Materia Medica**Fluoroscopy***Daniel Becker, MD, MPH, MFA*

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When my son went for his upper GI with small bowel follow-through for what turned out nothing serious, he described a radiologist with *big ears*—a colleague of mine with short hair. Radiology is like that—silhouettes and filling defects. At his age and also with my parents' blessing I went for a barium study not knowing what exactly was entailed.

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Turned out my illness didn't have an image
and therefore couldn't kill me
which was good enough for me.
My son is a little upset that *after all that*—
for which I had to pull strings
and pay mostly out of pocket—
they didn't find anything.
Normal is often suspect,
and in the glass half full mode
of hollow reassurance
I point out how nice it should feel
to excrete chalk till you're pink again,
like everyone else, on the inside.

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