

= No More Mr. Nice Guy (House) =

" No More Mr. Nice Guy " is the 13th episode of the fourth season of House , and the 83rd episode overall . It was the first House episode filmed after the resolution of the 2007 ? 2008 Writers Guild of America strike . It aired in the United States on April 28 , 2008 .

The episode revolves around Dr. Gregory House (Hugh Laurie) noticing a man named Jeff (Paul Rae) in the Emergency Room (ER) , who he thinks is " too nice " . House thinks that Jeff 's inability to get mad is a major symptom of an underlying condition , and decides to find out what is wrong with him . Meanwhile , Dr. Eric Foreman (Omar Epps) , thinks the other diagnostic team members don 't respect him , while Amber Volakis (Anne Dudek) and House try to create a deal in which they can both spend time with Dr. James Wilson (Robert Sean Leonard) .

" No More Mr. Nice Guy " was watched by approximately 14 million viewers , making it the night 's second most watched program , behind Dancing with the Stars . The episode gained mixed reviews from critics . Mary McNamara of the Los Angeles Times stated that the episode was " The worst House episode ever " , while Gina Dinunno of TV Guide commented that she thought the episode was " pretty good " .

= = Plot = =

The local nurses ' union for the Princeton @-@ Plainsboro Teaching Hospital is on strike . Jeff , the husband of Deb (Chad Morgan) , one of the nurses , collapses while walking the picket line . At the emergency room , House suspects Jeff 's extreme niceness and inability to get angry is a major symptom of an underlying condition . After various tests , the team suspects his niceness is a personality change resulting from syphilis . Kutner (Kal Penn) asks the couple if either of them had an affair , which could lead to syphilis . Deb denies it , stating that it is just the way her husband behaves and that it is impossible for her to not love him .

At the same time , House is annoyed because he is not able to spend enough time with his friend , James Wilson . He attempts to negotiate with Amber , Wilson 's girlfriend , about conditions under which they can both have Wilson 's company . They are at a standstill , thus House seeks Lisa Cuddy 's (Lisa Edelstein) resolution . However , she will only lay out the conditions if House does his team 's performance reviews (knowing that he hates doing paperwork) . House relents and Cuddy sets the rules , although House has Foreman do the team reviews instead .

To further interest the case , House manipulates the team , Cameron (Jennifer Morrison) , and Chase (Jesse Spencer) , by swapping his own blood sample , leading them to believe he too has syphilis , perhaps the cause for his misanthropic , curmudgeon personality and unfriendliness . He then pretends to get a nicer personality , but gets less able as a doctor as he pretends to take the penicillin they prescribe him , and everyone falls for House 's trick (which he has confided to Wilson) . Meanwhile , Foreman believes he isn 't getting the respect he deserves from Kutner , Taub (Peter Jacobson) and Thirteen (Olivia Wilde) , when he tries to do their performance reviews , which he believes is due to House frequently humiliating him . House replies that if he did not humiliate and taunt Foreman , he would not be strong and able enough to handle the rest of the team .

After House violates one of the conditions set by Cuddy , Amber informs the team of House 's ruse of faking syphilis . This discovery leads Kutner to suspect that Jeff 's actual , positive syphilis result might really be the result of a parasite called Chagas ' disease , which he contracted while working in the jungles of Costa Rica years ago . The diagnosis is confirmed : the parasite embedded itself in Jeff 's brain during his stay in the country , thus causing the shift in his personality and giving him the inability to be angry . At the end of the episode the only evident change is that the patient says he now does not like ketchup , although he does wonder aloud to his wife , " I wonder what else I don 't like , " which appears to make her anxious .

With the case solved , House hands in the reviews to Cuddy , who discovers they are all the same . House also gives Cuddy a performance review . As punishment for not doing his team 's reviews properly and for breaking the rules she set between him and Amber , Cuddy has the two of them

cleaning up bedridden patients together while outside in the corridor , Wilson smiles to himself , amused at the scene .

= = Production = =

" No More Mr. Nice Guy " was the fourth House episode written by David Hoselton and the first he wrote along with David Shore . It was the second House episode directed by Deran Sarafian . When " Don 't Ever Change " aired on February 5 , 2008 , it was the final episode to air before mid @-@ season break due to the 2007 ? 2008 Writers Guild of America strike . On March 25 , 2008 , Maureen Ryan of the Chicago Tribune reported that House would be returning April 29 , 2008 . In an interview with the Chicago Tribune , House creator David Shore commented that , although the characters of Cameron and Chase are not on screen as much as they used to be , they take on a different , and greater , weight with the " stuff " they are doing . " No More Mr. Nice Guy " was the first House episode to air after the 2007 ? 2008 Writers Guild of America strike . The nurses ' strike in the episode was a reference to the WGA strike . In the episode Jason Lewis made a small uncredited appearance as Dr. Brock Sterling , a fictional doctor in House 's favorite soap opera Prescription Passion . Lewis appeared as Evan Greer , the fictional actor who portrays Dr. Sterling , in the next episode .

= = Reception = =

With 14 @.@ 51 million viewers watching the show , " No More Mr. Nice Guy " was the second @-@ most watched program of the night , ranking behind Dancing with the Stars . The episode gained a 13 share in the ratings . Out of all programs broadcast by Fox Broadcasting Company between April 28 and May 4 , House was the third most watched , behind American Idol (Tuesday and Wednesday) . Jay Black of TV Squad noted that the first image in the episode after the two @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half month writer 's strike @-@ induced break was a picket line . Barbara Barnett of Blog Critics Magazine stated that the episode was " a lot of fun , but slightly disappointing " .

James Chamberlin of IGN stated that the scenes in which Amber and House were working out terms for sharing Wilson were " hysterical " , and graded the episode with an 8 @.@ 5 (out of 10) . Gina Dinunno of TV Guide thought the episode was pretty good , and the only thing she was not very fond of was that she felt that the characters of Robert Chase and Allison Cameron seemed " forced into the script " . Jessica Paff , from Zap2it , reported that she was pleased that the love triangle between House , Amber and Wilson went on , despite House 's blessing in the previous episode . Sara Morrison of Television Without Pity said she liked the jokes referring to " Thirteen " being bisexual . She graded the episode with an A + . Kal Penn submitted the episode on his behalf for a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor - Drama Series , but the episode was not ultimately nominated .