Doxycycline

Though it has a proclivity
For causing photosensitivity,
To the camper it's divine
When treating raging Lyme.

The cure of urethritis
May cause pill esophogitis,
Still the malaria it prevents
Makes it key in tropical tents.

When treating syphilitic factions
Beware Jarish-Herxheimer reactions.
And to atypicals it's like ricin,
Much cheaper than azithromycin.

Not available to pediatrician,
(for causing stains on kids' dentition).
However, given all the facts,
I'd take it for anthrax.

Not good for low sodium state,
Like its demeclocycline cognate,
But it's the script every doc jots
For treating Rocky Mountain's spots.

An antibiotic for all seasons,
It's used for a dozen reasons,
In short there is no proxy
For our antibiotic doxy.

Brown James McCallum, MD

Dr. McCallum (ΛΩΑ, University of South Carolina, 2004) is assistant professor of Clinical Internal Medicine at the University of South Carolina, and academic hospitalist at the W.J. B. Dorn VA Medical Center in Columbia, South Carolina. His address is: WJB Dorn VA Medical Center, 6439 Garners Ferry Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29209. E-mail: brown.mccallum@med.va.gov.