

# Bussiness Week online

**FEEDBACK on “Medical Guesswork”, June 19, 2006**

## **Healthy Discourse**

Dr. David Eddy's computer model makes perfect sense in an ideal world with ideal patients, but it may not be powered for "real world" medicine. Physicians practice in a very complicated world. They see patients with varying severities of sickness. And there are other characteristics such as economic, cultural, intellectual, and linguistic barriers and other social factors. Numerous studies with conflicting and contradictory conclusions cast doubt in the minds of clinicians as well as patients. There are many flaws in medical research, compared with other sciences. There will always be a divide between the analog life of the physicians and their patients and the digital age we are in.

*Joseph K. Chemplavil, M.D., Hampton, VA*

[businessweek.com/go/medicalguesswork/](http://businessweek.com/go/medicalguesswork/)