



# WEST INDIAN MEDICAL JOURNAL

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**A New Challenge: Depression is a Significant Problem among University Students**

BF Piko

**ORIGINAL ARTICLES**

**3 Effect of a Government Funded Medication Programme on Paediatric Asthma Hospital Admissions in Antigua and Barbuda**

TC Martin, F Heitor, J Price, K Kienstra, L Walwyn-Venugopal, PA Aslam

*Asthma admissions to Holberton Hospital were tabulated for the six years prior to and for the six years following institution of a government funded programme to provide asthma medication to children in Antigua and Barbuda at no out-of-pocket cost. There was a drop in annual admissions, multiple admissions and number of children with multiple admissions after the programme was instituted.*

**8 Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication for Improved Gastrointestinal Symptoms and Quality of Life**

D Dan, S Seetahal, V Naraynsingh

*This article examines the role of laparoscopic Nissen fundoplication in the treatment of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease. It describes how the procedure favourably affected symptomatology and gastro-intestinal-related quality of life among a population of 24 patients.*

**13 Reliability of the Evaluation of Students' Answers to Essay-type Questions**

T Anatol, S Hariharan

*Marks awarded to 1864 answers to essay questions reflected an agreement of 46.3% between markers, increasing to 90.7% within a range of  $\pm 5\%$ . The test reliability was 0.78. This method of assessment must be supplemented by other methods.*

**17 Glycated Haemoglobin A<sub>1c</sub> Measurement in Stored whole Blood Sample is Reliable for Clinical Use**

CE Ezenwaka, D Seales, R Surujlal, RP Mathura

*The study evaluated the measurement of HbA<sub>1c</sub> in stored whole blood samples and the results showed that the effect of storage degradation product was not significant enough to compromise the clinical or research use of HbA<sub>1c</sub> test results from stored whole blood samples.*

**21 Factors Associated with Depression in Students at The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica**

GA Lowe, GE Lipps, R Young

*This paper examines factors associated with depression in students attending the University of the West Indies Mona campus, Jamaica. Students with a chronic condition or a disability manifested higher depression scores than those without.*

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*In this study, radiation due to <sup>201</sup>Tl myocardial perfusion scintigraphy applications decreased the erythrocyte anti-oxidant levels and increase malondialdehyde.*
- 54 Probing the Specifics of Substrate Binding for Cytochrome c Oxidase: A Computer assisted Approach**  
VB Sampson, T Alleyne, D Ashe  
*Transfer of electrons from ferrocytochrome C to cytochrome c oxidase is facilitated by enzyme-substrate complexes stabilized by salt bridges. Computer simulations were employed to identify residues that participate in intermolecular salt bridges.*

### CASE REPORTS

- 61 Retroperitoneal Pararenal Castleman's Disease**  
OP Michail, P Tsirkinidis, A Androulaki, C Georgiou, M Angelopoulou, J Griniatsos  
*Castleman's Disease is a rare atypical lymphoproliferative disorder that should be included in the differential diagnosis of any solitary, heterogeneous and hypervascular retroperitoneal mass. En bloc resection of the mass offers nearly 100% 5-year survival rate to any patient with the localized type of the disease.*

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**Correspondence** should be addressed to:

**THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, MAILING ADDRESS:** West Indian Medical Journal, Faculty

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e-mail: [wimj@uwimona.edu.jm](mailto:wimj@uwimona.edu.jm)

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