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ARTICLES

Risperidone for Treatment-Refractory Major Depressive Disorder. A Randomized Trial 593

R.A. Mahmoud, G.J. Pandina, I. Turkoz, C. Kosik-Gonzalez, C.M. Canuso, M.J. Kujawa, and G.M. Gharabawi-Garibaldi

When patients with major depression do not respond to first-line monotherapy, physicians often add a second agent despite scant evidence that augmentation therapy is effective. Mahmoud and colleagues added a 6-week course of risperidone or placebo to the treatment of 274 adults with major depression who had not responded adequately to antidepressant monotherapy. Mean depression scale scores improved more in the risperidone group than the placebo group, and more risperidone recipients had response to therapy or remission. Somnolence and dry mouth were more common in risperidone recipients.

Summary for Patients I-34

Phosphatidylcholine for Steroid-Refractory Chronic Ulcerative Colitis. A Randomized Trial 603

W. Stremmel, R. Ehehalt, F. Autschbach, and M. Karner

In patients with chronic active ulcerative colitis, clinicians have few options when immunosuppressant drugs fail or cause intolerable side effects. Stremmel and associates randomly assigned 60 adults who had steroid-refractory chronic ulcerative colitis with continued symptoms or intolerable side effects during immunosuppressant drug therapy to receive phosphatidylcholine or placebo for 12 weeks. More phosphatidylcholine recipients than placebo recipients improved and could stop receiving corticosteroids. Bloating was more common with phosphatidylcholine than placebo.

Antiproteinase 3 Antineutrophil Cytoplasmic Antibodies and Disease Activity in Wegener Granulomatosis 611

J.D. Finkelman, P.A. Merkel, D. Schroeder, G.S. Hoffman, R. Spiera, E.W. St. Clair, J.C. Davis Jr., W.J. McCune, A.K. Lears, S.R. Ytterberg, A.M. Hummel, M.A. Viss, T. Peikert, J.H. Stone, and U. Specks, for the WGET Research Group

Serum antibodies that react with the neutral serine protease proteinase 3 in the cytoplasm of neutrophils (PR3-ANCA) are useful diagnostically because they are detectable in most patients with Wegener granulomatosis. The authors compared antibodies against the immature form of PR3 and the mature form as a measure of disease activity. In 156 patients with active disease, neither type of antibody was superior as a measure of disease activity. Moreover, decreases in PR3-ANCA levels were not associated with shorter time to

remission, and increases in PR3-ANCA levels were not associated with relapse. Despite their diagnostic value, PR3-ANCA levels are not a useful guide to immunosuppressive therapy.

IMPROVING PATIENT CARE

“You’re Not a Victim of Domestic Violence, Are You?” 620 Provider–Patient Communication about Domestic Violence

K.V. Rhodes, R.M. Frankel, N. Levinthal, E. Prenoveau, J. Bailey, and W. Levinson

Victims of domestic abuse often seek care in emergency departments. Rhodes and associates analyzed audiotapes of 293 emergency department visits during which providers screened adult women for abuse. Providers’ queries were often perfunctory and lacked follow-up probing or open-ended opportunities to talk. Of the 77 women who disclosed abuse, providers documented only 24 of the disclosures and referred only 19 women for counseling. Examples of interviews highlight common communication pitfalls and good practices.

UPDATE

Update in Hospital Medicine 628

A.N. Amin and M.J. Pistoria

This Update in Hospital Medicine features 9 articles published in 2006. Topics include quality processes of inpatient care, transitions of care, perioperative consultation, venous thromboembolism, pay-for-performance, and education.

CLINICAL GUIDELINES

Diagnosis and Management of Stable Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: A Clinical Practice Guideline from the American College of Physicians 633

A. Qaseem, V. Snow, P. Shekelle, K. Sherif, T.J. Wilt, S. Weinberger, and D.K. Owens, for the Clinical Efficacy Assessment Subcommittee of the American College of Physicians

In the United States, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) affects more than 5% of the adult population and is the 4th leading cause of death and the 12th leading cause of morbidity. This guideline presents the available evidence on the diagnosis and management of COPD. The target audience for this guideline is all physicians, and the target patient population is all adults with COPD.

Summary for Patients I-41

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Management of Stable Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: A Systematic Review for a Clinical Practice Guideline 639

T.J. Wilt, D. Niewoehner, R. MacDonald, and R.L. Kane
 This systematic review evaluated the effectiveness of COPD management strategies. Long-acting inhaled therapies, supplemental oxygen, and pulmonary rehabilitation are beneficial in adults with bothersome respiratory symptoms and FEV₁ less than 60%. Supplemental oxygen reduced mortality rates among symptomatic patients with resting hypoxia. Neither disease management programs nor ambulatory oxygen improved measured outcomes. The evidence on using spirometry to guide therapy is not strong enough to support a recommendation.

Summary for Patients 1-41

POSITION PAPER

Recommendations for Teaching about Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health and Health Care 654

W.R. Smith, J.R. Betancourt, M.K. Wynia, J. Bussey-Jones, V.E. Stone, C.O. Phillips, A. Fernandez, E. Jacobs, and J. Bowles
 The Society of General Internal Medicine Health Disparities Task Force has developed curricular recommendations for health disparities. The broad goal is for learners to develop a commitment to eliminating inequities in health care quality. Specific goals include understanding the attitudes of practitioners and patients; finding ways to eliminate health disparities; and developing the skills to effectively communicate across cultures, languages, and literacy levels.

EDITORIALS

Addressing Domestic Violence: The (Long) Road Ahead 666
 E.J. Alpert

The article by Rhodes and colleagues in this issue reminds us that the ability of most health professionals to effectively identify, assess, and respond to domestic violence has lagged far behind societal awareness and community responses. The candid and often unsettling examples of discussions with patients underscore the importance of sensitive inquiry about domestic violence, and their findings should awaken the medical community to its responsibility to improve education, training, and response to domestic violence.

Trials That Matter: Liquid-Based Cervical Cytology: Disadvantages Seem to Outweigh Advantages 668

G.F. Sawaya and H.C. Sox
 Among more than 45 000 women randomly assigned to conventional or liquid-based cervical cytology, the frequency of false-negative results was the same for both methods, but liquid-based cytology had a higher false-positive rate. Users

of liquid-based cytology should reconsider their decision to adopt this technology.

ON BEING A DOCTOR

Maestro Guillermo 670

D.W. Hines
 When Guillermo told me that he was thinking of ways to end it all, I wondered how I was going to deal with this. What he needed was a break from the realities of his terminal disease. What the doctor ordered was a home-cooked turkey dinner.

AD LIBITUM

**Sonnet for That Beautiful Night
 Stop and Smell the Bedpans** 665 676

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IN THE CLINIC

Migraine ITC11-1

This issue provides a clinical overview of migraine, focusing on prevention, diagnosis, treatment, practice improvement, and patient information. Readers can complete the accompanying CME quiz for 1.5 credits.

Cover photograph by Jeffrey Levine, MD

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