



Dear Colleague:

Here's another dose of elixir from the *Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine*. It covers the range of human afflictions from chronic fatigue to foodborne illness. We hope it is good for what ails your patients and that it helps you get through another busy month.

■ Listeriosis (page 375)

Listeria monocytogenes, long familiar to most of us as a curiosity in our medical school microbiology textbooks, is now in the forefront of public health due to an epidemic of foodborne disease. Dr. Taegge provides us with a discussion of how to recognize and treat listeriosis and briefly describes government programs designed to prevent it.

■ Tumor necrosis factor inhibitors (page 367)

Tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors offer a new approach to the treatment of certain idiopathic inflammatory diseases. Dr. Moreland focuses our attention on studies of two of these (etanercept and infliximab) in rheumatoid arthritis, a common disease for which treatment often remains unsatisfactory.

■ New contraceptives (page 358)

Since the introduction of "The Pill" nearly four decades ago, there has been considerable progress in effectiveness and safety of oral contraceptive agents. Drs. Qureshi and Attaran review the state of the art in this field, finishing with mention of the future possibility of oral contraceptives for males.

■ IM Board Review (page 335)

The subset of pulmonary diseases characterized by high eosinophil counts are the subject of this issue's IM Board Review. Drs. Lobo and Dweik briefly explore useful diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to the management of such patients.

■ Chronic fatigue (page 343)

Physicians are no strangers to fatigue, but chronic fatigue syndrome takes this common symptom to a new level. Drs. Ang and Calabrese give some practical guidance on how physicians can help patients cope with fatigue.

■ Outpatient management of DVT (page 329)

Now that we have low-molecular weight heparin, we can treat patients with deep vein thrombosis on an outpatient basis. We cannot, however, simply write a script and send them home. Fortunately, Drs. Deitcher, Olin, and Bartholomew have a plan for using this drug safely.

■ F. Mason Sones (page 353)

One of the innovators of medicine, Dr. William Proudfit, reminisces about Dr. F. Mason Sones, the creator of coronary angiography, and his rather unusual set of "laws" for clinical practice and research.

As always we are interested in what you think of the *Journal*, and your ideas for future topics.

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