

= Ugly (House) =

" Ugly " is the seventh episode of the fourth season of House and the seventy @-@ seventh episode overall . It aired on November 13 , 2007 . The episode revolves around a teenager named Kenny Cyrus with a major facial deformity . He is set to get surgery in order to remove the deformity , but has a heart attack just prior to the surgery . Dr. Gregory House , who still has not hired a new diagnostic team out of six interns , tries to figure out what is wrong with Kenny . Kenny was being filmed by a documentary crew during the process of the surgery , so House has to find out what is wrong with Kenny while being filmed by the crew .

The episode was watched by 11 @.@ 4 million viewers , making it the eighth most @-@ watched program of the week . The episode gained positive reviews by critics , who were surprised by the story surrounding Dr. Chris Taub , one of the fellowship applicants , in the episode .

= = Plot = =

A documentary film crew is chronicling a teenager named Kenny (Khleo Thomas) with a major facial deformity who opts to undergo a dramatic reconstructive procedure . When Kenny suffers a heart attack just prior to the surgery , House and the team are called in to determine the cause , since the surgery cannot proceed until Kenny 's cardiac condition is diagnosed .

As the film crew continues to document Kenny , House becomes increasingly annoyed and tries to avoid them by briefing his team by the MRI machine and in surgery . However , ultimately he cannot escape the cameras and the candidates find themselves acting self @-@ consciously in front of the lens . Meanwhile , House begins to regret recruiting former CIA doctor Samira Terzi (Michael Michele) when she fails to demonstrate the intelligence he witnessed at Langley . Wilson , who believes that House is being distracted by Terzi 's looks , offers up the solution to quickly fire her and then ask her out on a date . He also notes House 's propensity to hire attractive women , which led him to this situation . House argues that he 's " not that guy " ; Wilson retorts " every guy is that guy " . During the episode the film crew also interviews Cameron , asking why she resigned and making it look like she was romantically attracted to House .

Dr. Taub , using his experience as a plastic surgeon , gains Kenny 's and his father 's trust and frequently clashes with House on the diagnosis . House believes Kenny is suffering juvenile rheumatoid arthritis while Taub believes it is merely the side effects of increased intracranial pressure . By persuading Kenny 's father not to follow House 's treatment and by attempting to kick him off the case , House fires Taub , only to have his decision reversed by Cuddy . Ultimately both House and Taub are proven wrong when Thirteen realizes Kenny is suffering Lyme disease , with the telltale rash hidden by his hair . Incensed by Taub 's actions , House begins to dig into his life , and gets him to confess that he resigned his old position as a plastic surgeon because he was discovered having a secret affair with his nurse . He signed a non @-@ compete agreement with his former partners in exchange for their keeping quiet about the affair , effectively blackballing him out of his area of expertise .

In the end Taub is not fired , but Dr. Terzi is let go and House 's request for a date is turned down . Cuddy and House watch an early cut of the documentary , which has been edited to portray House as a compassionate , sympathetic doctor . House is aghast and leaves the room , questioning whether he can still trust Michael Moore movies . The documentary continues , revealing that the surgery was successful , and that Kenny thanks Dr. House .

= = Production = =

The episode was written by Sean Whitesell , who had previously worked as co @-@ executive producer on the series . To date , this is the only House episode Whitesell has written . The episode became the second House episode to be directed by David Straiton , who had previously directed " Family " . " Ugly " featured the second appearance of Dr. Samira Terzi (Michael Michele) , who made her first appearance in " Whatever it Takes " . Michele had previously played a doctor named

Cleo Finch on the medical drama ER . Omar Epps , who stars in House as Dr. Eric Foreman , also starred on ER , but two years before Michele . As usual , the filming took place on the Fox lot in Century City . This episode contained the song ' My home is your head ' by Joseph Arthur .

= = Reception = =

The episode was the eighth most @-@ watched program of the week along with NBC 's Sunday Night Football , with 11 @.@ 4 million viewers , it received a 17 share in the ratings . Overall , the episode was well received by critics . Nina Hämmerling Smith of TV Guide quoted : " Perhaps the best thing about the episode was the amount of screen time given to old favorites like Wilson (Robert Sean Leonard) and Cuddy (Lisa Edelstein) . The show 's most convincing writing has always been in the scenes when those two spar with House , and I was thrilled to see more of that " . Most critics were surprised and interested by the performance of Chris Taub in this episode . Richard Keller of TV Squad , wrote that he was almost certain of the fact that Taub was going to be fired and he was glad that he wasn 't . He also quoted , " For some reason I like Taub . Maybe because he 's not pretty like the rest of them . He 's just an everyday schlub who 's a pretty decent doctor " .

Buzz Byrne from Critics rant called Taub , " interesting " . James Chamberlin of IGN did not think that the black and white documentary really worked for him , and when it was over he didn 't feel like he had just watched an episode of House . Chamberlin graded the episode with a 7 @.@ 7 . Michelle Romero , of Entertainment Weekly commented " I loved it when House told his crew that she Dr. Terzi got the gig because she had more experience than the swimsuit model " . Television without Pity graded the episode with a B- (out of 84 votes) . According to Glen L. Diaz , of BuddyTV , various fans think that the smile on Cuddy 's face at the end of the episode explains everything about how she thinks of House . Peter Jacobson submitted the episode for a Primetime Emmy Award on his behalf in the category Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series . Sean Whitesell submitted the episode on his behalf in the category Outstanding Writing in a Drama Series . Neither nomination came through .