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15 June 2004 140 12 985-1064

ARTICLES

Withholding Anticoagulation after a Negative Result on Duplex Ultrasonography for Suspected Symptomatic Deep Venous Thrombosis 985

S.M. Stevens, C.G. Elliott, K.J. Chan, M.J. Egger, and K.M. Ahmed

These researchers withheld anticoagulation from 375 patients who had negative results on comprehensive (ankle to groin) duplex ultrasonography for a first episode of suspected symptomatic deep venous thrombosis of the leg. The rate of subsequently diagnosed deep venous thrombosis was 0.8% (95% CI, 0.16% to 2.3%).

Summary for Patients I-12

Visceral Adiposity Is an Independent Predictor of Incident Hypertension in Japanese Americans 992

T. Hayashi, E.J. Boyko, D.L. Leonetti, M.J. McNeely, L. Newell-Morris, S.E. Kahn, and W.Y. Fujimoto

This prospective study used computed tomography to measure body fat in 300 normotensive Japanese Americans. Ninety-two participants developed hypertension within 10 to 11 years. Greater visceral adiposity was associated with increased risk for hypertension even after adjustment for baseline differences in risk factors for hypertension.

Summary for Patients I-17

Drug Provocation Tests in Patients with a History Suggesting an Immediate Drug Hypersensitivity Reaction 1001

D. Messaad, H. Sahla, S. Benahmed, P. Godard, J. Bousquet, and P. Demoly

Giving the suspect drug to an individual with presumed drug allergy can safely confirm or rule out drug hypersensitivity if done in a carefully controlled setting. Results of drug provocation testing were negative in 82.4% of the patients in this case series.

Summary for Patients I-30

Effects of Aerobic Physical Exercise on Inflammation and Atherosclerosis in Men: The DNASCO Study. A Six-Year Randomized, Controlled Trial 1007

R. Rauramaa, P. Halonen, S.B. Väisänen, T.A. Lakka, A. Schmidt-Trucksäss, A. Berg, I.M. Penttilä, T. Rankinen, and C. Bouchard

Aerobic exercise did not slow progression of atherosclerosis at the carotid artery bifurcation in middle-aged men. In a

subgroup analysis, exercise reduced the rate of progression of atherosclerosis in men who did not take statins.

Summary for Patients I-37

IMPROVING PATIENT CARE

The Effectiveness of Depression Care Management on Diabetes-Related Outcomes in Older Patients 1015

J.W. Williams Jr., W. Katon, E.H.B. Lin, P.H. Noël, J. Worchel, J. Cornell, L. Harpole, B.A. Fultz, E. Hunkeler, V.S. Mika, and J. Unützer, for the IMPACT Investigators

Twelve months of intensive treatment of depression improved mood and functional status in older patients with depression and diabetes but did not affect diabetes-specific outcomes in this randomized trial in patients with good baseline glycemic control.

Summary for Patients I-51

Acute Decompensation after Removing a Central Line: Practical Approaches to Increasing Safety in the Intensive Care Unit 1025

P.J. Pronovost, A.W. Wu, and J.B. Sexton

Medical errors are common in intensive care units (ICUs), in part because many ICU processes require precise execution of a complex sequence of actions. Avoiding errors requires careful planning, excellent teamwork, and built-in checks for correct implementation. This paper, part of the Quality Grand Rounds series, provides a practical framework for improving patient safety in ICUs.

PERSPECTIVE

Resident Redux 1034

A. Verghese

At a recent journal club, I was essentially looking at the children of the foreign medical graduates who had been my peers and colleagues—the children of some of the thousands of foreign-trained physicians scattered across the country. Here was unequivocal proof that my generation had passed the baton. Although they still looked very much like my generation, these kids were now at home in the very places that were effectively closed to us.

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CLINICAL GUIDELINES

Medical Management of the Acute Radiation Syndrome: Recommendations of the Strategic National Stockpile Radiation Working Group 1037

J.K. Waselenko, T.J. MacVittie, W.F. Blakely, N. Pesik, A.L. Wiley, W.E. Dickerson, H. Tsu, D.L. Confer, C.N. Coleman, T. Seed, P. Lowry, J.O. Armitage, and N. Dainiak

Terrorists could use highly radioactive material to commit acts of destruction. This consensus document provides guidelines for evaluating, triaging, and medically managing victims with acute radiation injury.

Summary for Patients 1-52

EDITORIALS

One-Time Comprehensive Ultrasonography To Diagnose Deep Venous Thrombosis: Is That the Solution? 1052

D. El Kheir and H. Büller

Ultrasonography limited to the common femoral and popliteal veins has been the gold standard for diagnosing symptomatic deep venous thrombosis. After a negative examination, many centers repeat the study 1 week later to exclude propagation of calf vein thrombosis into the thigh. Stevens and colleagues report on the safety of withholding anticoagulation after normal results on a single ankle-to-groin ultrasonographic examination. Will this test become the new gold standard?

Can Treating Depression Improve Disease Outcomes? 1054

J.L. Jackson, K. DeZee, and E. Berbano

Although treating depression may not improve the outcome of comorbid illnesses, as a study in this issue suggests, it may dramatically improve the quality of life for patients and their families. Clinicians should continue to look for and treat depression in their patients.

AD LIBITUM

Room Fifteen 1014

S.K. Vora

The wild canary (or as i die) 1056

M.C. Peterson

ON BEING A DOCTOR

A Foreign Concept 1057

R. Srivastava

Five years out of medical school, amid the heady days of

youth and with the luxury of being able to gaze straight ahead without any real distractions, I have been blind to the trials that lash someone 15 years older, displaced from country, profession, and family and straining to simply find a hint of solace in each passing day.

LETTERS

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Correction: Hospital Procedure Volume and Outcomes 1063

Letter available only at www.annals.org

γ -Hydroxybutyrate Use in Older Adults

D.E. Brush, S.B. Bird, and E.W. Boyer

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