A new series, an old concept, continued value

This month we introduce a new series, The Physical Examination, kicked off by a paper on evaluating pleural effusions. We encourage you to submit your suggestions for topics.

B.F. Mandell

FROM THE EDITOR

Review

Diffuse alveolar hemorrhage: Diagnosing it and finding the cause

Diffuse alveolar hemorrhage can complicate a large number of clinical conditions. It may present in different ways and may be life-threatening, and it poses an important challenge for the clinician.

O.C. Ioachimescu and J.K. Stoller

IM BOARD REVIEW

A 61-year-old with bipolar disorder and cognitive impairment: Dementia or polypharmacy?

He reports poor concentration, using wrong words, forgetting names, and sleepiness. What is the cause?

M. Bhattrag and R. Palmer

Interpreting Key Trials

Interpreting the CHARISMA study.

In patients at risk of myocardial infarction or stroke, two antplatelet drugs are not always better than one.

M.R. Bakhr and D.L. Bhatt

The Physical Examination

Accuracy of the physical examination in evaluating pleural effusion

A careful physical examination is a valuable and noninvasive means of assessing pleural effusions and should be routinely performed in every patient in whom this condition is suspected.

E. Diaz-Guzman and M.M. Budev

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CURRENT DRUG THERAPY

What role will ‘gliptins’ play in glycemic control?

Sitagliptin (Januvia) is now available, vildagliptin (Galvus) is awaiting approval, and other "gliptins" are under development. Their greatest appeal appears to be their ability to stimulate insulin production with little risk of hypoglycemia.

Z. BLOOMGARDEN AND A. DREXLER

REVIEW

A review of spinal arachnoid cysts

The symptoms of spinal arachnoid cysts are variable and nonspecific, so these cysts are commonly misdiagnosed as herniated disks. Many are discovered incidentally.

G. HUGHES, K. UGOKWE, AND E.C. BENZEL

THE CLINICAL PICTURE

Dropped gallstones disguised as a liver abscess

The patient, who underwent laparoscopic cholecystectomy 3 months ago, now has abdominal pain and a spot on computed tomography that could be a liver abscess. But is it?

S.K. MAHMOOD, J.W. TOMFORD, S. ROSENBLATT, AND S. GORDON

DEPARTMENTS

Correction: Antibiotic prophylaxis dosage error


CME Calendar

CME Self-test Online

UPCOMING FEATURES

- Imaging the painful knee
- Preventing metabolic bone disease in bariatric surgery patients
- How safe are EPO-type drugs?
- Uses and misuses of meta-analysis
- Long QT syndrome: A cause of sudden death
- Exercise testing for diagnosis and prognosis
- Advances in polycystic kidney disease
- Serious causes of back pain: Cancer, infection, fracture

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