

The Synapse!

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ATP: Unbelievable Medical Conditions!

Hi Arizona HOSA members! This month's issue is going to be dedicated to unbelievable medical conditions and the science behind them as Halloween, the scariest holiday of them all, is this month. Get read to be spooked by all of the crazy things that can happen to the human body! You won't believe your eyes! Happy Halloween!

- Trimethylaminuria - Fish Odor Disease

Trimethylaminuria is known for producing a smelly odor, much like that of rotting fish! The disease is characterized by lacking flavin monooxygenase 3, the enzyme responsible for altering the smelly substance, trimethylamine. The trimethylamine is usually changed to trimethylamine-N-oxide, a neutral substance without an offensive odor, but the disease stops this process. Weird to think we could smell like fish even after eating sushi!



<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3848652/>

- Epidermodysplasia Verruciformis - Tree Man Disease

This disease is noticeable by a collection of bark like warts on the skin. Extremely rare, the disease was hard to research and leaving for a medical mystery. It so happens that the tree like growths are results of an HPV-2 virus infection that had gone rampant. They can grow quite large and cumbersome to the infected person. Dede Koswara is one of the most well known cases. Living without proper medical support, he was susceptible to the disease as his white blood cell count had been lowered. He has now received care to help remove the bark like warts, helping to bring him to health!



<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/1895809/Tree-man-regains-use-of-hands-New-pictures.html>

<http://www.cnn.com/2008/HEALTH/conditions/10/02/treeman.wart.skin.disorder/>

- Hypertrichosis - Werewolf Syndrome

Werewolf syndrome causes the person with the symptoms to be excessively hairy, even werewolf like, hence the name. The SOX3 gene on the X chromosome has a mutation causing the excess of hair. It is sometimes very difficult to get rid of the extra hair. Laser hair removal is often used if traditional methods do not work. There have been fewer than 100 cases, but it is crazy to think there are people like real werewolves in our world!



<http://www.livescience.com/14430-werewolf-disorder-gene-discovered-excess-hair.html>



Past State Officer!

This month's Past State Officer, I'm proud to say, is Ms. Selah Bratt. Selah was the 2010-2011 Arizona HOSA State Secretary and the 2011-2012 Arizona HOSA Post-Secondary Vice President for the Central Region. Since Selah has been a State Officer, she has been incredibly busy! She focused on her education first to get a jump start with her choice of career. Selah first went to Gateway Community College and became a Physical Therapist Assistant before moving on to Grand Canyon University to further her education.



**Selah Bratt
2011-2012**

She graduated recently from GCU with a Bachelors in Exercise Science to move forward towards her dream career. Selah currently works at OSR Rehabilitation as a PT tech and she loves her job. Selah plans to continue her education to become a physical therapist and hopes to move to a state with no deserts and settle into her life and work. The AzHOSA Team is so proud of Selah and all that she has achieved since she was a state officer. We hope she achieves all she wants in her career and life.



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