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202 ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Chicken Collagen Type II Reduces Articular Cartilage Destruction in a Model of Osteoarthritis in Rats

DH Xu, WM Shen

Oral Chicken Collagen Type II may be a potent drug candidate for osteoarthritis treatment.

208 Ethics, Liabilities and Licensing to Practice

DE Aarons

Medical Councils and Boards are de facto the gatekeepers of the work of medical doctors and their interaction with the public. This article examines some ethical and medico-legal issues that may arise when biomedical doctors are not licensed in a particular year to practice medicine.

213 Gender, Acculturative Stress and Caribbean Immigrants' Health in the United States of America: An Exploratory Study

IL Livingston, M Neita, L Riviere

In an exploratory study examining the relationship between Caribbean immigrants' acculturative stress in

the United States of America and their health, various gender-related similarities (and differences) were reported. Both males and females who had higher acculturative stress (personal problems) had higher levels of depression.

223 The Aetiological Aspects of Head Injury in Admitted Patients in Jamaica

IW Crandon, HE Harding-Goldson, AH McDonald, D Fearon-Boothe, N Meeks-Aitken

Head injury in admitted patients is mainly due to road traffic accidents, falls and interpersonal violence. More effective prevention strategies including education and law enforcement are urgently warranted.

226 Unnecessary admissions of head-injured patients at the University Hospital of the West Indies

IW Crandon, HE Harding-Goldson, M Benaris, AH McDonald

Reduction in unnecessary admissions, cost savings and increased efficiency may result from standardization of admission criteria for head-injured patients and consistent implementation of guidelines for admission without increased risk to patients.

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230 Surgical and Intensive Care needs of Head-injured Patients Transferred to the University Hospital of the West Indies

HE Harding-Goldson, IW Crandon, AH McDonald, R Augier, D Fearon-Boothe, A Rhoden, N Meeks-Aitken

The majority of transferred head-injured patients sustained mild injuries with a third requiring surgical procedures and 19% requiring Intensive Care Unit care. Appropriate educational, training and transfer programmes and transfer policies must be implemented to minimize inappropriate transfers.

SHORT COMMUNICATION

234 Trinidad Motorists' Understanding of Safety Belt Issues, a Survey and Review

M Mutabazi

This study measured drivers' understanding of safety belt issues. While most Trinidad motorists are comfortable wearing safety belts and understand their purpose, fewer understand their relationship with airbags. Education was preferred for increasing belt usage and should be used to attain long-term goals.

236 Association Between Exposure/Non-Exposure to the Mandatory Seat Belt Law with Regards to Compliance in Vehicle Accident Victims – A Hospital Review

EW Williams, M Reid, JLM Lindo, J Williams-Johnson, S French, P Singh, AH McDonald

It is concluded from this hospital-based study that the mandatory seat belt law was associated with increased seat belt use in vehicle accident victims. However, current data from the Road Traffic Agency indicated that there is still an alarming number of fatalities. This clearly suggests that additional public health measures are needed to address the epidemic of motor vehicle trauma in Jamaica.

240 Risk-Adjusted Outcome Evaluation in a Multidisciplinary Intensive Care Unit

S Hariharan, L Merritt-Charles, D Chen

This prospective study evaluated the risk-adjusted outcome of a multi-disciplinary Intensive Care Unit of a tertiary care hospital in Trinidad and Tobago applying and validating different prognostic scoring systems for adult and paediatric patients.

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246 The Ilizarov Method in Infected Non-union of Long Bones

REC Rose, W St O Palmer

Infected nonunion of long bones has been a challenge for orthopaedic surgeons. The Ilizarov method simultaneously addresses nonunion, infection, shortening and deformity.

252 Role of Obesity in Low Back Pain Related Disability

O Bolgen-Cimen, N Arýncý-Ýncel, M Karabiber, C Erdogan

The possible relation of obesity to the disability in low back pain patients was investigated. The results indicated that patients with low back pain did not suffer from worse pain if they were obese but risk a more disabled life due to their weight.

253 Do the Unmet Needs Affect the Quality of Life in Breast Cancer Patients?

E Saatci, S Akin, E Akpinar

The significant relationship between unmet needs and quality of life in breast cancer patients may be improved with interventions for patients' psychosocial needs. This will require re-evaluation of doctor-patient communication.

258 Prospective Evaluation and Characteristics of Patients with Suspected Primary Hyperaldosteronism

CA McKenzie, R Wright-Pascoe, MS Boyne

Biochemical and radiological investigations were performed in a series of patients suspected of having primary hyperaldosteronism. While biochemical diagnoses were effectively made, the evaluation of subtypes of primary hyperaldosteronism still presents a considerable challenge.

264 Trends in the Incidence of Type I Diabetes Mellitus Worldwide

S Peter

Environmental factors may be of paramount importance as driving forces in the changing trend.

270 The Mean Levels of Adherence and Factors Contributing to Non-Adherence in Patients on Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy

M Williams, T Clarke, P Williams, EN Barton

This study was done to determine the mean level of adherence and factors contributing to non-adherence in patients on Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy. Adherence was found to be sub-optimum in the majority of patients.

VIEWPOINT

275 Beyond Cholecystectomy: Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery in Practice and Training in the Caribbean

JM Plummer, DIG Mitchell

The introduction of advanced laparoscopic surgery at the University Hospital of the West Indies will enhance surgical care throughout the region.

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