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EDITORIAL

- 1 **Malaria: Morbidity, Mortality and its Associated Complications**
I Ibanga, CR Nwokocha

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

- 3 **Chelation Therapy with Desferrioxamine does not Normalize Ferritin Level but Attenuates Oxidative Damage and Improves Total Antioxidant Level in Malaysian Chinese β -thalassaemia Major Patients**
UR Kuppasamy, JAMA Tan
Beta-thalassaemia major patients require monthly blood transfusions. Studies on the oxidant-antioxidant indices in patients on desferrioxamine-chelation or without chelation indicate that desferrioxamine chelation does not normalize ferritin level but attenuates oxidative damage and improves total antioxidant level in these patients.
- 9 **Thirty-year Trends in Incidence and Age-distribution of Prostate Cancer in Kingston and St Andrew, Jamaica, 1978–2007**
TN Gibson, B Hanchard, N Waugh, D McNaughton
The incidence of prostate cancer in Kingston and St Andrew, Jamaica, is lower than that in black populations in developed Western countries, but has been increasing since 1983, and is likely to continue to increase over the next several years.
- 13 **Altered Vascular Reactivity Induced by Malaria Parasites**
CR Nwokocha, IO Ajayi, AB Ebeigbe
The direct interaction between the parasitized erythrocytes and vascular endothelial cells altered contractile responses in aortic rings of rats.
- 19 **Allelic Diversity of Merozoite Surface Protein 2 Gene of *P. falciparum* among Children in Osogbo, Nigeria**
O Ojurongbe, AF Fagbenro-Beyioku, OA Adeyeba, JF Kun
Influence of genetic diversity of merozoite surface protein (MSP2) of Plasmodium falciparum on age and gender was investigated in children presenting with uncomplicated malaria at a provincial health facility in Nigeria. No significant correlation was observed between the MSP2 loci and parasite density on age or gender.
- 24 **Comparison of Antibiotic Resistance and Virulence Factors in Pigmented and Non-pigmented *Pseudomonas aeruginosa***
EA Finlayson, PD Brown
The study found that pigment production was significantly associated with multi-drug resistance, presence of virulence-associated genes, and expression of some important virulence factors. The authors conclude that since pigment production is easy to determine, this might be a good starting point to identify the virulence status of an isolate.

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33 The Use of *Helicobacter pylori* Stool Antigen test for the Diagnosis of *Helicobacter pylori* in Lagos, Nigeria

SI Smith, KS Oyedeki, HA Goodluck, MA Fowora, E Anomneze, OA Lesi

The Helicobacter pylori Stool Antigen could be appropriate for the diagnosis and monitoring of Helicobacter pylori in Nigeria due to its relatively affordable cost and availability, unlike its counterpart and gold standard the urea breath test.

37 Pattern of Pregnancy Weight Gain in Homozygous Sickle Cell Disease and Birth Size

M Thame, J Lewis, I Hambleton, H Trotman, G Serjeant

Maternal weight gain between 25–30 weeks gestation correlates positively with birthweight among AA mothers but appears delayed beyond 30 weeks in SS mothers.

42 Successful Treatment of Severe Male Factor Infertility in Jamaica with Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection

R Foster, V DaCosta, D Everett, L Christie, J Harriott, S Wynter, J Frederick, Y Walters

Currently, intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) is the recommended treatment for couples with severe male factor infertility. This study represents the first review of ICSI in Jamaica.

47 The Organization of the Brainstem Nuclei Associated with the Vagus Nerve in the Agouti (*Dasyprocta Leporina*): A Neuro-histological study

CM Phillips, A Odekunle

This study has investigated the organization of vagal brainstem nuclei in the agouti and has shown organisation pattern similar to those of other commonly used laboratory animals. The larger size of this species makes it a suitable alternative experimental animal.

53 Antimicrobial Drug Resistance in *Escherichia coli* Isolated from Commercial Chicken Eggs in Grenada, West Indies

DS Arathy, G Vanpee, G Belot, V Mathew, C DeAllie, R Sharma

The antimicrobial resistance profile of Escherichia coli isolated from 450 commercial chicken eggs in Grenada was studied. The data indicate that chicken eggs used in Grenada can harbour drug resistant E coli.

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- 57 The Management of *Clostridium difficile*-associated Diarrhoea in a Community Hospital**
K Tomkins, J Raynor, L Rothwell, J Desilva, C Wilson
Hospital antibiotic stewardship, combined with an effective infection prevention and control programme, can lead to better outcomes in the management of patients with Clostridium difficile-associated diarrhoea.
- 61 Audit of Sudden deaths in the Accident and Emergency Department of a Tertiary Hospital in Trinidad and Tobago**
A Beharry, M Rios, S Sandy, J Chin, S Pooran, W Welch, T Seemungal
Sudden deaths in an accident and emergency department in Trinidad and Tobago were examined. The majority of deaths were cardiovascular, followed by trauma.
- 68 Radical Prostatectomy Outcomes at the University Hospital of the West Indies: 2000–2007**
BF Morrison, K Coard, G Strachan, R Miller, W Aiken, R Mayhew
This article represents an eight-year retrospective review of radical prostatectomies performed at the University Hospital of the West Indies. Oncological outcomes and morbidity are compared to large-volume international centres.
- 73 Traumatic Mechanisms and Therapeutic Results of the Perilunate Injuries**
K Takase, K Yamamoto
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- 77 Posterior Ankle Impingement in Fast Bowlers in Cricket**
A Mansingh
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- 82 Long-term Results after Treatment of Humeral Neck Fractures in the Elderly using Modified Hackethal Bundle Nailing**
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- 86 A Preliminary Investigation of Periodontal Disease and Diabetes in Trinidad**
R Balkaran, R Naidu, S Teelucksingh, T Seemungal, L Pinto Pereira, E Prayman, A Bissoon
A preliminary report on the dental evaluation of diabetic patients suggests that periodontal disease may be quite prevalent in diabetic patients in Trinidad. Collaborative patient care between medical and dental practitioners should form part of the routine management of diabetic patients.
- 91 Evaluation of Haemodynamic Changes in Hypertensive Patients During Tooth Extraction Under local Anaesthesia**
MO Ogunlewe, O James, JNA Ajuluchukwu, AA Ladeinde, WL Adeyemo, OM Gbotolorun
The haemodynamic changes induced by injecting 2% lignocaine with adrenaline in patients with controlled hypertension during tooth extraction is within normal range and is not different from that induced by 2% lignocaine without adrenaline.
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