

Solution and Hint Guide

Discover Infection Mechanism

Insights and solution walk-through

This puzzle is solved when teams make these observations: each doctor on the list matches one of the lines in the notes; the doctor names are appropriate for their specialties (eg, Dr. Oulde is a geriatric specialist – “old”); the enumerations on each line of notes is one longer than the name of an appropriate doctor; the words missing in each line of notes is an anagram of a doctor matching that specialty, plus a letter; the extra letters, taken in order of the notes page, read out a message. That intermediate message is ‘a multiple of a fundamental tone’ and is meant to clue ‘harmonic’ for the final answer.

Correct and alternative answers

The correct answer is ‘harmonic’. ‘Overtone’ is an okay alternative but correct the team to ‘harmonic’.

Suggested hints

Stuck and hasn’t started anything: direct their attention to the notes that include “...treated Jason _____ ...” and “...has a tiny _____ Vader figurine...”. These clues should be easy to get.

Some clues filled in but hasn’t made the connection with doctors: “Have you counted how many doctors you have? How many lines of notes you have?” Get the team to make the connection that each doctor matches a line of notes.

Hasn’t gotten the anagram + letter insight: focus attention on the Vader line. That’s ‘darth’ = ‘hart’ + ‘d’.

Has the riddle message but doesn’t know what a fundamental tone is: tell them the answer. This step is not meant to be hard – please just say that it’s a music or signal science thing and that the answer is ‘harmonic.’

Wants a specific answer? Just give it to them:

Dr. Greys	This geriatric specialist advises his patients to eat well, but he himself is a fan of _____ food. (6)	greasy
Dr. Hopper	To be more dynamic, this podiatrist’s web site needs _____. (4 3)	more php
Dr. Boner	This orthopedic specialist treated Jason _____ before he lost his identity. (6)	bourne
Dr. Karve	This surgeon wears cut-proof surgical gloves made of _____. (6)	kevlar
Dr. Shoemaker	This podiatrist is located near the Jewish deli that sells several types of _____. (6 4)	kosher meat
Dr. Spott	This dermatologist wrote my prescription on a _____ note. (4 2)	post it
Dr. Au	Without syringes, this anesthesiologist would be _____ creek without a paddle. (2 1)	up a
Dr. Winker	This fastidious ophthalmologist irons every _____ out of his shirt before starting work. (7)	wrinkle
Dr. Snott	This ear / nose / throat specialist misdirected my mail; it was _____ my neighbor. (4 2)	sent to
Dr. Rothschild	This pediatrician moves so much her children are attending their _____ this year. (5 6)	third school
Dr. Armstrong	This orthopedic specialist has received many _____ the NIH. (6 4)	grants from
Dr. Pollan	This ear / nose / throat specialist is still on his original, dial-up _____ for getting online. (3 4)	aol plan
Dr. Oulde	This geriatric specialist _____ out in his last college basketball game. (6)	fouled
Dr. Crabbe	This cancer specialist saw a really cute _____ with its mother while hiking in Yellowstone. (4 3)	bear cub
Dr. Boyle	This dermatologist tells me there can _____ one cause for my ailment. (2 4)	be only
Dr. Hart	This cardiologist has a tiny _____ Vader figurine in her office. (5)	darth
Dr. Foote	This podiatrist has a chair in the shape _____ in his waiting room. (2 1 3)	of a toe
Dr. Ichinose	This ear / nose / throat specialist will talk about doctor salaries but will not disclose _____. (3 6)	his income
Dr. Sharp	This surgeon is known for his quick wit and turns of _____. (6)	phrase
Dr. Kidman	This pediatrician wants all of _____ to play together like nice children. (7)	mankind
Dr. Cutler	There was hardly room to walk through this surgeon’s office with all the _____. (7)	clutter
Dr. Brayne	This neurologist is near the end of her one-_____ from practicing in Canada. (4 3)	year ban
Dr. DeKay	This dentist is proud of his hunting trophy from _____ 2009. (3 3)	elk day
Dr. Pilsner	This pharmacist had nothing to help take the wooden _____ out of my finger. (8)	splinter
Dr. Skinner	Even though this dermatologist is a _____ she enjoys visiting the mountains in winter. (3 5)	non-skier
Dr. Payne	At today’s prices, this anesthesiologist tells me _____ can buy four minutes of nitrous oxide. (1 5)	a penny
Dr. Youngman	This pediatrician offered the kids Doublemint, saying “_____, _____?” (3 6)	gum anyone