



# WEST INDIAN MEDICAL JOURNAL

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WIMJAD

## ORIGINAL ARTICLES

- 298 Assessment of Viral and Atypical Bacterial Agents Using Polymerase Chain Reaction in Patients Presenting with Signs of Acute Respiratory Tract Infection**

E Ünver, F Karakeçili, A Çıkman

*This study assessed viral and atypical bacterial agents using polymerase chain reaction in patients presenting with signs of acute respiratory tract infection to Erzincan Mengucek Gazi Education and Research Hospital, Turkey. Of the 120 patients, 44 (36.6%) were found to have at least one infective agent.*

- 304 A Descriptive Study of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease in Tertiary Care Clinics of a Caribbean Island**

S Mohammed, H Mohammed, S Sakhamuri, A Bhowmik, T Seemungal

*Patients with more severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are more likely to have worse quality of life, higher BODE quartile and more exacerbations. A link, not hitherto acknowledged in West Indian patients, between COPD severity and depression is explored. The study shows for the first time a relation between the*

*BODE index and low socio-economic status. The study recommends that all tertiary care patients with COPD should have regular vaccination, depression and six-minute walk assessment, and that health education in COPD should be aimed at those of low socio-economic status in particular.*

- 312 Paraquat-induced Thrombotic Microangiopathy: The Pathophysiology in Hyperacute Paraquat Poisoning Deaths**

H Daisley Jr, A Rampersad, O Acco, D Meyers

*The underlying pathophysiological mechanism of hyperacute death in paraquat suicide involves thrombotic microangiopathy.*

- 317 Prevalence of Mental Disorders in Martinique, French West Indies: A Community-based Epidemiological Study**

J Lacoste, S Merle, N Ballon, A Charles-Nicolas, G Ursulet, A Messiah

*An epidemiological study conducted in Martinique in 2000, using the Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview, found that mental disorders (in particular, mood and anxiety disorders) were as prevalent as in mainland France.*

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St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago, and Cave Hill, Barbados

**323 The Relationship between Substance Use and Depressive Symptoms among Colombian Adolescents**

K Romero-Acosta, L Gómez-de-Regil, G Lowe, G Lipps

*This study explored the relationship between depressive symptoms and substance use among adolescents in Colombia. Those who were female, who had used cannabis or sedatives in their lifetime or who had a family member who used illegal substances reported higher symptom levels of depression according to the Kutcher Adolescent Depression Scale-6.*

**328 Assessing Violence and Injury Surveillance in the Caribbean**

GM Andall-Brereton, WA Mueller

*A survey was undertaken to gather evidence on the frameworks and systems for surveillance of violence and injuries in 19 Caribbean countries. Each country reported some level of injury surveillance system. However, gaps were identified such that complete national data were not available. Such systems should be harmonized to produce more complete data.*

**334 Prostate Cancer Screening in Men of African Descent: 15-year Results of the Tobago Prostate Cancer Survey**

AL Patrick, JB Nelson, JL Weissfeld, R Dhir, RJ Phillips, JM Zmuda, CH Bunker

*Mortality data supported the recommendation against routine prostate cancer screening among men aged 60 years or above. However, there was potential for benefit of routine prostate cancer screening among men aged 50–59 years favouring continuation of screening, pending further research on risks and benefits.*

**344 Carbapenem Resistance in Gram-negative Bacteria in South-western Nigeria: The Role of Extended-spectrum  $\beta$ -lactamase CTX-M-15**

DO Ogbolu, MA Webber

*A previous study by the authors identified carbapenemases as a cause of carbapenem resistance in Gram-negative bacteria from Nigeria. There remained carbapenem-resistant isolates without production of a carbapenemase. This study demonstrated that extended-spectrum  $\beta$ -lactamases (largely CTX-M-15) with protein loss was an important mechanism underpinning carbapenem resistance.*

**BOOK REVIEW**

**350 A Road to Excellence: The History of Basic Nursing Education at the University Hospital of the West Indies, Jamaica, 1949–2006**

HM Ming