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Figure. Painful finger swelling. Used with permission of Joseph P. Habboushe, MD, MBA, Department of Emergency Medicine, New York Hospital Queens of Cornell University, Flushing, NY.

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A 61-year-old woman with a history of sarcoidosis presented to the emergency department with a 3-month history of painful swelling in her fingers. Hand examination revealed a 3-cm-diameter spherical mass centered in the region of the dorsal distal interphalangeal joint of her left index finger (Figure). There was gross soft tissue breakdown, and 2 similar but smaller growths without breakdown were present on the left thumb and middle fingers.

*For the diagnosis and teaching points, see page 441.
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DIAGNOSIS:

Cutaneous granuloma of sarcoidosis. Due to interference with her daily activities, the patient opted for partial index finger amputation proximal to the lesion. Surgical pathology confirmed the lesion to be a non-necrotizing granuloma with negative acid-fast bacillus and fungal stain results, consistent with granulomata of sarcoidosis.