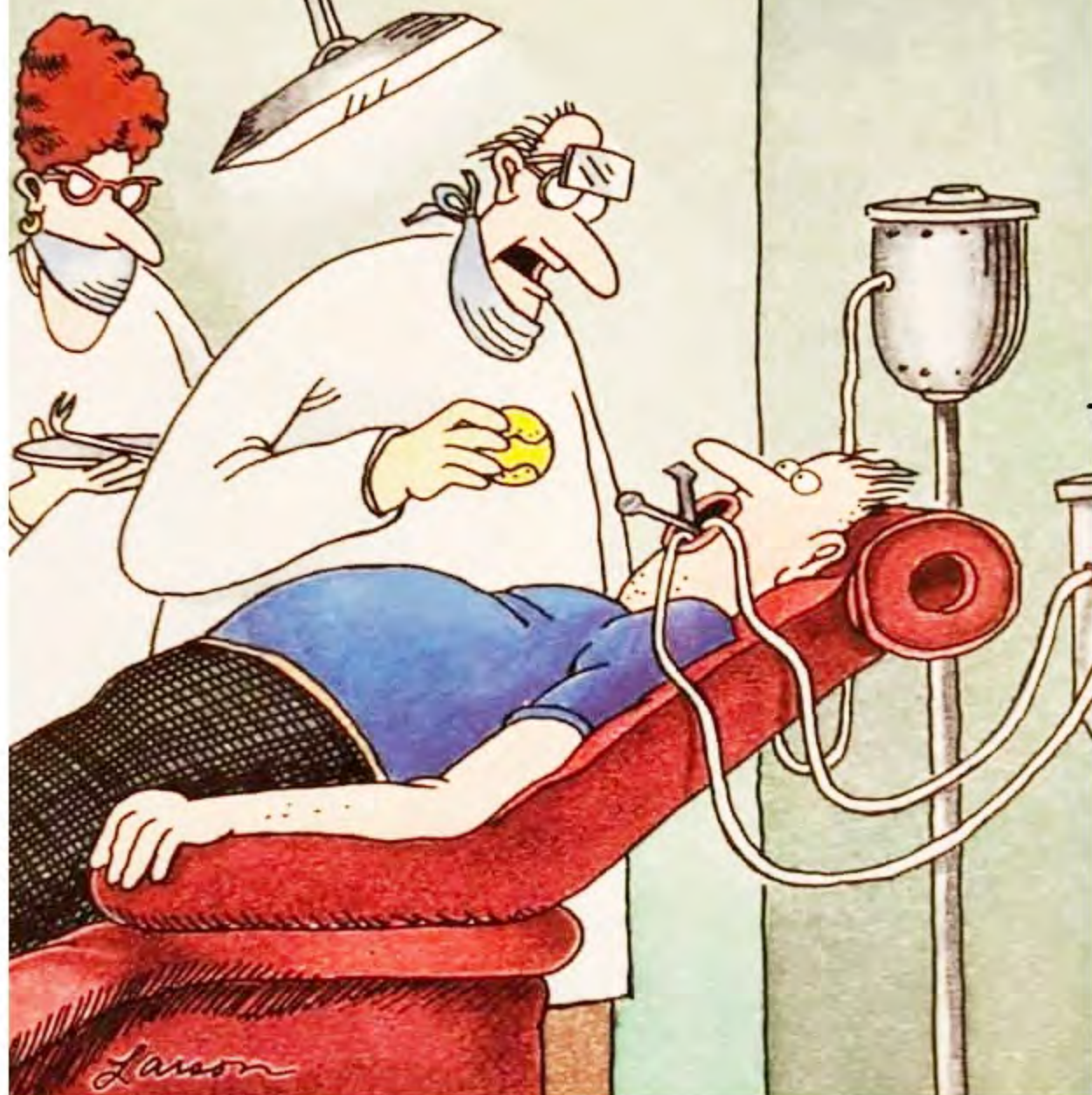
TRUTH IN ADVERTISING

12-16

©COPYRIGHT 2017
BY BILL WHITEHEAD
DISTRIBUTED BY
CREATORS.COM Facebook.com/FreeRangeComic

BILL
WHITEHEAD

"Now open even wider, Mr Stevens – just out of curiosity, we're going to see if we can just also cram in this tennis ball."



THERE IS NO KNOWN DISEASE
CAUSING YOUR SYMPTOMS.
BUT, DON'T WORRY, WE'LL
CREATE ONE, ALONG WITH AN
EXPENSIVE PHARMACEUTICAL
DRUG, LOADED WITH
DANGEROUS SIDE EFFECTS.





Quick, doctor!
Boy or girl?
I have to update my FB
status right away!!

→ FIRST & MAIN ←
UROLOGY CLINIC
"ALWAYS LOOKING OUT FOR #1"





"Who's coping with his fear of the vacuum? Are you coping with your fear of the vacuum? Are you? Yes, you are!"



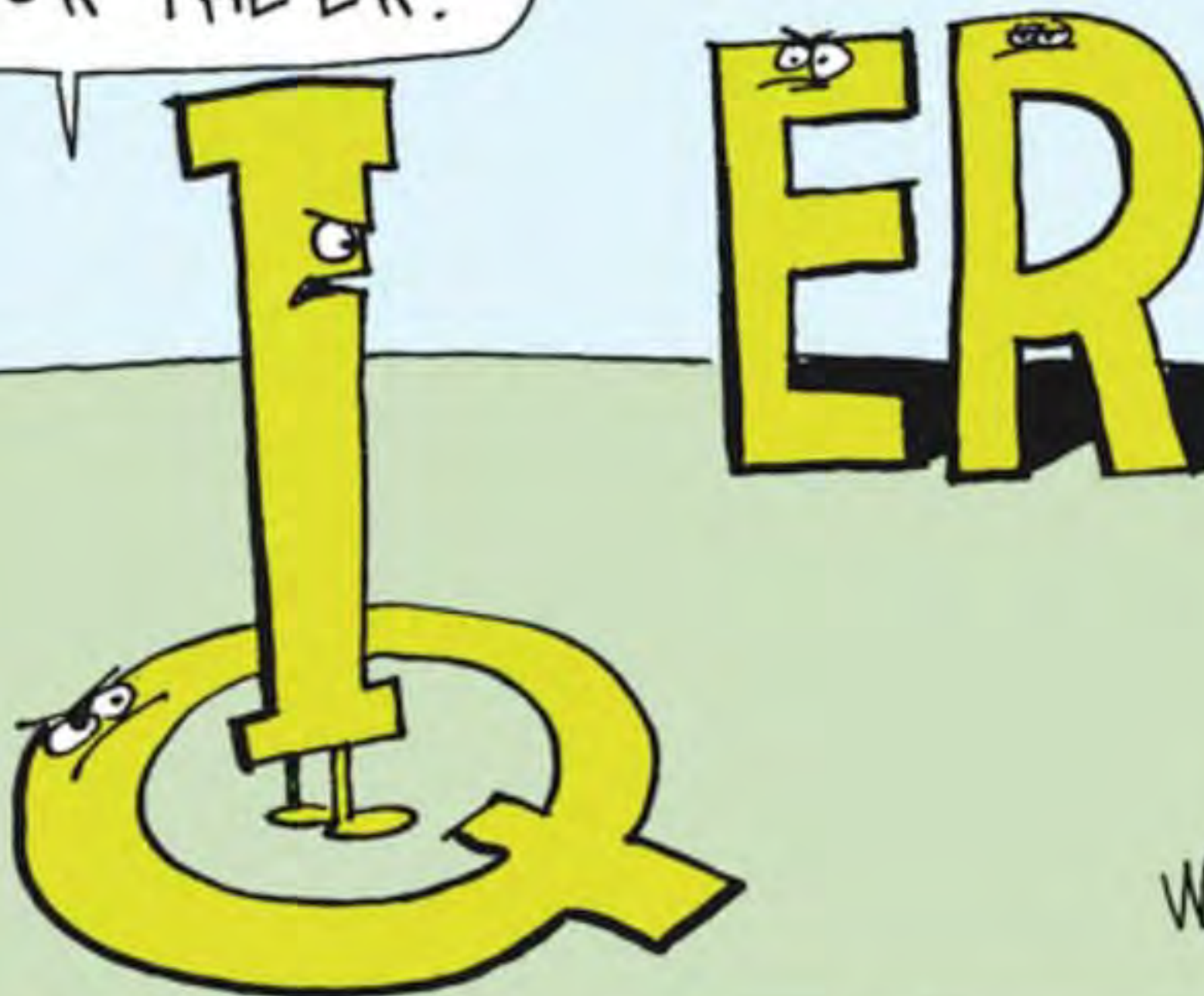
8-24

© LaughingStock Licensing Inc., Dist. by Universal Uclick, 2015

**"I'll have to open you up again;
that watch has great sentimental value."**

EXCUSE ME! I'VE BEEN
STANDING IN THE 'Q'
FOR AN HOUR
WAITING
FOR THE ER!

WAITING FOR
US? WHAT DO
YOU WANT US
TO DO?



WHAND
8-26

IR RITABLE VOWEL

MAYBE SWITCH TO PLAN 'A'? —



SORRY
ABOUT THE WAIT...
HOW'S THE
KITTEN?

VETERINARY

WORMS



WORMS
WORMS
WORMS



3/WEX-SEX



ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTER

Directory

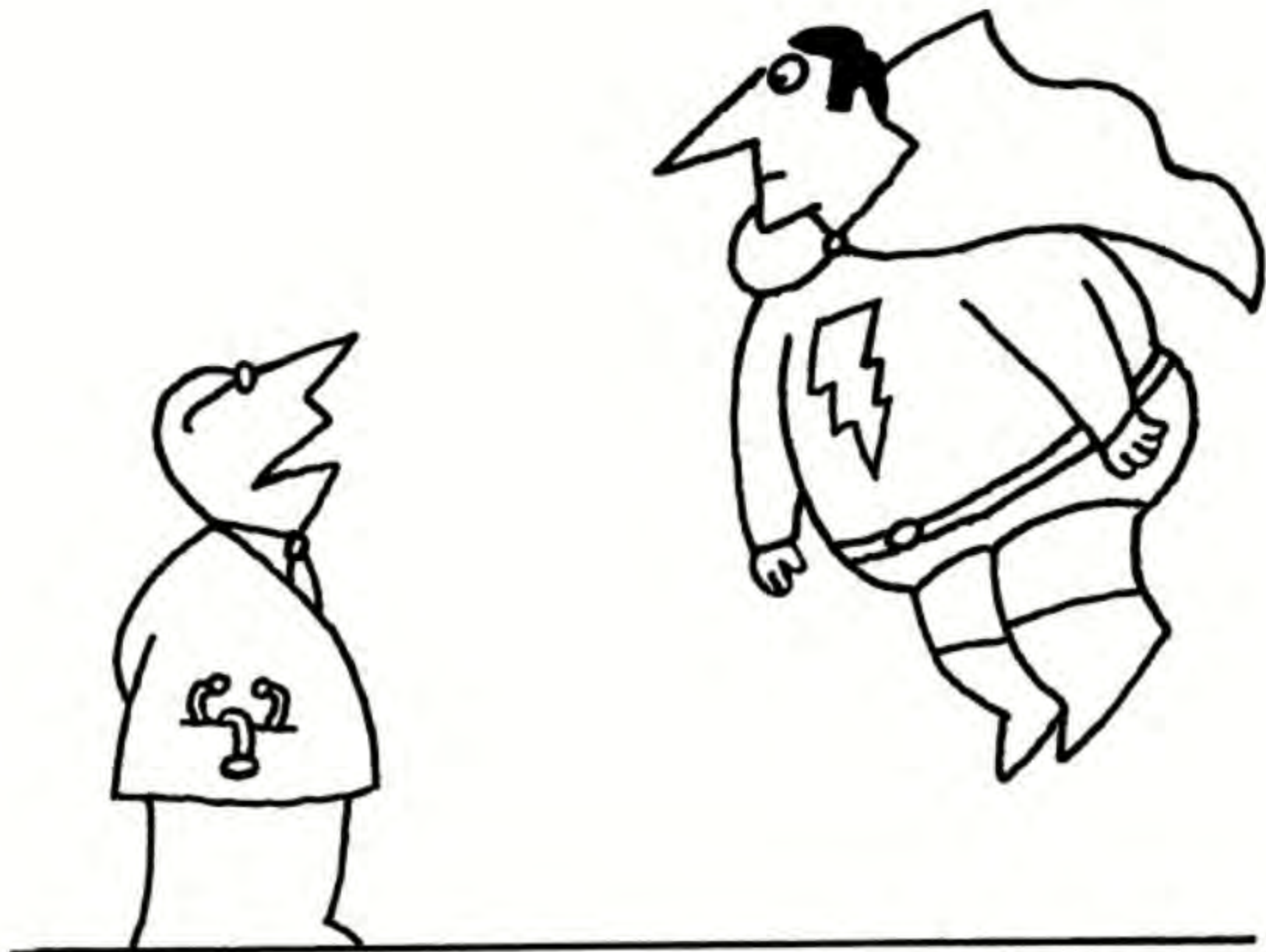
1st floor – Facebook

2nd floor – Twitter

3rd floor – Instagram

Rooftop – Texting while walking





C. Burdett

"That's great, but you still have to walk more."

**AFTER MY PROSTATE EXAM THE DOCTOR LEFT
AND THE NURSE CAME IN.**



**AS SHE SHUT THE DOOR SHE WHISPERED
THREE WORDS NO MAN WANTS TO HEAR.
"WHO WAS THAT?"**

**A wise doctor
once wrote ...**



Handwritten scribbles resembling a signature or a series of connected loops, drawn in white on the black background.

CONGRATULATIONS,
IT'S A BABY, YODA.

CUT THE CORD,
I WILL.



creators.com

© 2022 Leigh Rubin!

7-11

leigh@rubescartoons.com

OB-GYN Kenobi

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THE
POSSIBILITY THAT YOU'RE ONLY
RUNNING FROM YOURSELF?

