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ARTICLES

Cost-Effectiveness of Colonoscopy in Screening for Colorectal Cancer 573

A. Sonnenberg, F. Delcò, and J.M. Inadomi

Colonoscopy is a cost-effective means of screening for colorectal cancer because it reduces mortality at relatively low incremental costs. Low compliance rates render colonoscopy every 10 years the most cost-effective primary screening strategy for colorectal cancer.

Smoking Is Related to Albuminuria and Abnormal Renal Function in Nondiabetic Persons 585

S.-J. Pinto-Sietsma, J. Mulder, W.M.T. Janssen, H.L. Hillege, D. de Zeeuw, and P.E. de Jong

Smoking was found to be associated with albuminuria and abnormal renal function. However, these associations are less pronounced or absent in former smokers.

Prevalence of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus among Persons with Hepatitis C Virus Infection in the United States 592

S.H. Mehta, F.L. Brancati, M.S. Sulkowski, S.A. Strathdee, M. Szklo, and D.L. Thomas

According to this national survey, type 2 diabetes occurs more often in persons with hepatitis C virus infection who are older than 40 years of age.

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Long-Term Outcomes of Scleroderma Renal Crisis 600

V.D. Steen and T.A. Medsger Jr.

Renal crisis in patients with scleroderma can be effectively managed when hypertension is aggressively controlled with angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors. Patients should continue taking these drugs after beginning dialysis.

Diagnosis and Management of Infections Involving Implantable Electrophysiologic Cardiac Devices 604

J.D. Chua, B.L. Wilkoff, I. Lee, N. Juratli, D.L. Longworth, and S.M. Gordon

For infections related to implantable electrophysiologic devices, complete device removal and antimicrobial therapy allow timely, successful reimplantation at a remote anatomic site without substantial risk for surgical mortality or recurrent infection.

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A.T. McCray

This paper briefly reviews existing clinical trials registries, discusses challenges in building registries, and reviews some of the benefits of registries.

UPDATE

Update in Oncology 615

L.M. Schuchter and D.G. Haller

Among the many important papers in the field of oncology published in 1999, this Update focuses on studies of breast cancer, cervical cancer, multiple myeloma, colorectal cancer, and prostate cancer.

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D.P. Kotler

Recent advances in the understanding of selected aspects of cachexia are discussed. Among these are changes in body composition, food intake, intermediary metabolism, energy balance, cytokine regulation, and recent therapeutic initiatives.

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Part 1 of this two-part conference addresses a new understanding of what osteoarthritis is and the risk factors that predispose to disease occurrence.

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Prevention and Treatment of Colorectal Cancer: Pay Now or Pay Later 647

J.D. Lewis

It now appears almost certain that screening colonoscopy can effectively reduce colorectal cancer–related mortality and is probably more effective than fecal occult blood testing, flexible sigmoidoscopy, or both. An important remaining question is how much this strategy will cost. In this issue, Sonnenberg and colleagues attempt to answer that question.

An Association between Hepatitis C Virus Infection and Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: What Is the Connection? 650

G.J.M. Alexander

The association between chronic hepatitis C virus infection and type 2 diabetes mellitus, reported by Mehta and colleagues in this issue, seems genuine. However, numerous questions must still be addressed, most notably those regarding the nature of the link between the disorders.

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