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WIMJAD

EDITORIAL

- 596 Addressing the Social Determinants of the NCD Epidemic in Caribbean Countries**
CA Cunningham-Myrie

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

- 599 The Impact of Visual Impairment on the Quality of Life of Diabetic Patients Attending the University Hospital of the West Indies**
L Mowatt, T Foster, J Mullings
Visual loss from diabetic retinopathy can affect the quality of life (QOL) of diabetic patients. This study assesses the impact of visual impairment on the QOL, and the relationship of other factors, including age, marital status, employment, exercise, and diet compliance.
- 606 Is Serum Antioxidant Status Impaired in Pregnant Women at High Risk for Carrying a Down Syndrome-affected Fetus?**
OH Edebal, E Devrim
In this study, the oxidant/antioxidant status in pregnant women above the threshold for Down syndrome risk, according to the prenatal test, was investigated. Non-enzymatic, antioxidant capacity in pregnant women at high risk of bearing a Down syndrome-affected fetus was found to decrease.

- 612 Evaluation of Neutrophil-to-Lymphocyte Ratio and Monocyte-to-Lymphocyte Ratio in Gouty Arthritis Attacks**

A Şahin, AU Uslu, D Seven, A Camcı, Ö Demirpençe, M Şahin, T Uncu, B Aydın
Gout is an auto-inflammatory disease caused by accumulation of monosodium urate crystals in tissues and organs due to hyperuricemia. Neutrophils, lymphocytes and monocytes play a role in acute gouty arthritis (AGA) pathogenesis, directly or indirectly, and/or via complex interaction between them. Ratios between these immune system elements have been listed in inflammatory markers which have been used more frequently recently. The present study is the first one to evaluate neutrophil-to-lymphocyte ratio (NLR) and monocyte-to-lymphocyte ratio (MLR) in gout, and to investigate the correlation between these and AGA. We found that NLR and MLR were higher in AGA patients when compared with patients in remission and controls, and they had correlations with other inflammatory markers, which suggested a possible correlation with AGA. In conclusion, NLR and MLR values could be used as a cheap and useful inflammatory marker to predict arthritis attacks in patients with gout.

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617 Anti-RA 33: A Marker of Good Prognosis in Seronegative Rheumatoid Arthritis

H Harman, E Karakeçe, MS Sağ, İ Tekeoğlu, İH Çiftçi

We investigated the diagnosis capability and extent of anti-RA 33 positivity and clinical characteristics in patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA). We highlight a strong negative correlation between anti-RA 33 positivity and the quality of life. Anti-RA 33 antibodies may exert helpful effects determining prognosis in established RA patients though have poor diagnostic capability.

624 The Relationship between Serum IL-17 and IL-23 Levels, and Other Disease Activity Parameters in Patients with Behçet's Disease

O Küçükşahin, A Şahin, MT Yıldızgören, M Turgay, G Kinikli

This study focuses on Behçet's disease, a vasculitic syndrome with unknown aetiopathogenesis including genetic factors, infections and cytokines. IL17 and IL 23 play important roles in inflammatory diseases such as psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, inflammatory bowel diseases, asthma, bacterial, fungal infections, maybe Behçet's disease.

628 Sonoelastographic Assessment of the Gender-related Changes of Achilles the Tendon

E Caglar, İI Oz

In this study, the effect of gender on the Achilles tendon's elastic property is not a significant co-variable in the young, healthy sample. Muscle strength may play a more important role in the Achilles tendon's injury rather than in tendon's elasticity.

633 Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy in Infancy

S-M Yuan

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy in infancy is rare. The spectrum of aetiology and management of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy in infancy were updated in the past several decades. Currently, it is mainly composed of endocardial fibroelastosis, infants of diabetic mothers and infantile Pompe's disease. This study shows that myocardial ischaemia and cardiomegaly are the major signs of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy in infancy. The management strategies can be variable according to different etiologies of the lesion.

638 Rapamycin Improves Vascular Remodelling in a Controlled Rat Model of Monocrotaline-Induced Pulmonary Hypertension

A Sengul, C Vural, S Arkan, C Ozer, B Y Bayrak, A Tas, N Altintas

We evaluated the effect of rapamycin on pulmonary arterial hypertension. Rapamycin provided improvements in exercise capacity, right ventricular systolic pressure and hypertrophy, but those were not significant. There were significant recoveries in the pulmonary artery muscular layer thickness and in the median life span of rats.

VIEWPOINT

645 Need for Policy to Reduce Sugar Consumption in Trinidad and Tobago?

R Naidu, F Lutchmansingh, A Sharma, S Teelucksingh

With respect to the high prevalence of chronic non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Trinidad and Tobago and recent recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO) on reducing sugar intake, this paper presents the case for the development of a national policy aimed at reducing sugar consumption.

CASE REPORTS

650 A Case of Graves' Disease Resistant to Carbimazole

R Ramtahal, A Dhanoo

652 Malignant Melanoma and Atypical Fibroxanthoma: An Unusual Collision Tumour

G Türkcü, A Keleş, U Alabalık, D Uçmak, H Büyükbayram

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

655 Chronic Polyarticular Tophaceous Gout Masquerading as Rheumatoid Arthritis

M Karagülle, S Kardeş, P Fırat, N Erdoğan, MZ Karagülle

657 A Case of Lymphadenitis Mimicking Aortic Dissection in a Patient Diagnosed with Behçet's Disease

O Baris, O Findik, AT Kunt

