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George Alleyne

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316 Building Human Capacity through Early Childhood Intervention: The Child Development Research Programme at the Tropical Medicine Research Institute, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica

SP Walker, SM Chang, CA Powell, H Bajer-Henningham

Research in child development at the Tropical Metabolism Research Unit, Jamaica, has expanded from development of severely malnourished children, to undernourished and other disadvantaged children as well as school-aged children. This extensive work has provided increasing evidence of the importance of early childhood development and informed the work and policies of international agencies.

323 The Jamaican Fetus – Overview of Various Studies

M Thame

This is a longitudinal study of maternal nutrition and its effect on birth outcome and postnatal growth and blood pressure. This article is a conglomerate of papers which were produced from this work.

331 Jamaica, the Caribbean and Sickle Cell Disease

GR Serjeant

The development of research interests in sickle cell disease has been traced from the first recorded case, the founding of the University Hospital of the West Indies and the Jamaica Sickle Cell Unit with its worldwide influence on clinical practice in this disease.

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- 338 Food and Nutrition Research in the Caribbean**
FJ Henry
Research at the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute over the years has focussed on food insecurity and obesity in the Caribbean. This paper shows that efforts to improve nutritional status must be located in both the immediate and underlying factors if success is to be sustained.
- 351 Clinical Research Informing Neonatal Care at the University Hospital of the West Indies: 50 Years Experience**
H Trotman
Clinical research at the University Hospital of the West Indies over the past fifty years has informed local practice in neonatal care including management policies and treatment regimes.
- 356 Review of Mortality of Very Low Birthweight Infants at the University Hospital of the West Indies over the Past Four Decades**
H Trotman
Mortality of very low birthweight infants at the University Hospital of the West Indies has decreased over the past four decades, however, there has been no appreciable decline in mortality for those weighing ≤ 750 g. Measures to further decrease mortality must target these small infants.
- 361 The Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease Control Programme – Jamaica**
D Millard-Bullock
The rheumatic fever/rheumatic heart disease (RF/RHD) control programme – Jamaica began in July 1985 and promotes primary prevention of RF by appropriate treatment of streptococcal throat infections. Secondary prevention is the main focus of the programme by administration of benzathine penicillin injections every four weeks to patients with RF/RHD.
- 365 The Provision of Surgical Care for Children with Cardiac Disease: The Jamaican Experience – An 18-year Review**
C Scott, C Antoine, M Scarlett, R Irvine
During the period 1994–2011, 863 children received cardiac surgery in Jamaica: 441 with the assistance from visiting overseas teams and 422 by local surgical teams. The overall survival rate was 94%.
- 369 Children’s Exposure to Violence in Jamaica – Over a Decade of Research and Interventions**
AM Pottinger
This paper presents research findings over the last 15 years out of The University of the West Indies on the nature and prevalence of violence exposure in Jamaican children, related outcomes and associated risk and protective factors. It also highlights psychologically driven interventions that have been implemented to tackle this scourge.
- 372 National Health Surveys and Health Policy: Impact of the Jamaica Health and Lifestyle Surveys and the Reproductive Health Surveys**
TS Ferguson, MK Tulloch-Reid, G Gordon-Strachan, P Hamilton, RJ Wilks
Over the last 30 years, national health surveys, such as the Jamaica Health and Lifestyle Surveys and Reproductive Health Surveys, have helped to document the burden of disease and influence public health policy in Jamaica. It is envisioned that expansion and systemic integration of these surveys in Jamaica will serve to improve health and development.
- 380 From Ageing Research to Policy and Practice**
D Eldemire-Shearer
This paper examines and illustrates the use of research on ageing issues to spur, inform and guide the elaboration of policies regarding older persons.
- 387 The Critical Role of Locally Conducted Research in Guiding the Response to the HIV Epidemic in Jamaica**
JP Figueroa
Locally conducted research has played a critical role in guiding the response to the HIV epidemic in Jamaica. The research contributed greatly to Jamaica’s comprehensive HIV/sexually transmitted infections (STI) control programme that has been effective in slowing the HIV epidemic, reducing HIV prevalence among sex-workers and STI clinic attendees, preventing mother-to-child transmission, reducing syphilis rates and mitigating the impact of HIV on the population.
- 396 Eliminating Vertically-transmitted HIV/AIDS while Improving Access to Treatment and Care for Women, Children and Adolescents in Jamaica**
CDC Christie, RB Pierre
Over the past nine years, Jamaica has made excellent strides to eliminate vertically transmitted HIV/AIDS, while reducing the HIV-attributable morbidity and mortality in pregnant women and in HIV-infected children. Continued successful transition of HIV-infected children through adolescence into adulthood will require a strong multidisciplinary team approach.
- 405 SHORT COMMENTARY**
Rotavirus Vaccine Trial in Jamaica
CDC Christie, ND Duncan
Rotaviruses have been a significant cause of dehydrating gastroenteritis, contributing to infant morbidity and mortality in Jamaica. We enrolled 1804 Jamaican infants in the international randomized, placebo-controlled, pentavalent (G1, G2, G3, G4 and P1) rotavirus vaccine trial. This pentavalent vaccine was found to significantly reduce rotavirus-attributable emergency room visits and hospitalizations, without increasing the rates of intussusception or other serious adverse events in Jamaican infants.

- 408 Human T-cell Leukaemia/Lymphoma Virus Type-1 Associated Myeloneuropathies – A Caribbean Perspective**
D Gilbert
This review follows the contributions of researchers from the Caribbean in improving the understanding of the disease mechanisms, clinical features and aetiology of neurological syndromes manifesting as diseases of the spinal cord and peripheral nerves. The link between the natural history of human T-cell leukaemia/lymphoma virus type-1 (HTLV-1) infection and the immunopathogenesis of tropical spastic paraparesis is explored.
- 415 Paediatric Nephrology at the University Hospital of the West Indies – A Walk through Time**
M Miller
Paediatric nephrology at the University Hospital of the West Indies is now an established paediatric subspecialty that has contributed to reduced mortality and morbidity associated with renal disease, earlier diagnosis of urological malformations and clear management guidelines for children with chronic kidney disease. Future goals include the development of a paediatric dialysis unit and enhancing kidney transplant.
- 418 Renal Disease in the Caribbean: The Disease of the Past, Present and Future**
AK Soyibo, L Roberts, LL Douglas, EN Barton
This article highlights the key areas in the strategies to deal with renal disease in the Caribbean and some of the challenges faced.
- 422 Survival Outcomes in Renal Transplantation in Trinidad and Tobago – SORTTT Study**
L Roberts, K Ramsaroop, T Seemungal
The National Organ Transplant Unit in Trinidad and Tobago performed seventy-three kidney transplants between January 2006 and June 2011. The graft survival rate for one year and three years in this fledgling programme was 94.3% and 92.6%, respectively. The main complications seen were infections, cardiovascular-related issues and erythrocytosis.
- 429 Cardiovascular Risk Factors in an Eastern Caribbean Island: Prevalence of Non-communicable Chronic Diseases and Associated Lifestyle Risk Factors for Cardiovascular Morbidity and Mortality in the British Virgin Islands**
J James, AK Soyibo, L Hurlock, G Gordon-Strachan, EN Barton
Environmental and behavioural changes such as lifestyle related habits represent modifiable risk factors for the development of cardiovascular diseases. National strategies should be implemented to control cardiovascular diseases, educate the population and promote healthy lifestyle habits in the British Virgin Islands.
- 437 Decolonization of Psychiatric Public Policy in Jamaica**
FW Hickling, RC Gibson
Jamaica's political independence from Britain triggered the development of a community engagement mental health that has negated involuntary certification, promoted treatment in primary health facilities and promoted reliance on traditional and cultural therapies.
- 442 Caribbean Contributions to Contemporary Psychiatric Psychopathology**
FW Hickling, G Hutchinson
The burgeoning migration of Caribbean people to England in the twentieth century resulted in high reported rates of psychosis for this migrant population. Caribbean research has revealed the existence of hostile racial and environmental challenges in Britain as the primary cause of this condition. These findings have significantly shifted the pendulum of understanding of the aetiology of psychosis from a genetic to a biopsychosocial position.
- 447 Health Impact of Research in Emergency Medicine – Moving Forward in the Field**
J Williams-Johnson, EW Williams, S Dasgupta, S French, R Hutson, N Hart, I Sammy, AH McDonald
The research impact on health issues from the specialty of emergency medicine is discussed. Emphasis is placed on the epidemiology of common diseases, the role of collaboration within the specialty and the value of conducting clinical trials.
- 452 The Changing Face of Death in Trinidad and Tobago, before and after Independence**
K Mungroe
This study compared the changing patterns of mortality in infants and adults during the pre-independence and post-independence eras in Trinidad and Tobago. The main challenges in the pre-independence period arose predominantly from infectious diseases and in the post-independence period from non-communicable diseases (NCDs). This rising tide of NCDs is the most important challenge in the new millennium to the structure and delivery of healthcare services.
- 460 Evolution of *In Vitro* Fertilization at The University of the West Indies, Jamaica**
AM Pottinger, D Everett-Keane, C McKenzie
In vitro fertilization (IVF) offers hope to many who are infertile. This paper documents the growth and success of IVF over the past twelve years.
- 463 The Development of Postgraduate Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Training at The University of the West Indies**
MD Scarlett, A Crawford-Sykes, HE Harding, DR Chen
The majority of graduates of the DM (Anaesthesia and Intensive Care), nurse anaesthetists and post-basic intensive care unit (ICU) nursing programmes have remained in the Caribbean and are providing invaluable services to its people. Some have become lecturers and are training future trainers.

467 The History of Laparoscopic General Surgery in the Caribbean

D Dan, V Naraynsingh, S Cawich, R Jonnalagadda

This article serves to trace the history of laparoscopic surgery in the West Indies and to uncover the advances in this field in the Caribbean.

472 LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Independence and Interdependence: Opportunities for Growth, Research and Societal Change

RG Maharaj, M Nunez-Smith, RK King, OP Adams, PN Nunes, R Brathwaite, T Thompson

