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ARTICLES

Relationship between Health Status and Use of Screening Mammography and Papanicolaou Smears among Women Older Than 70 Years of Age 681

L.C. Walter, K. Lindquist, and K.E. Covinsky

Rates of screening mammography and Papanicolaou smears are high among older women in California. Although screening rates decline with advancing age, women of a similar age have similar screening rates whether they say that they are in good health or poor health. Physicians should target their screening efforts at healthy older women, in whom the benefits of screening are likely to outweigh potential harms.

Summary for Patients 1-18

Screening for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: A Cost-Effectiveness Analysis 689

T.J. Hoerger, R. Harris, K.A. Hicks, K. Donahue, S. Sorensen, and M. Engelgau

Diabetes screening targeted to people with hypertension is more cost-effective than universal screening. The most cost-effective strategy is to screen people at age 55 to 75 years because hypertension is more common and cardiovascular death rates are higher in older people.

Summary for Patients 1-29

Coronary Vasomotor Abnormalities in Insulin-Resistant Individuals 700

M.J. Quiñones, M. Hernandez-Pampaloni, H. Schelbert, I. Bulnes-Enriquez, X. Jimenez, G. Hernandez, R. De La Rosa, Y. Chon, H. Yang, S.B. Nicholas, T. Modilevsky, K. Yu, K. Van Herle, L.W. Castellani, R. Elashoff, and W.A. Hsueh
Insulin-resistant patients experience a smaller increase in coronary blood flow by endothelium-dependent mechanisms than do insulin-sensitive patients. Thiazolidinedione therapy, which increases insulin sensitivity, normalized the abnormalities in insulin-resistant individuals. Insulin resistance may be associated with abnormalities in coronary vasomotor function.

Summary for Patients 1-32

BRIEF COMMUNICATION

Early Diagnosis of Subclinical Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis 709

L. Richeldi, K. Ewer, M. Losi, D.M. Hansell, P. Roversi, L.M. Fabbri, and A. Lalvani

An enzyme-linked immunospot assay detects T cells that are specific for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*-specific antigens. A positive result on this test helped diagnose subclinical active tuberculosis in an immunosuppressed patient with a false-negative tuberculin skin test result.

IMPROVING PATIENT CARE

The Quality of Pharmacologic Care for Vulnerable Older Patients 714

T. Higashi, P.G. Shekelle, D.H. Solomon, E.L. Knight, C. Roth, J.T. Chang, C.J. Kamberg, C.H. MacLean, R.T. Young, J. Adams, D.B. Reuben, J. Avorn, and N.S. Wenger

In older patients, failures to prescribe indicated medications, monitor medications appropriately, document necessary information, educate patients, and maintain continuity are more common prescribing problems than is use of inappropriate drugs.

Summary for Patients 1-52

ACADEMIA AND CLINIC

Patient Education Materials about the Treatment of Early-Stage Prostate Cancer: A Critical Review 721

A. Fagerlin, D. Rovner, S. Stableford, C. Jentoft, J.T. Wei, and M. Holmes-Rovner

Most patient education materials on early-stage prostate cancer treatment do not contain comprehensive information about the risks and benefits of each treatment alternative. To help patients and physicians choose among prostate cancer treatment options, we need a new generation of patient education materials.

REVIEW

Stem-Cell Transplantation in Myocardial Infarction: A Status Report 729

M.S. Lee and R.R. Makkar

In principle, stem cells could rapidly regenerate contracting myocardium and improve immediate and long-term prognosis after acute myocardial infarction. This article describes the formidable obstacles to achieving this goal.

Summary for Patients 1-82

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CLINICAL GUIDELINES

Lung Cancer Screening: Recommendation Statement 738

U.S. Preventive Services Task Force

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force concludes that the evidence is insufficient to recommend for or against screening asymptomatic persons for lung cancer with low-dose computed tomography, chest x-ray, sputum cytology, or a combination of these tests.

Lung Cancer Screening with Sputum Cytologic Examination, Chest Radiography, and Computed Tomography: An Update for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force 740

L.L. Humphrey, S. Teutsch, and M. Johnson

Current data do not show that screening for lung cancer is effective with any method. The evidence, however, is not strong enough to conclude that screening is ineffective, particularly in women. Two ongoing randomized trials of screening with chest radiography or low-dose computed tomography should help clinicians to decide whether lung cancer screening is worthwhile.

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Right and Wrong Reasons To Be Screened 754

H.G. Welch

Readers can be confident that a substantial proportion of elderly women should undergo regular cervical and breast cancer screening. Now the tougher question: Are we screening these women for the right reason?

Screening for Diabetes: Can We Afford Not To Screen? 756

D.M. Nathan and W.H. Herman

Hoerger and colleagues have used decision modeling to advance our understanding of the benefit of screening for diabetes in people with and without hypertension. However, without optimized management of hypertension and hyperglycemia after the diagnosis of diabetes, no screening program can be effective or cost-effective.

ON BEING A DOCTOR

Sara and George and Justice 759

H. Fillit

As an expert witness for the defense, I reviewed the case of a 90-year-old woman with Alzheimer disease who died of complications from a urinary tract infection in a nursing home. The case seemed like a typical clinical situation I had

been involved with many times as a geriatrician, but in this case, the doctor was being sued for wrongful death.

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Letters available only at www.annals.org

Delayed Drug Hypersensitivity Reactions

M.H. Hyman; W.J. Pichler

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