INTERNAL MEDICINE BOARD REVIEW

A 29-year-old man with abnormal thyroid function tests

The patient has elevated serum T₄ and T₃, but no symptoms of hyperthyroidism. What is the diagnosis?

G.H. FAIMAN AND C. FAIMAN

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MEDICAL GRAND ROUNDS

The herbal medicine boom: What your patients are taking

One in three people take herbal medicines. A guide to common herbal preparations, their effects, side effects, and interactions.

A. VANN

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CLINICAL DECISION-MAKING

The diagnostic utility of c-ANCA in Wegener's granulomatosis

A positive c-ANCA may suggest Wegener’s granulomatosis, but in most cases it should not be used instead of biopsy to make the diagnosis.

C.A. LANGFORD

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REVIEWS

Commonly asked questions about premenstrual dysphoric disorder

Most women experience PMS to some degree, and to most it is a nuisance at worst. However, some women have a severe variety of PMS called premenstrual dysphoric disorder that can disrupt their lives.

K.S. MUZINA AND L. GONZALEZ

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UPCOMING FEATURES

- Agitated dementia: Drug vs nondrug treatment
  Treatment must be individualized using environmental, behavioral, and pharmacologic approaches.

- The heart failure pandemic
  Changes in the treatment of heart disease and the aging population will make treating heart failure one of medicine's greatest challenges.

- Depression in primary care patients
  Patients with depression often present with somatic complaints rather than psychological ones.

- Thrombosis for acute ischemic stroke
  A revolution is underway in treating acute ischemic stroke with t-PA.

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REVIEWS

Evaluating asymptomatic patients with mildly elevated liver enzymes 150
Extensive evaluation of all abnormal tests would expose many patients to undue risks and medical costs. But not evaluating minor elevations of liver enzymes could result in missing the early diagnosis of potentially treatable disorders.

Z.M. YOUNOSSI

CURRENT DRUG THERAPY

What internists need to know about amiodarone 159
Despite side effects involving the lungs, heart, thyroid, and other organs, amiodarone is effective in the treatment of refractory atrial and ventricular arrhythmias, and it has unique safety in coronary disease and left ventricular dysfunction.

M.T. MURPHY AND B.L. WILKOFF

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CME Credit Test 167
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