Case Studies – Multiple Sclerosis

Case 1
- A 27 year old woman presents with symptoms of bilateral lower extremity weakness, numbness to waist level, and urinary urgency, beginning 3 days previous. Examination is notable for bilateral lower extremity weakness, sensory level to light touch, temperature, and pin prick to T8, and impaired vibration and proprioception in the toes.

1) What other history, positive and negative, is pertinent?
2) What additional aspects of the examination are important?
3) Does the examination localize?
4) What is the differential diagnosis?
5) What diagnostic evaluation is indicated?
6) What therapeutic options are available?
7) What is the prognosis?

Case 2
- A 32 year old woman presents with chief complaint of acute blurred vision affecting the right eye, beginning 5 days ago, progressively worse. The right eye is mildly painful on movement. She recalls that 3 years ago she had numbness and tingling affecting the left leg lasting about three weeks, then resolving.

1) What other history, positive and negative, is pertinent?
2) What additional aspects of the examination are important?
3) Does the examination localize?
4) What is the differential diagnosis?
5) What diagnostic evaluation is indicated?
6) What therapeutic options are available?
7) What is the prognosis?