



# WEST INDIAN MEDICAL JOURNAL

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## 393 EDITORIAL

**Prognostication of Critically Ill Patients – The ‘Science’, the ‘Art’ and the Creeping Commercialism**

DE Aarons

## 394 ORIGINAL ARTICLES

**A Quantitative Risk Assessment of West Nile Virus Introduction into Barbados**

KO Douglas, AM Kilpatrick, PN Levett, MC Lavoie

*This type of risk assessment enables health officials to determine how disease is likely to be introduced, when is it so likely to be introduced and possibly what actions can be taken to reduce such introduction.*

## 398 Activity, Adiposity and Weight Change in Jamaican Adults

A Luke, RA Durazo-Arvizu, G Cao, TE Forrester, RJ Wilks, DA Schoeller, RS Cooper

*This study, in a small sample of Jamaican adults, found activity energy expenditure to be highly correlated with degree of adiposity yet not with weight change over six years of follow-up.*

## 404 Validation of the Beck Depression Inventory – II in a Jamaican University Student Cohort

GE Lipps, GA Lowe, R Young

*The Beck Depression Inventory – II is one of the gold standard screening tools for depression. It was validated in a university student population in Jamaica. The scale has reasonably good concurrent validity and acceptable discriminant validity.*

## 409 Outcome of Extremely Low Birthweight Infants at the University Hospital of the West Indies, Jamaica

H Trotman, C Lord

*Gestational age and female gender were found to be independent predictors of mortality in extremely low birthweight infants. Obstetric measures for the prevention of preterm delivery need to be optimized in order to decrease the morbidity and mortality associated with extremely low birthweight infants.*

## 414 The Impact of Antenatal Care on Pregnancy Performance between Adolescent Girls and Older Women

J Young, H Trotman, M Thame

*Pregnancy performance and newborn outcome between adolescents and older women receiving early and similar antenatal care showed minimal differences with only an increase rate of urinary tract infection and a lower rate of Caesarean section in the adolescents.*

## 421 Obstetrical and Neonatal Outcomes in Obese Women

H Roman, PY Robillard, TC Hulsey, A Laffitte, K Kouteich, L Marpeau, G Barau

*Pre-pregnant obese women are more likely to present with serious obstetric complications (pre-eclampsia, diabetes and in utero fetal death) and to be delivered by Caesarean section when compared to parity-matched pre-pregnant normal weight women.*

(Continued on inside front cover)

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Continued from front cover

#### 427 The Incidence of Asthmatic Attacks in Barbados

CA Depradine, EH Lovell

*The demographic analysis of asthmatic cases found higher attack rates in males than in females, higher number of attacks in children less than five years old and exponential decrease attack rates with age. The highest correlation with the meteorological variables was with the vapour pressure.*

#### 433 Correlates of Sexual Activity and Inconsistent Condom Use Among High-school Girls in Dominica

C George, M Alary, J Otis

*A cross-sectional study was conducted in Dominica to determine correlates of sexual activity and inconsistent condom use among high school girls. Sexual activity was associated with coercion, oral sex and marijuana, whereas condom use was associated with coercion and low socio-economic status.*

#### 439 Infra-inguinal Arterial Reconstruction for Peripheral Arterial Disease: The Curaçao Experience

HR Tromp, JEC van Leeuwen, S Fieuws

*Peripheral arterial disease is a growing problem in the Caribbean, being diagnosed late when symptoms are already in an advanced stage. Bypass surgery is often the only possible treatment for limb salvage. Bypass surgery can be done in the Caribbean with good results.*

#### 446 Experience with Staged Mucosal Advancement Anoplasty for High Trans-sphincteric Fistula-in-Ano

AP Zbar

*Complex anal fistulae may be managed successfully by a specialized surgical approach consisting of preliminary seton drainage and staged delayed mucosal advancement anoplasty.*

Continued on Inside Back Cover

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**451 Support Vector Machines Classification for Discriminating Coronary Heart Disease Patients from Non-coronary Heart Disease**

S Hongzong, W Tao, Y Xiaojun, L Huanxiang, H Zhide, L Mancang, F BoTao

**458 Generic Substitutions: A 2005 Survey of the Acceptance and Perceptions of Physicians in Jamaica**

M Gossell-Williams

*In a survey of physicians islandwide, it was found that while the majority were comfortable with the substitution of innovators with generics, they had many concerns with whether they were bioequivalent and therapeutically equivalent.*

**464 BRIEF COMMUNICATION**

**Molecular Epidemiology of Methicillin Resistant Coagulase-negative Staphylococci Isolates from Blood Specimens at a Tertiary Hospital in the Caribbean**

PE Akpaka, MF Smikle

*Molecular epidemiological studies of Methicillin resistant coagulase-negative Staphylococci provide important information on its spread in healthcare facilities and the clinical significance in individual patients.*

**466 CASE REPORTS**

**Cutaneous Human Myiasis due to *Dermatobia Hominis***

M Suite, K Polson

**469 A Barium Chemobezoar in an Infant**

T Anatol, P Maharaj, J Leach

**472 Extensive Myelination with Retinal Detachment: A Diagnostic Challenge**

S Ho, L Mowatt, B Patil, RA Scott, GR Kirkby

**474 VIEWPOINT**

**Prognostication of Critically Ill Patients – the ‘Science’, the ‘Art’ and the Creeping Commercialism**

S Hariharan

*This article comments on the evolution of the prognostic models, their prognosticating ability and other claimed utilities, the probable influence of commercialism in their development and the importance of the clinical judgment of a physician in medical practice.*

**477 Forthcoming Meetings**