



# WEST INDIAN MEDICAL JOURNAL

Vol 63, No. 4: 283 – 397

August, 2014

ISSN 0043-3144 WIMJAD

## 283 EDITORIAL

**Blood Pressure and the Natural Diets: More to Learn**  
KK Hoe

## 285 ORIGINAL ARTICLES

**The Anti-cancer Activity of *Vernonia divaricata* Sw against Leukaemia, Breast and Prostate Cancers *In Vitro***

HIC Lowe, D Daley-Beckford, NJ Toyang, C Watson, S Hartley, J Bryant

*The crude hexane and methanol extracts of *V. divaricata* exhibited anti-proliferation activity and as such, it is a potential drug for cancer chemotherapy and prevention.*

**289 *In Vitro* Study to Evaluate Antibacterial and Non-haemolytic Activities of Four Iranian Medical Plants**

S Sepahi, A Ghorani-Azam, S Sepahi, A Asoodeh, S Rostami

*The antibacterial activity of extracts of four medicinal plants (*Ferula gummosa*, *Echinophora orientalis*, *Nasturtium microphyllum* and *Verbascum thapsus*) was evaluated. All four plants had satisfactory antibacterial effects against both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria, with no significant haemolytic activity on human red blood cells.*

**294 Antidiabetic Evaluation of *Momordica charantia* L Fruit Extracts**

S Tahira, F Hussain

*Antidiabetic activities (hypoglycaemic, hypolipidaemic and pancreatic beta cells regeneration) of *Momordica charantia* L fruits (MC) were investigated in alloxan diabetic rabbits. Extracts of MC exhibited significant hypoglycaemic effects; MC supplementations were unable to normalize glucose and lipid profiles. Regeneration of pancreatic beta cells by MC extracts was minimal, with fractional improvement produced by glibenclamide.*

**300 Glutathione S-transferase M1 and T1 Gene Polymorphisms Are Not Associated with Increased Risk of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus Development**

O Orhan, MA Atalay, F Orhan, M Karkucak, B Cetinkaya Demir, T Yakut, C Cengiz

*Glutathione S-transferase M1 and T1 gene polymorphisms were investigated. They could not be indicated as a predisposing factor for the development of gestational diabetes mellitus.*

**307 Site-directed Mutagenesis (Y52E) of POLH Affects Its Ability to Bypass Ultraviolet-induced DNA Lesions in HaCaT Cells**

C Luo, Z Chen, Q He, K Cao, S Wang, J Liu, R Liu, J Zhou

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*Site-directed mutagenesis (Y52E) of POLH has reduced capacity to bypass ultraviolet-induced DNA lesions in HaCaT cells.*

**312 Short Term Effects of Cocoa Consumption on Blood Pressure**

T Alleyne, A Alleyne, D Arrindell, N Balleram, D Cozier, R Haywood, C Humphrey, L Pran, K Rampersad, D Reyes, S Bahall, R Holder, D Ignacio

*Previous studies showed that prolonged consumption of cocoa led to a decrease in blood pressure; however, whether cocoa consumption exerted an immediate effect on high blood pressure was unknown. This study showed that within an hour of consumption, a single intervention of cocoa induced decreases in both the diastolic and systolic blood pressures that were significant.*

**318 Ascorbic Acid Ameliorates Nicotine Exposure Induced Impaired Spatial Memory Performance in Rats**

SR Sirasanagandla, RK Rooben, Rajkumar, SN Narayanan, R Jetty

*The effect of ascorbic acid against long-lasting behavioural impairments induced by prenatal nicotine exposure was studied in male offspring using a spatial memory paradigm. Ascorbic acid was found to be effective against these neurological perturbations.*

**325 Familial Clustering of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus in the Cayman Islands**

O Adedayo, C Cummings, N Iheonunekwu, J Wallace, T McLaughlin, J Merren, D Jefferson, G Smith, G Bell

*Systemic lupus erythematosus is common in black females of African descent. The aetiopathogenesis may be linked to genetic, environmental and hormonal factors but racial admixture may also have a role in West Indians. The study describes an unusual clustering in the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> generations of a family that lived in the Cayman Islands.*

**329 Ultrasonographic Evaluation of Femoral Cartilage Thickness in Patients with Ankylosing Spondylitis**

İ Batmaz, M Kara, T Tiftik, E Çapkın, M Karkucak, ÖF Serdar, F Kartal, MA Sarıyıldız, L Özçakar

*In this study, we evaluated femoral cartilage thicknesses of patients with ankylosing spondylitis (AS). Our results indicate that AS patients seem to have thicker femoral cartilage, which could be related to anti-tumour necrosis factor (TNF) treatment.*

*Continued on Inside Back Cover***BUSINESS INFORMATION**

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**333 Prevalence and Risk Factors for Intestinal Parasitic Infections in a Rural Community in “Consolación del Sur” Municipality, Cuba**

A Pino Santos, FÁ Núñez Fernández, R Martínez Sánchez, I Domenech Cañete, M Rodríguez, L Jerez Puebla, Z Rodríguez González

*A higher prevalence of protozoan than helminth infection was found and water source was linked with the transmission of protozoan and helminth infection. Detection of intestinal parasitic infections is vital in order to design proper strategies for control in communities.*

**340 Discussion Based on Analysis of the Suicide Rate and the Average Disposable Income per Household in Japan**

K Inoue, Y Nishimura, Y Okazaki, T Fukunaga

*The suicide rates and the average disposable income per household in Japan from 1994 to 2008 were examined. The average disposable income per household was related to the suicide rate among the total population and among men but not among women.*

**DENTAL FORUM**

**344 Nanotechnology in Dentistry Today**

OE Ogle, N Byles

*Many innovative materials and treatment modalities are now being used while others are being researched and developed. The field of nanotechnology is improving dental care and holds a bright future for developments in medicine and dentistry.*

**349 Complications of Mandibular Fracture: Study of the Treatment Methods in Calabar, Nigeria**

CE Anyanечи, BD Saheeb

*This study of complications of mandibular fractures according to the method of treatment used for its management shows that the older methods of treatment can still be relied upon in modern day practice.*

**354 Reasons Why Erupted Third Molars Are Extracted in a Public University in Mexico**

CE Medina-Solís, M Mendoza-Rodríguez, S Márquez-Rodríguez, R De la Rosa-Santillana, R Islas-Zarazua, JdJ Navarrete-Hernández, G Maupomé

*Third molar surgery constitutes a large percentage of daily work for dentists both in public and private practice. In this study, the authors observed that women and patients 18 to 34 years of age had erupted third molars extracted more frequently, primarily for prosthetic reasons.*

**359 Comparative Analysis of the Blood Flow Values of Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Presenting with Chronic Periodontitis, Patients with Chronic Periodontitis Only and Healthy Individuals**

H Develioglu, H Özdemir, V Bostanci

*An increase in gingival blood flow (GBF) value was noted in the chronic periodontitis group with Type 2 diabetes mellitus compared with the group with chronic periodontitis only. Diabetes can also affect GBF due to the nature of the disease, which affects the microcirculatory status.*

**364 Valuable Radiographic Tool for Odontogenic Jaw Keratocyst Diagnosis and Surgical Planning**

R-F Lai, Z-J Li

*Cone beam computed tomography produces excellent results in imaging, image processing and three-dimensional visualization to diagnose patients with odontogenic jaw keratocyst.*

**VIEWPOINT**

**368 The Influence of Migration on Secular Trends in Sex Ratios at Birth in Cuba in the Past Fifty Years**

V Grech

*This paper highlights a temporal relationship between Cuban migration and male to female live birth ratio (M/F), with M/F dipping in response to the possibility of leaving Cuba, often followed by sharp rises associated with a predominantly male efflux from the country.*

**CASE REPORTS**

**373 Surgical Removal of Metallic Foreign Body (Shrapnel) from the Lumbosacral Spine and the Treatment of Chronic Osteomyelitis: A Case Report**

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J-L Kao, C-H Huang, H-L Su, Y-M Chang, C-C Shiao

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