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ARTICLES

Surveillance for Second Primary Colorectal Cancer after Adjuvant Chemotherapy: An Analysis of Intergroup 0089 261

R.J. Green, J.P. Metlay, K. Propert, P.J. Catalano, J.S. Macdonald, R.J. Mayer, and D.G. Haller

The incidence of second primary colorectal cancer after treatment for localized colon cancer remains high despite intensive surveillance strategies.

Change in Lung Function and Morbidity from Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease in α_1 -Antitrypsin MZ Heterozygotes: A Longitudinal Study of the General Population 270

M. Dahl, A. Tybjærg-Hansen, P. Lange, J. Vestbo, and B.G. Nordestgaard

A deteriorating effect of severe α_1 -antitrypsin deficiency (ZZ genotype) on lung function is well known, whereas the role of intermediate deficiency (MZ genotype) remains uncertain. This study found that MZ heterozygotes had a slightly greater rate of decrease in FEV₁ and were modestly over-represented among persons with airway obstruction and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). In the population at large, MZ heterozygosity may account for a fraction of COPD cases—on the order of 2%, similar to the percentage of persons with COPD who have the severe but rare ZZ genotype.

The Stool Antigen Test for Detection of *Helicobacter pylori* after Eradication Therapy 280

D. Vaira, N. Vakil, M. Menegatti, B. van't Hoff, C. Ricci, L. Gatta, G. Gasbarrini, M. Quina, J.M. Pajares Garcia, A. van der Ende, R. van der Hulst, M. Anti, C. Duarte, J.P. Gisbert, M. Miglioli, and G. Tytgat

A positive result on the stool antigen test 7 days after completion of therapy identifies patients in whom eradication of *Helicobacter pylori* was unsuccessful.

BRIEF COMMUNICATION

Surprisingly Small Effect of Antiviral Treatment in Patients with Hepatitis C 288

Y. Falck-Ytter, H. Kale, K.D. Mullen, S.A. Sarbah, L. Sorescu, and A.J. McCullough

Most patients with hepatitis C virus infection are not candidates for interferon-based therapies; alternative interventions should be sought for these patients.

UPDATE

Update in Psychiatry 293

R.K. Schneider and J.L. Levenson

This Update is the first Update in Psychiatry presented at an Annual Session of the American College of Physicians–American Society of Internal Medicine. The authors cover the following topics: mood disorders, anxiety disorders, geropsychiatry, and new therapeutics.

REVIEW

A Current Perspective of Suicide and Attempted Suicide 302

J.J. Mann

Suicide is generally a complication of a psychiatric disorder, but it requires additional risk factors because most psychiatric patients never attempt suicide. This review includes a hypothesized stress–diathesis model, which has implications for detection of high-risk patients and treatment interventions, and discusses promising treatment approaches.

MEDICINE AND PUBLIC ISSUES

Legal, Financial, and Public Health Consequences of HIV Contamination of Blood and Blood Products in the 1980s and 1990s 312

P.D. Weinberg, J. Hounshell, L.A. Sherman, J. Godwin, S. Ali, C. Tomori, and C.L. Bennett

This paper summarizes the current status of concerns about the safety of the blood supply in developed countries, where viral transmission from contaminated blood or blood products is extremely rare, and in developing countries, where up to 10% of HIV infections result from transfusion of blood or blood products.

NIH CONFERENCE

Future Directions in the Study and Management of Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia due to 21-Hydroxylase Deficiency 320

D.P. Merke, S.R. Bornstein, N.A. Avila, and G.P. Chrousos

In the past 50 years, since the discovery of cortisone therapy as an effective treatment for congenital adrenal hyperplasia, many advances have been made in the study and management of 21-hydroxylase deficiency. The discovery of the 21-hydroxylase gene was followed by the discovery of the 21-hydroxylase–deficient mouse, which has provided a

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useful model for testing new treatments. As our knowledge of this disease expands, new therapies are being developed and tested in both humans and animals.

EDITORIAL

Second Primary Colorectal Cancer: The Consequence of Management Failure at Several Potential Levels 335

P.J. Limburg and D.A. Ahlquist

Although the study by Green and colleagues in this issue chronicles a disturbingly high rate of second primary colorectal cancer in patients undergoing surveillance in an adjuvant chemotherapy trial, the junctures at which corrective measures are most needed cannot be precisely determined. For now, adherence to the existing consensus guidelines for postoperative surveillance seems warranted until convincing evidence supports alternative strategies.

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