



# WEST INDIAN MEDICAL JOURNAL

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## 487 EDITORIAL

### **Cadmium, Nicotine and Cigarettes: Any Hyper-tension Paradox?**

CR Nwokocha, J Spence, EN Barton

## ORIGINAL ARTICLES

### **489 Pandemic Influenza A (H1N1) 2009 in the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean: An Epidemiological Overview**

EV Boisson, F Des Vignes, S Quesnel, CAREC Flu Team

*The English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean experienced three phases of the influenza pandemic, with most cases occurring in 2009. The majority of cases had symptoms of the respiratory tract, a quarter required hospitalization and the case fatality rate was 1.8%.*

### **497 The Brainstem Localization of Gastric Preganglionic Parasympathetic Neurons in the Agouti (*Dasyprocta leporina*)**

A Odekunle, CM Phillips

*Using the modern WGA-HRP neurohistochemical tracing technique, the brainstem localization of vagal preganglionic parasympathetic neurons was investigated in the Agouti. Following injections of the tracer into the muscular wall of various sections of the stomach, retrogradely labelled neurons were seen in the dorsal motor nucleus of the vagus nerve as well as in the nucleus ambiguus. The labelled neurons were bilaterally distributed.*

### **504 An Evaluation of Treatment Strategies for Head and Neck Cancer in an African American Population**

DN Ignacio, JJ Griffin, MG Daniel, MT Serlemitsos-Day, FA Lombardo, TA Alleyne

*This study points to the need for earlier diagnosis, more education and use of a wider range of treatment modalities in order to improve overall outcomes for African Americans and blacks in general suffering with head and neck squamous cell carcinomas.*

### **510 Myasthenia Gravis in South Trinidad**

J Maharaj, S Bahadursingh, K Ramcharan

*This cross-sectional study assessed the prevalence and characteristics of myasthenia gravis (MG) in South Trinidad. Estimated MG point prevalence in South Trinidad on March 31, 2010 was 78 per million. A statistically significant higher prevalence was detected in Africans than East-Indians.*

### **515 Mean Platelet Volume in Nasal Polyps**

G Aktaş, M Sit, H Tekce, A Alçelik, H Savli, T Simsek, E Ozmen, AZ Isci, T Apuhan

*Mean platelet volume (MPV), a surrogate marker of platelet function, was found to be associated with inflammatory diseases. Results showed that MPV was significantly lower in patients with nasal polyps compared to control subjects.*

(Continued on inside front cover)

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*can be used to infer the relative values that a society would place on different interventions.*

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**571 Penile Incarceration Caused by an Axe Ring: An Unusual Case of Sexual Perversion**

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