DEDICATED TO LIFELONG LEARNING



JOHN D. CLOUGH, MD Editor-in-Chief LINDA K. HENGSTLER Executive Editor/Associate Publisher PHILLIP E. CANUTO Managing Editor RAY BORAZANIAN Manuscript Editor DAVID A. HUDDLESTON Manuscript Editor LOUISA R. PASKERT Editorial Assistant JACQUELINE R. WERNER Editorial Assistant

EDITORS

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD MUZAFFAR AHMAD, MD WILMA FOWLER BERGFELD, MD EMMANUEL L. BRAVO, MD RAY W. GIFFORD, JR, MD WILLIAM R. HART, MD ERIC A. KLEIN, MD FLOYD D. LOOP, MD DOUGLAS S. MOODIE, MD RICHARD H. NODAR, PHD WILLIAM L. FROUDFIT, MD WILLIAM L. FROUDFIT, MD WILLIAM C. SHELDON, MD ERIC J. TOPOL, MD HERBERT F. WIGEDMANN, MD

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

DAVID BRONSON MD BEN H. BROUHARD, MD WILLIAM D. CAREY, MD WILLIAM A. CHILCOTE, MD RONALD F. DOMEN MD BRIAN G. DONLEY, MD STEVEN M. GORDON, MD GARY HOFFMAN, MD BYRON J. HOOGWERF, MD MANI S. KAVURU, MD ANGELO A. LICATA, MD, PHD DAVID L. LONGWORTH, MD STEPHEN MAHONEY, MD MAURIE MARKMAN, MD PETER J. MAZZONE, MD ATUL C. MEHTA, MD NEIL B. MEHTA, MD FRANKLIN A. MICHOTA, MD CRAIG D. NIELSEN, MD STEVEN NISSEN, MD ROBERT M. PALMER, MD NORMAN B. RATLIFF. MD S. SETHU K. REDDY, MD

MARK ROTH, MD CATHY A. SILA, MD FRANCK SKOBIERANDA, MD HOLLY L. THACKER, MD JAMES THOMAS, MD ANA VANN, PHARMD DONALD G. VIDT, MD WILLIAM S. WILKE, MD JAMES B. YOUNG, MD ZOBAIR YOUNGSSI, MD

EDITORIAL STAFF THOMAS A. LANG Editorial Services Manager

BRUCE M. MARICH Production Manager

KATHRYN MULDOON Reprints

MEDICAL ART DIRECTOR ROBERT J. DEMAREST

MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR NANCY HEIM, CMI

CLEVELAND CLINIC FOUNDATION DIVISION OF EDUCATION ANDREW J. FISHLEDER, MD Chairman PHILLIP R. GARD Administrator

The *Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine* (ISSN 0891-1150) is published 10 times yearly by The Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

STATEMENTS AND OPINIONS expressed in the *Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine* are those of the authors and not necessarily of The Cleveland Clinic Foundation or its Board of Trustees.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: Current guidelines state that participants in CME activities should be made aware of any affiliation or financial interest that may affect an author's article. Each author has been requested to complete a conflict of interest statement. The names of any authors declaring a potential conflict of interest are indicated with an asterisk.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: U.S. and possessions: personal \$70; institutional \$90; single copy/back issue \$10. Foreign: \$90; single copy/back issue \$12. Institutional (multiple-reader rate) applies to libraries, schools, hospitals, and federal, commercial, and private institutions and organizations. Individual subscriptions must be in the names of, billed to, and paid by individuals.

POSTMASTER ADDRESS CHANGES: Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine, EE37, 9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44195

SUBSCRIPTIONS, EDITORIAL, REPRINTS, AND PRODUCTION: (same address as above) Phone (216) 444-2661 • Fax (216) 444-9385 • E-mail, ccjm@cesmtp.ccf.org http://www.ccf.org/ed/ccjm/ccjhome.htm

ADVERTISING: Joseph Dennehy, Director, Sales and Marketing, 120 Castle Ridge Rd, Manhasset, NY 11030 • Phone (516) 365-8640 • Fax (516) 365-0587



COPYRIGHT© 1998 THE CLEVELAND CLINIC FOUNDATION PRINTED IN U.S.A.

JUNE 1998

VOLUME 65 • NUMBER 6 • ISSN 0891-1150

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MEDICAL GRAND ROUNDS

Cardiovascular disease myths and facts

286

Physicians need to overcome the myths that cardiovascular disease is going away and is a good way to die, as these myths are undermining research and prevention efforts.

J.L. BRESLOW

Kuru and mad cow disease: Understanding the prion theory

291

With the recent controversy in England over mad cow disease, there is a growing understanding that prions are not just a medical curiosity, but a grave public health threat. With an illustration explaining how proteins can mutate and become infectious.

G.R. OLDS

TRENDS IN MEDICINE

The hospitalist: Will inpatient specialists improve care?

297

The number of practitioners specializing in inpatient medicine is growing as a response to managed care's push for better health outcomes and cost control.

F. MICHOTA, JR, T. LEWIS, AND J.M. CASH

CURRENT DRUG THERAPY

Sildenafil (Viagra) for male erectile dysfunction

301

A brief overview of sildenafil, the first oral drug for treating erectile dysfuntion. With an illustration showing how the drug works.

M.R. LICHT

REVIEWS

Infectious disease and transplantation: 305 Messages for the generalist

With more patients receiving transplants and surviving longer afterward, their primary care physicians are called on to evaluate problems as they arise.

R.K. AVERY

CONTINUED ON PAGE 284

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 283

REVIEWS

Management of patients with solitary pulmonary nodules

315

The goals of management are to resect malignant tumors while avoiding unnecessary thoracotomy of benign nodules. But sometimes this is not easy.

P. JAIN, S.A. KATHAWALLA, AND A.C. ARROLIGA

INTERNAL MEDICINE BOARD REVIEW

A 61-year-old woman with edema, shortness of breath, and pleuritic chest pain

What is the likely cause of this patient's symptoms? A self-quiz on a clinical case.

C. NIELSEN AND P. MAZZONE

EDITORIALS

Some perspective on Viagramania

331

332

327

The sales of Viagra are not surprising, given that the search for a drug to enhance sexual performance is as old as written history.

L.R. SCHOVER

The promises and risks of inpatient specialization

Much of the benefit of hospitalist care will be lost if we place the emphasis on wringing every last nickel out of the cost of providing care.

J.D. CLOUGH

DEPARTMENTS

CME Credit Test

335

The Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine is peer reviewed and indexed in Index Medicus.

Downloaded from www.ccjm.org on July 13, 2025. For personal use only. All other uses require permission.

UPCOMING FEATURES

Beta-blockers and heart failure Once beta-blockers were contraindicated for heart failure, but this is changing.

Recognizing pelvic inflammatory disease PID causes more morbidity in young women than all other serious infections combined.

Sickle cell disease: Issues for internists New developments in understanding the nature

understanding the natural history and complications of sickle cell disease.

Colorectal cancer screening Making sense of the different guidelines for risk stratification and screening.

