COVID-19 is a viral illness that has been associated with nonspecific symptoms such as fatigue and high fevers, and nonspecific lab findings including transaminitis, elevated inflammatory markers, and thrombocytopenia. During the summer in Connecticut, while in the COVID-19 pandemic, it can be difficult to distinguish COVID-19 infection from other infections that way present in this way, including tick-borne illnesses.

In patients with fevers and lab findings significant for thrombocytopenia, transaminitis, elevated D-dimer, ferritin, LDH, CRP, it is very easy to understand why physicians would have a high suspicion of COVID-19 infection during the current pandemic. However, it is important to continue to think critically regarding other infections that can present in this way, including tick-borne illnesses especially in high risk locations such as Connecticut and in individuals that engage in outdoor activities. We should continue to take thorough histories regarding exposure risk, and keep our differential diagnoses broad, not allowing high suspicion for COVID-19 infection to obscure our clinical reasoning.