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ARTICLES

Maternally Inherited Diabetes and Deafness: A Multicenter Study 721

P.-J. Guillausseau, P. Massin, D. Dubois-LaFogue, J. Timsit, M. Virally, H. Gin, E. Bertin, J.-F. Blickle, B. Bouhanick, J. Cahen, S. Caillat-Zucman, G. Charpentier, P. Chedin, C. Derrien, P.-H. Ducluzeau, A. Grimaldi, B. Guerci, E. Kaloustian, A. Murat, F. Olivier, M. Paques, V. Paquis-Flucklinger, B. Porokhov, J. Samuel-Lajeunesse, and B. Vialettes

Maternally inherited diabetes and deafness (MIDD) is related to a point mutation of mitochondrial DNA. This study suggests that MIDD has a specific clinical profile that may help identify diabetic patients for mitochondrial DNA testing.

Avoidance of Hypoglycemia Restores Hypoglycemia Awareness by Increasing β -Adrenergic Sensitivity in Type 1 Diabetes 729

A. Fritsche, N. Stefan, H. Häring, J. Gerich, and M. Stumvoll
Avoidance of hypoglycemia in patients with type 1 diabetes who have hypoglycemia unawareness seems to restore hypoglycemia awareness, primarily by increasing β -adrenergic sensitivity.

The Effect of a Thiazolidinedione Drug, Troglitazone, on Glycemia in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Poorly Controlled with Sulfonylurea and Metformin. A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Trial 737

J.-F. Yale, T.R. Valiquett, M.N. Ghazzi, J.K. Owens-Grillo, R.W. Whitcomb, and H.L. Foyt, for the Troglitazone Triple-Therapy Study Group

Troglitazone at a dosage of 400 mg/d decreased hemoglobin A_{1c} levels when used in combination with sulfonylurea and metformin. Other drugs in the thiazolidinedione class may therefore offer an effective alternative to insulin for patients treated with sulfonylurea and metformin who do not achieve adequate glycemic control.

Effect of Dose-Intensive Intravenous Melphalan and Autologous Blood Stem-Cell Transplantation on AL Amyloidosis-Associated Renal Disease 746

L.M. Dember, V. Sanchorawala, D.C. Seldin, D.G. Wright, M. LaValley, J.L. Berk, R.H. Falk, and M. Skinner

Dose-intensive intravenous melphalan with autologous blood stem-cell transplantation improves the nephrotic syndrome in

patients with AL amyloidosis-associated renal disease. The benefit is largely limited to patients achieving eradication of the underlying plasma cell dyscrasia.

BRIEF COMMUNICATION

Effects of Hormone Replacement Therapy on Serum Lipids in Elderly Women. A Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Trial 754

E.F. Binder, D.B. Williams, K.B. Schechtman, D.B. Jeffe, and W.M. Kohrt

In women 75 years of age or older, hormone replacement therapy improved the lipoprotein profile to the extent observed previously in younger postmenopausal women. Further studies are needed to evaluate whether these effects protect against coronary heart disease in this population.

REVIEW

Host Determinants in HIV Infection and Disease. Part 1: Cellular and Humoral Immune Responses 761

C.M. Hogan and S.M. Hammer

This review, the first of two parts, describes current information about host factors in HIV acquisition and progression and discusses how this knowledge can be used to prevent and treat HIV infection.

EDITORIALS

Mitochondrial DNA Mutations and Diabetes: Another Step toward Individualized Medicine 777

N. Fischel-Ghodsian

The article by Guillausseau and colleagues in this issue confirms that the diabetes phenotype in maternally inherited diabetes and deafness is quite different from that in other known forms of diabetes. This has clinical implications that make it imperative for the internist to be aware of the syndrome.

Can Joint Negotiation Restore Physicians' Professional Autonomy? 780

D.C. Hsia

The position paper by the American College of Physicians-American Society of Internal Medicine in this issue deserves the utmost commendation for raising one of medicine's most important current issues: Are physicians independent professionals, or agents for plans?

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Symptoms: In the Head or in the Brain? 783

A.L. Komaroff

The supplement accompanying this issue addresses the study of symptoms. Symptom research is a long-neglected field, one that may now be poised to produce important new insights that will improve the functional status of people everywhere and make the physician's job more gratifying.

PERSONAE 786

POSITION PAPER

Physicians and Joint Negotiations 787

American College of Physicians–American Society of Internal Medicine

This position paper addresses physicians' joining to negotiate patient care and the working environment in which patient services are provided. Physicians in nonintegrated private practices should be able to meet and communicate among themselves to negotiate primarily with health care plans about issues that affect quality and access. However, the College opposes strikes or any joint action by physicians that would deny or limit services to patients or result in price-fixing or other anticompetitive behavior.

ON BEING A DOCTOR

Mrs. Posner's Smile 793

D.R. Feikin

The world she inhabited was fleeting, stitched together

extemporaneously from some retained repository of information. Yet, something essentially human had been preserved.

LETTERS

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W.T. Cefalu

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R.D. Blank; K.L. Margolis and K.E. Ensrud

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