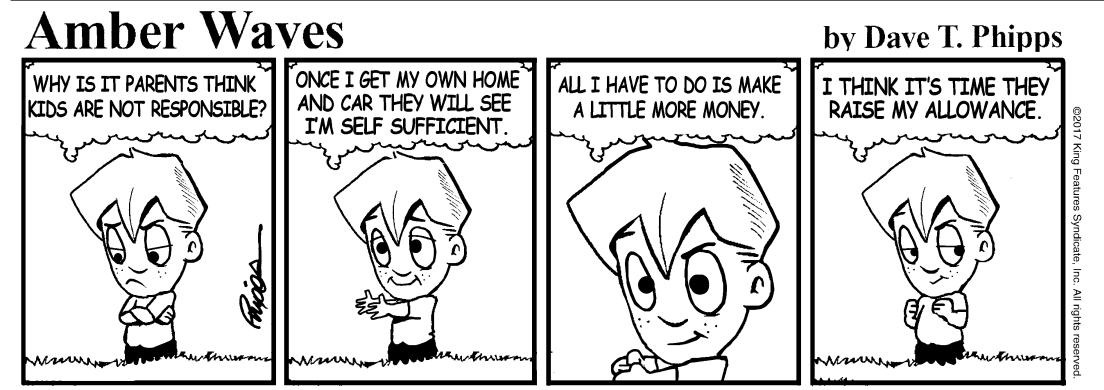
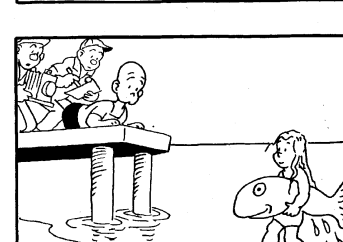
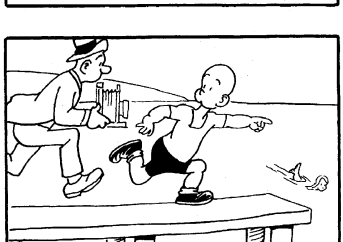
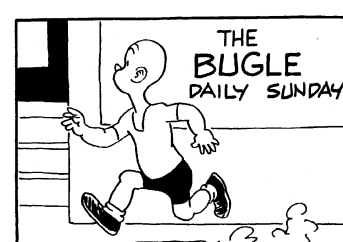
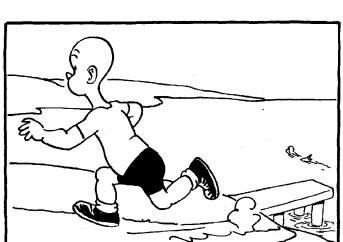
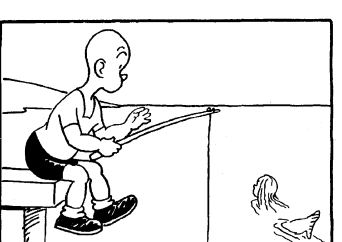
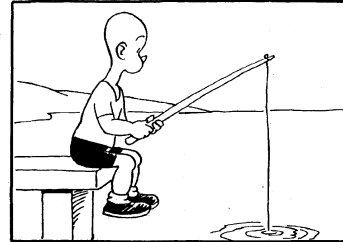
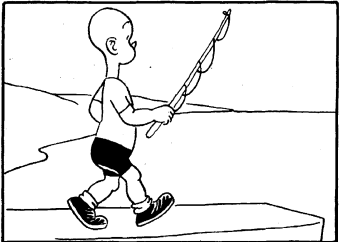
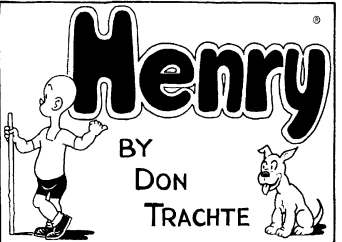
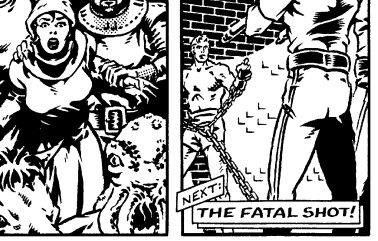
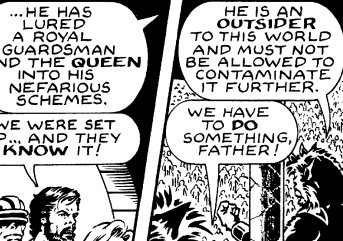
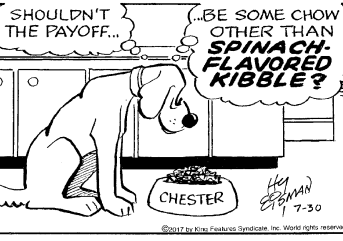
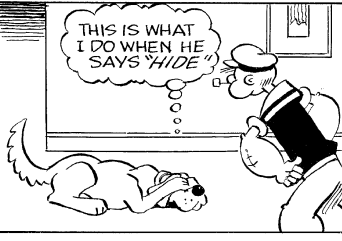
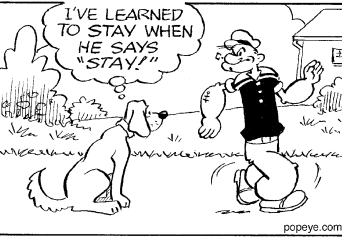
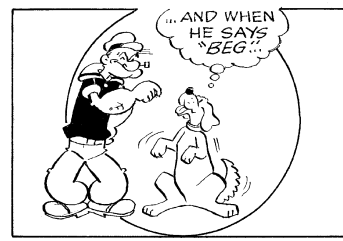
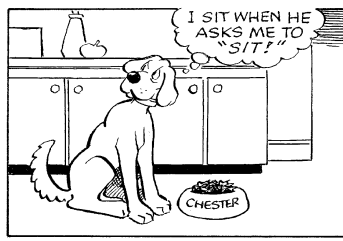
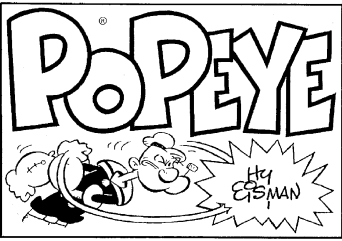


SIDE SHOW



TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

What Kind of Doctor Is a 'Hospitalist'?

DEAR DR. ROACH: I recently spent four days in the hospital for a respiratory infection. I was not admitted to my primary-care doctor's service, but had three names on my wristband. When I inquired as to who they were, I was told that they were hospitalists. They would see me and communicate with my primary-care physician. I did not see the same doctor more than once in my four-day admission. When I saw my PCP after discharge, he did say he had been in contact with the hospitalists.

Is this common? Who is absorbing the cost? Does my PCP bill for consultation? -- M.M.E.

ANSWER: Hospitalists are specialists in inpatient medicine. Hospitalists typically have no outpatient responsibilities, and spend the entire day in the hospital taking care of admitted patients only. Because they are constantly in the hospital, they

usually can see an admitted patient more expeditiously than a doctor with outpatient responsibilities, and they tend to become expert and efficient at managing serious illness requiring hospitalization. Most studies comparing hospitalists with doctors who do both outpatient and inpatient medicine have shown that hospitalists facilitate decreased lengths of stay in the hospital and at least as good medical outcomes. The theory is that by specializing in just inpatient medicine, one can become expert as well as very efficient at using the resources available at a particular hospital.

The potential downside of hospitalists is that the personal knowledge about a particular patient isn't as high. Your PCP knows you -- hopefully very well, if he or she has been taking care of you for a long time. Although your records may be available to the hospitalists, it isn't the same as personal knowledge. That being said, with good communication (both ways) between your doctor and the hospitalists, the quality of care can be excellent.

There is no doubt that the hospitalist model is increasing in prevalence in the U.S. and Canada.

In answer to your question, your insurance company (or the govern-

ment) pays the hospitalist directly. The PCP does not bill for consultation.

DEAR DR. ROACH: My husband has Meniere's disease. We cannot find anyone who can help him. Is there any medication for this? -- L.M.

ANSWER: Meniere's disease causes episodes of vertigo, tinnitus and eventually hearing loss. It is caused by swelling in the organ of balance in the inner ear, but the reason for the swelling isn't clear.

Before being seen by a doctor, your husband can try to identify triggers for the attacks. Common triggers include a high-salt diet, tobacco, alcohol and stress. A low-salt diet can dramatically reduce episodes.

ENT doctors are usually expert in treating Meniere's disease. A diuretic such as hydrochlorothiazide often is used if diet alone doesn't help.

The booklet on vertigo explains this disruptive condition in detail and outlines its treatment. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Roach -- No. 801W, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

SALOME'S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Relationships continue to thrive, but watch for any telltale signs of potential problems. Take needed action now to set things straight before they become troublesome later.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your powers of persuasion, backed up, of course, by your considerable expertise, help you establish your case even to the most dubious decision-makers in your workplace.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might still be a bit reluctant to face up to some less-than-pleasant realities. But the sooner you accept the facts, the sooner you can set about making some needed changes.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Expect to make adjustments, even when

things seem locked up and ready to go. But cheer up: At least one change could lead to something you've been hoping for.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The success of a recent project should do a lot to boost your self-confidence. You might want to start now to check out ways to make that long-deferred bigger and bolder move.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Ease up on the pressure you might be putting on the new person in your life. It takes time for a budding relationship to blossom. Show more patience and understanding.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You have lots of inner strength in reserve. Use some of it to resist intimidation from those who might try to impose on your good nature for their own reasons.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) The good news is that your on-the-job status is improving. The one cautionary note, however, in-

volves a personal situation you might have been ignoring for too long.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Congratulations. Once again, your sharp Sagittarian "horse sense" helps you work through a complicated situation that would leave most people confused.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Plan on indulging yourself in some well-earned good times through much of the week. Then be prepared to face some thought-provoking issues by the 19th.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Positive factors continue to dominate following a recent change in both your professional and personal lives. Expect to make contact with someone from your past.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Workplace stability allows you to continue making progress on your projects. But don't ignore your personal life. Spend more quality time with those special folks.

King Crossword

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51				52				53		

ACROSS

- 1 Do something
- 4 Apparel
- 8 Crockpot creation
- 12 Thickness
- 13 Radius neighbor
- 14 Head
- 15 Bribe
- 16 Paper quantity
- 17 Hebrew month
- 18 Cosmetic item
- 21 "Of course"
- 22 Young fellow
- 23 "Ivanhoe" author
- 26 Rarin' to go
- 27 Vagrant
- 30 Aesopian also-ran
- 31 Foundation
- 32 Foundation
- 33 Ram's partner
- 34 Plague
- 35 Tier
- 36 Spread seeds
- 37 Household member
- 38 Paperwork specialists
- 45 Met melody
- 46 Annoys
- 47 Have a bug
- 48 Volition
- 49 Reebok rival
- 50 Masseur's workplace
- 51 Gotta have
- 52 FBI employee
- 53 Evergreen type

DOWN

- 7 Tried
- 8 Shell out
- 9 Body powder
- 10 Needle case
- 11 Healthy
- 19 Computer unit
- 20 Dine
- 23 The lady
- 24 Cornfield call
- 25 Tramcar load
- 26 Driver's license datum
- 27 Fundy, for one
- 28 Work with
- 29 Mal de —
- 31 Pete Weber's
- 32 Dog owner's chore
- 34 Luau treat
- 35 Diminish
- 36 Burn with steam
- 37 Authentic
- 38 Chess piece
- 39 Ontario neighbor
- 40 Cleo's water
- 41 Proper companion?
- 42 Uncomplicated
- 43 Mature
- 44 Deli salad

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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

A	C	T	T	O	G	S	S	T	E	W		
P	L	Y	U	L	N	A	P	A	T	E		
S	O	P	R	E	A	M	E	L	U	L		
E	Y	E	B	R	O	W	P	E	N	C	I	L
			Y	E	S	L	A	D				
S	C	O	T	T	S	E	T	B	U	M		
H	A	R	E	B	E	D	B	A	S	E		
E	W	E	P	O	X	L	A	Y	E	R		
			S	O	W	P	E	T				
P	E	N	C	I	L	P	U	S	H	E	R	S
A	R	I	A	I	R	K	S	A	I	L		
W	I	L	L	N	I	K	E	S	P	A		
N	E	E	D	G	M	A	N	Y	E	W		



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 Taking lunch from Noon - 1:00 It is a must!