TABLE OF CONTENTS

FROM THE EDITOR

A great masquerader learns a new trick 105
Different generations of physicians have proposed various contenders for the title of “great masquerader.” I firmly believe that Clostridium difficile infection deserves a shot at the title.
B.F. MANDELL

IM BOARD REVIEW

A hypertensive emergency in an obese young woman 110
She has headache, new-onset seizures, edema, and proteinuria; her blood pressure is 235/114 mm Hg and she weighs 256 lb. What is the diagnosis?
R.S.R.S BIYANI, A.C. SINGH, L.M. KIRCHNER, AND P. GILL

REVIEW

Diagnosing and managing posttraumatic stress disorder 121
PTSD not only affects soldiers, it also occurs in civilians exposed to severe trauma or serious illness. Manifestations commonly include nonspecific physical symptoms, and patients often present to their primary care physician.
K. BUDUR, F. FALCONE, AND K. FRANCO

Evaluating and managing hypogammaglobulinemia 133
Patients with frequent and recurrent respiratory infections should be tested for immune system abnormalities. This article describes common primary and secondary forms of hypogammaglobulinemia and how to evaluate and manage them.
M.E. ROSE AND D.M. LANG

MEDICAL GRAND ROUNDS

Natriuretic peptide testing: A window into the diagnosis and prognosis of heart failure 149
BNP assays are now widely used to evaluate suspected heart failure, but they should not be the only criterion.
J.L. JANUZZI, JR

MEDICAL GRAND ROUNDS

Improved outcomes in nephrotic syndrome 161
Nephrotic syndrome now has a dramatically different prognosis than it did 10 years ago. We can now effectively treat all types and achieve remission in many cases.
G.B. APPEL
An expanding skin lesion in a patient on immunosuppressive therapy

The lesion, originally diagnosed as pyoderma gangrenosum, now measures 15 cm × 6 cm. What should be the next step in management?


Multiple sclerosis: Treating symptoms, and other general medical issues

Disease-modifying therapies have been a big advance in multiple sclerosis, but many patients still experience a variety of symptoms that reduce quality of life. We have to treat the whole patient.

M.D. Goldman, J.A. Cohen, R.J. Fox, and F.A. Bethoux

Clostridium difficile-associated disease: New challenges from an established pathogen

Clostridium difficile-associated disease (CDAD) is increasing in incidence and severity and may be becoming more difficult to treat. A new strain is causing many outbreaks.

R.H. Sunenshine and L.C. McDonald

Dyspepsia management guideline (American College of Gastroenterology)

Intensive lipid-lowering with statins unnecessary with stable coronary artery disease (IDEAL)

Uterine artery embolization usually successful to treat fibroids

Gargling with water prevents colds

Thiazolidinediones can cause fluid retention, but appear safe

Promises and perils of Internet pharmacies

Anemia in renal failure: Should everyone get EPO?

Aldosterone antagonists: Expanding uses in heart failure

Studies in ARDS that changed our practice

Myeloperoxidase testing for coronary disease: Better than C-reactive protein

A young man with a cough, skin lesions, and an abnormal chest radiograph

When is surgery safe in patients with liver disease?

Visit our web site at www.ccjm.org