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EDITORIAL PEER REVIEW

Following the success of the American Medical Association's First International Congress on Peer Review in Biomedical Publication, a second such Congress is being planned for September 1992. We aim to present original research on critical issues in the publication of all clinical and scientific research.

What are such critical issues?

- The mechanisms of peer review and editorial decision making in different journals
- The relationships between authors, editors, and reviewers, and how each is educated, selected, and evaluated.
- Allocation of responsibility for published material
- Quality assurance
- Breakdowns, weaknesses, and biases

For more information on attending or presenting research, contact:

Jane Smith, BA, MSc Managing Editor, *BMJ* BMA House Tavistock Square London WC1H 9JR

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BEGIN PLANNING YOUR RESEARCH PROTOCOLS NOW!



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Many medical journals, including the British Medical Journal, now expect scientific papers submitted to them to contain confidence intervals when appropriate. Why? what are they? and how do you calculate them? Statistics with Confidence tells you. A clear explanation of the reasons for using confidence intervals is followed by detailed presentation of methods of calculation, including numerous worked examples and specially compiled tables. To make things even easier, a computer programme, Confidence Interval Analysis (CIA), for calculating confidence intervals, has been specially designed by Martin Gardner and details are available from the Publishing Department, British Medical Journal (or the American College of Physicians).

Eighth edition

The statistical testing of data is indispensable in many types of medical investigation and a help on countless occasions in clinical practice. This book provides step by step instruction. Subjects covered include standard deviation, χ^2 tests, t tests, non-parametric tests, and correlation. The book includes sections on Fisher's exact probability test and rank correlation not published in the original BMJ series. Methods specially adapted to pocket calculators.



Price: Inland £3.50; Abroad £4.50 (US\$ 12.00) BMA members; Inland £3.00; Abroad: £4.00 (ACP members US\$ 10.00)

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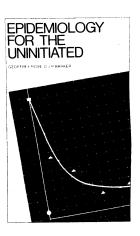
STATISTICS IN PRACTICE Shale if One Designe of Afrone AFFOLS FICH PERFORMANCE 2

Fourth impression

No doctor can afford to ignore statistics: most modern medical research uses statistics. This important and authoritative book provides clear information on designing studies, applying statistical techniques, and interpreting studies that use statistics. It can be easily understood by those with no statistical training and should be read by all those who want to keep abreast of new developments.

Second edition

Epidemiology has its own techniques of data collection and interpretation and its necessary jargon of technical terms, and in Epidemiology for the Uninitiated Professors Geoffrey Rose and David Barker guide the novice expertly through the theory and practical pitfalls. The second edition of this popular BMJ handbook has been revised to include further details of epidemiological methods and some of their more dramatic applications, such as the investigations on the Spanish cooking oil epidemic, and AIDS.



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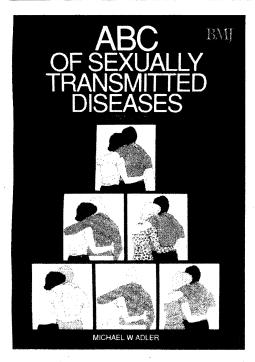
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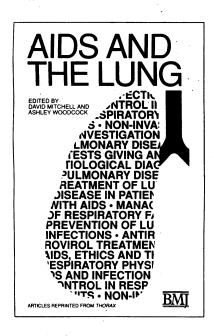
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Expert information on important problems





Second edition

The number and range of sexually transmitted diseases have been increasing steadily in the past few years, and the second, revised edition of the ABC of Sexually Transmitted Diseases includes the most up to date figures as well as new chapters on AIDS and psychosexual problems. Doctors need to be aware that common clinical conditions such as rashes, vaginal discharge, and pelvic pain may have a sexual origin and in the new edition of this invaluable handbook Professor Michael Adler gives expert guidance on the diagnosis and management of these conditions.

Reviews of the first edition

"It is an excellent basic book for the non-specialist, the medical student, and for nursing and paramedical staff associated with genitourinary medicine." Genitourinary Medicine

"This book is recommended for anyone wishing to bring himself up to date with an increasingly expanding speciality...

Journal of the Royal Naval Medical Service

"Professor Adler has successfully provided a clear, concise and up to date textbook on sexually transmitted disease." Scottish Medical Journal

UK £10.95/Abroad £13.00 (BMA members: UK £9.95/Abroad £12.00)

Just published

The lung is the organ most affected by the opportunistic infections that occur in patients with AIDS. Pneumocystis pneumonia occurs in up to four fifths of such patients in Europe and North America, while tuberculosis is a major factor in Africa. As the numbers of patients with AIDS increase, respiratory physicians throughout the world are more likely to be concerned in their management. In AIDS and the lung experts review the problems, emphasising practical points and providing up to date information on this rapidly changing subject. Edited by David Mitchell, consultant physician in respiratory medicine, St Mary's Hospital, London, and Ashley Woodcock, consultant chest physician, Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester, AIDS and the lung is an indispensable handbook for respiratory physicians, especially those with limited experience of dealing with AIDS – and for everyone concerned with protective measures in bronchoscopy units and pulmonary function laboratories.

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MIRROR OF MEDICINE A HISTORY OF THE BMJ

P. W. J. BARTRIP





1840-1990

The BMJ's 150 year history has taken it from small beginnings in Worcester as the Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal to its current position as a major international medical journal. On the way there have been rows, editors' dismissals, and battles with the BMA and royal colleges as well as growing success and authority. In Mirror of Medicine the historian P W J Bartrip provides a shrewd and perceptive commentary on the BMJ's progress, placing its history in the context of contemporary events and examining its treatment of many key themes in medical science and society, including public health, military medicine, quackery, sex, and the birth of the NHS. He also provides pen portraits of some of its most outstanding editors, among them the charismatic Ernest Hart, his successor Dawson Williams, and the doughty Hugh Clegg. The BMJ's present editor, Stephen Lock, provides a postscript on the state of the BMJ today.

352 pp., illus., Clarendon Press/BMJ, September 1990

Price to BMA members only: UK £29; Abroad £33. Prices include packing and postage, by air speeded despatch abroad (air mail rates on application). American Express, Mastercard, Visa credit cards accepted. Please give full details.

Return address for orders: British Medical Journal, PO Box 295, London WC1H 9TE: (Also available in the BMJ/BMA bookshop in BMA House.)

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL AND EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SCIENCE EDITORS



A workshop for editors of medical journals

The Spa Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, Kent 22-23 November 1990

PROGRAMME

Thursday 22 November

Friday 23 November

1400	Registration	0900	The paperless library? (Mrs Shane Godbolt)
1430	Workshops*	1015	Coffee
1530	Tea and registration	1040	Workshops*
1600	Introduction	1145	Workshops*
1615	Authors whose first language is not English	1300	Lunch
	(Dr Bill Whimster)	1415	Editorial independence (Dr Eoin O'Brien)
1930	Dinner	1530	Tea

*Three workshops are run concurrently: on half tones (Mr Derek Virtue), on performance indicators (Dr John Glen), and on desk top publishing—the experience of Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavica (Professor Göran Bauer).

The fee of £150 (£135 for members of EASE and the BMA) will include a single room and all meals. The day rate for those wishing to attend only on Friday is £65 (£55 for members of EASE and the BMA). Rooms at the Spa Hotel will be allocated on a first come, first served basis; late applicants may have to stay at another hotel nearby. Apply as soon as possible to the editor, British Medical Journal, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Cheques should be made payable to the British Medical Journal.

I enclose a cheque for £	for the workshop for editors of medical journals at Tunbridge Wells, 22-23 November.	
I wish to stay overnight/atter	nd Friday only/other. I am/am not a member of the BMA/EASE.	
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ART AND SCIENCE

Poetry and medicine are not as far apart as you might think; the Greeks attributed both to one god, Apollo.

Many doctors have followed in Apollo's footsteps by combining the art of poetry with the practice of medicine, while others have abandoned medicine to make poetry their profession.

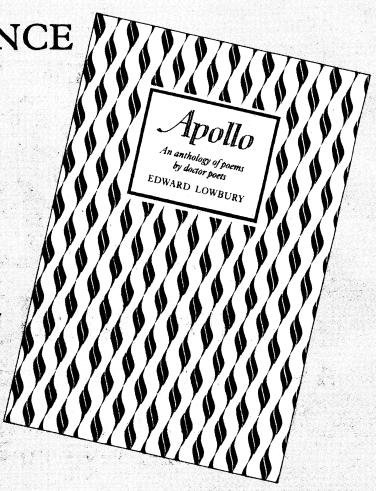
In Apollo poems by medical writers from classical times to the twentieth century have been chosen and edited with an introduction by Edward Lowbury, himself a distinguished doctor poet. Including works by Rabelais, Sir Thomas Browne, Goldsmith, Keats, Schiller, Ronald Ross, William Carlos Williams, and Dannie Abse, this beautifully produced limited edition is published by the Keynes Press to mark the 150th anniversary of the BMJ.

Published 19 September 1990

Designed by Sebastian Carter, demy octavo; set in Erhardt and printed on Supreme Cream Bookwove paper; 158 pages

Limited edition of 1 000 copies

UK £20.00; Abroad £23.00; USA \$43.00 including postage, by air abroad



DID ED, BMJ, MURDER HIS WIFE?

upposedly based on rumoured events in the life of Ernest Hart, a great but undervalued editor of the BMJ, Frank Danby's novel Dr Phillips: a Maida Vale Idyll was first published in 1887. Unlike many popular Victorian novels it is concisely plotted; the characters are sympathetic and believable; and the author's presentation of Jewish life in the late nineteenth century is uncompromisingly honest.

But is the character of "Dr Phillips" a portrait of Hart? In his introduction to the Keynes Press edition Stephen Lock, present editor of the BMJ, places the novel in its literary and historical context and examines the character and achievements of Ernest Hart. Finely bound and printed, and with illustrations by Tabitha Salmon, this edition of Dr Phillips: a Maida Vale Idyll will fascinate those interested in literature, history, and the BMJ.

Published December 1989
Demy Octavo; set in Monophoto Modern and printed on Fineblade Cartridge paper; xii + 285 pages; colour frontispiece
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British Medical Journal, (Keynes Press), PO Box 295, London WCiH 9TE



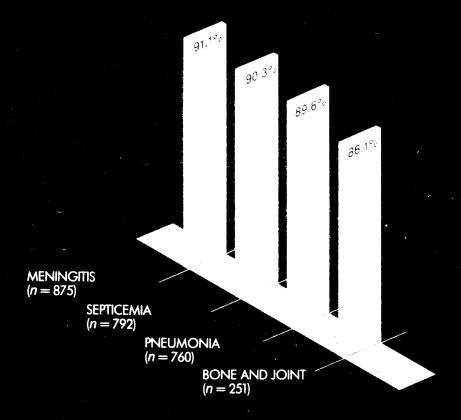


Tabitha Salmon's frontispiece from Dr Phillips: a Maida Vale Idyll by Frank Danby

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recommendations are available on request. Contra-indications: Knawn hypersensitivity to cephalosporins. Precautions: Pregnancy (particularly in the first trimester) unless absolutely necessary. Hypersensitivity to penicillin (possibility of allergic cross-reactions). Anaphylactic shock. Side effects: Gastrointestinal complaints. Hematological changes. Skin reactions. Packs: Packs for i.m. injection, 5's. Packs for i.v. infusion, 5's. Full details are available on request.

Reference

Data on file, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Basel, Switzerland.





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Dosage and administration: adults and children over 12 years: 10 mg daily. Children 6-12 years: 5 mg once daily. Children younger than 6 years: 2 mg per 10 kg daily. Hismanal should be taken on an empty stormach. **Precautions:** Hismanal should be used in pregnant women only when, in the judgement of the physician, the procedure has a stormach. **Precautions:** Hismanal should be used in pregnant women only when, in the judgement of the physician, the procedure has a stormach. **Precautions:**

Adverse reactions: weight gain may occur during prolonged treatment. Overdose: in case of overdose, gastric lavage should be followed by close observation and ECC monitoring as arrhythmias have occasionally occurred after intake of doses in excess of 200 mg.

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