



ORIGINAL ARTICLES

175 Priapism in Homozygous Sickle Cell Disease: A 40-year Study of the Natural History

G Serjeant, I Hambleton

The authors report on the incidence, pattern, natural history and outcome of priapism in 162 male patients with homozygous sickle cell (SS) disease who have been followed from birth for periods up to 40 years.

181 Healthy Eating in Jamaica: The Cost Factor FJ Henry, D Caines, S Eyre

Commonly consumed foods and all available foods were studied to determine whether healthy foods are more expensive than less healthy alternatives in Jamaica. Healthy foods can be afforded if nutritionally informed choices are made, particularly for economically vulnerable families. Efforts to provide appropriate nutritional information should be expanded and strengthened.

186 The Protective Effect of Epigallocatechin-3-gallate on Paraquat-induced Haemolysis of Erythrocyte Membrane

K Moses, D Pepple, P Singh

The effect of epigallocatechin-3-gallate (EGCG) was investigated on paraquat-induced haemolysis of erythrocyte membrane. The results showed that EGCG significantly reduced the haemolysis of erythrocytes exposed to paraquat, which suggests that it may have a protective effect. 189 Effect of L-ornithine L-aspartate on Liver Injury Due to Acute Ethyl Alcohol Intoxication in Rats HM Durgun, A Ozhasenekler, R Dursun, MK Basarali, G Turkcu, M Orak, M Ustundag, C Guloglu Acute ethyl alcohol intoxication and related acute alcoholic hepatitis pose serious problems to emergency departments. Reactive oxygen radicals play an important role in ethyl alcohol-induced hepatotoxicity. Lornithine L-aspartate significantly reduced hepatic injury and decreased oxidative stress causing liver injury.

195 Alcoholic Extract of Lotus Leaves Improves Lipid Profile in Rats with HIV Protease Inhibitor-induced Dyslipidaemia

QJ Su, ZZ Lu, QY Deng, BM Wei Dyslipidaemia was induced in rats and was treated with alcoholic extracts of lotus leaves for four weeks. Total cholesterol and glycerides decreased but did not reach their normal levels.

201 Prevalence of Chronic Kidney Disease among Patients Attending a Specialist Diabetes Clinic in Jamaica

TS Ferguson, MK Tulloch-Reid, NO Younger-Coleman, RA Wright-Pascoe, MS Boyne, AK Soyibo, RJ Wilks

This study estimated the prevalence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) among patients of the University

(Continued on inside front cover)

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Hospital of the West Indies Diabetes Clinic in Jamaica and evaluated the proportion of patients at high risk for adverse outcomes. Approximately 86% of patients had CKD and 70% were at high risk for adverse outcomes.

209 Application of Modified Glomerular Filtration Rate Estimation Equations in Chinese Diabetic Patients with Chronic Kidney Diseases

H Chang, SD Ye

The Ruijin equation is more applicable in Chinese diabetic and chronic kidney diseases patients than the Cockcroft-Gault and Modification of Diet in Renal Disease formulae.

213 Evaluation of Nutritional Biochemical Parameters in Haemodialysis Patients over a Ten-year Period

AIQ Alfonso, RF Castillo, FJ Gomez Jimenez, AM Nuñez Negrillo This study evaluated the nutritional status of haemodialysis patients by assessing biochemical and anthropometric parameters. The prevalence of malnutrition in haemodialysis patients was evident; however, the results showed that the nutritional deterioration of these patients was mainly reflected in their biochemical parameters rather than in their anthropometric measurements.

218 Treatment Experience of Severe Abdominal Infection after Orthotopic Liver Transplantation

Y-G Wang, J-S Wu, B Jiang, J-H Wang, C-P Liu, C Peng, B-Z Tian Severe abdominal infection after liver transplantation is the most common cause of death in perioperative liver transplantation. Comprehensive treatment, such as active recovery, multiple-organ support, controlled surgical removal of the lesion, and adequate drainage, is key for recovery.

223 The Male-female Birth Ratio in California and the 1992 April Riots in Los Angeles

V Grech

Stress induces spontaneous abortions that affect male fetuses more than female fetuses. The April 1992 Los Angeles riots constituted six days of civil unrest. This study showed that male births in California state dipped following this event.

BUSINESS INFORMATION

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West Indian Medical Journal

226 Time-dependent Degradation Pattern of Cardiac Troponin T in Cases of Death by Burn

S Kumar, W Ali, US Singh, AK Verma, S Bhattacharya, A Kumar, R Singh, R Rupani

We investigated time-dependent alterations in cardiac troponin T associated with fatal burns. In such cases, this will assist in knowing if there were previous scars that might have mimicked a burn and also help to properly evaluate the real cause of death.

230 Treatment of Parapelvic Cyst by Internal Drainage Technology Using Ureteroscope and Holmium Laser Q Zhao, S Huang, Q Li, L Xu, X Wei, S Huang, S Li,

Z Liu We explored the efficacy and safety of surgical approaches with holmium laser ureteroscopic internal drainage in the treatment of parapelvic cyst. In 28 cases of operation, 27 cases were successful. Our study shows that the treatment of parapelvic cyst by internal drainage operation using holmium laser and ureteroscopy had very good result with few complications.

236 Ascites in Ovarian Carcinoma – Reliability and Limitations of Cytological Analysis

R Živadinović, A Petrić, D Krtinić, J Stevanović Milosević, S Pop Trajković Dinić

Peritoneal cytology of ascitic fluid is highly specific but has relatively low sensitivity, particularly in case of endometrioid ovarian carcinoma. In order to increase sensitivity, peritoneal cytology should be combined with monoclonal antibodies and other biochemical and immunohistochemical markers.

241 Analysing Biological Rhythms in Fibromyalgia Syndrome

M Ucar, Ü Sarp, Aİ Gül, N Tanik, A Yetisgin, HO Arik, O Nas, YK Yılmaz

We evaluated biological rhythm disorders (sleep, functional activities, social participation, eating patterns) in patients with fibromyalgia syndrome (FMS). This study shows an important relationship between rhythm disorders and FMS, so a multidisciplinary approach is needed to treat these patients.

245 Estimated Burden of Serious Fungal Infections in Jamaica by Literature Review and Modelling HC Gugnani, DW Denning

It is estimated that over 57 600 people in Jamaica probably suffer from serious fungal infections each year, most related to allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis and severe asthma with fungal sensitization, recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis and AIDS-related opportunistic infections. Endemicity of histoplasmosis is established.

REVIEW

250 Mini-review: Obesity in Caribbean Youth EA Traboulay, OPA Hoyte

This paper addresses causes and strategies to combat the tsunami of obesity in Caribbean youth and explain how hitherto-overlooked components, such as non-genetic transgenerational effects, genetics, pathogens, and obesogens lead to obesity. We estimated the annual economic obesity burden at 68.5 billion USD.

SHORT COMMUNICATION

263 Simvastatin Protects Osteoblasts from the Deleterious Effects of the Liquid Milieu of Multiple Myeloma R Jitumori, D Fernandes, C Jitumori, GM Favero The microenvironment of multiple myeloma (MM), com-

posed of different cells, is influenced by the massive presence of neoplastic plasma cells. Osteoblastic suppression and osteoclast induction is one of the tumour stimuli. Simvastatin protects osteoblasts from the deleterious effects of the liquid milieu of MM.

DENTAL FORUM

266 Oral Hygiene and Handwashing Practices among Middle School Students in 15 Latin American and Caribbean Countries

TR McKittrick, KH Jacobsen

Nationally-representative data from 33 174 middle school students in 15 Latin American and Caribbean countries show a strong relationship between infrequent toothbrushing and infrequent hand washing.

269 Correlation of Radiographic Mental Foramen Position and Occulusion in Three Different Indian Populations

P Verma, N Bansal, R Khosa, KG Verma, SK Sachdev, N Patwardhan, S Garg

This study examines the shape, position and symmetry of the mental foramen, its continuity with the inferior dental canal and inter-foramen distance on a digital panoramic view and correlates it with Angle's molar relations in both genders of three Indian subpopulations.

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