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## **MARCH 2011**

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Why might iron supplementation be harmful in the setting of infection?

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A 73-year-old man with a history of heart failure develops shortness of breath after consuming about 1 L of a polyethylene glycol solution in preparation for colonoscopy the next day.

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# A 40-vear-old woman with excoriated skin lesions

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The lesions have been present for many years; a few show signs of recent bleeding. What is the diagnosis?

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## 1-MINUTE CONSULT Is iron therapy for anemia harmful in the setting of infection?

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The harmful effects are more theoretical than observed. On the other hand, there are also no convincing data to support the benefit of this therapy.

E. DAOUD, E. NAKHLA, AND R. SHARMA

#### IM BOARD REVIEW..... **Recurrent abdominal pain** 171 after laparoscopic cholecystectomy

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# CME CURRENT DRUG THERAPY ..... **Dronedarone for atrial fibrillation:** How does it compare with amiodarone?

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Dronedarone's precise role is yet to be defined, but if it is as well tolerated as hoped, it may help clinicians pursue a rhythm control strategy more often.

N. PENUGONDA, A. MOHAMAND-BORKOWSKI, AND J.F. BURKE

## EDITORIAL ..... The estimated glomerular filtration rate as a test for chronic kidney disease:

Creatinine-based testing is not perfect. Perhaps a two-step approach would be better.

A.D. RULE AND J.C. LIESKE

REVIEW

**Problems and solutions** 

### Interpreting the estimated 189 glomerular filtration rate in primary care: **Benefits and pitfalls**

.....

Many laboratories are now reporting the glomerular filtration rate automatically, and primary care providers are left trying to interpret the results.

J. SIMON, M. AMDE, AND E.D. POGGIO

## CANCER DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT

## Malignant bowel obstruction: Individualized treatment near the end of life

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Surgery should not be routinely done. Less-invasive approaches such as gastric and colonic stenting are useful.

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### DEPARTMENTS ..... Letter to the editor 145 A reader comments on oral contraceptives and menstrual manipulation (July 2010).

# **CME Calendar**

# **Directions for taking CME tests online**

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# UPCOMING FEATURES

- Pharmacogenomics: Why drugs work in some patients but not in others
- New atrial fibrillation: Managing rate, rhythm, and risk
- Immune thrombocytopenia: No longer idiopathic, not always purpuric
- Meeting the health care needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender patients
- Giant cell arteritis Suspect it, treat it promptly
- Cancer pain: Frequently asked questions
- Visceral angioedema: An uncommon but serious adverse effect of ACE inhibitors

