



<b>Editorials</b>	803	<b>Preoperative biochemical screening</b> Iain T Campbell, Peter Gosling
	804	<b>Living under pylons</b> Tar-Ching Aw
	805	<b>A national health research policy</b> Richard Smith
	806	<b>Disciplining midwives</b> James Owen Drife
	807	<b>Regular Review: Recent research on the causes of Alzheimer's disease</b> I J Deary, L J Whalley
<b>News</b>	811-816	<b>Decay in the fabric · Midwives' suspensions · Lighthouse · Kidney donations · Abuse of the elderly · Lancet editor · World medical games · Consent forms · Educating diabetics · Photographer in residence · Dutch research policy · Watershed year for medicine</b>
<b>Papers</b>	817	<b>Inaccuracy and delay in decision making in paediatric resuscitation, and a proposed reference chart to reduce error</b> Peter A Oakley
	819	<b>Psychiatric morbidity of a long stay hospital population with chronic schizophrenia and implications for future community care</b> D A Curson, M Patel, P F Liddle, T R E Barnes
	822	<b>Transabdominal chorionic villus biopsy in second and third trimesters of pregnancy to determine fetal karyotype</b> L Pijpers, M G J Jahoda, A Reuss, J W Wladimiroff, E S Sachs
	824	<b>Excess mortality associated with alcohol consumption</b> Peter Anderson
	826	<b>Postmarketing surveillance of enalapril. I: Results of prescription-event monitoring</b> William H W Inman, Nigel S B Rawson, Lynda V Wilton, Gillian L Pearce, Christopher J Speirs
	830	<b>Postmarketing surveillance of enalapril. II: Investigation of the potential role of enalapril in deaths with renal failure</b> Christopher J Speirs, Colin T Dollery, William H W Inman, Nigel S B Rawson, Lynda V Wilton
	832	<b>Fertility and legal abortion in England and Wales: performance indicators for family planning services</b> Michael Clarke
	833	<b>Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and pain free peptic ulceration in the elderly</b> Michael P Skander, Francis P Ryan
	834	<b>Increased bacterial binding to respiratory epithelial cells in vitamin A deficiency</b> R K Chandra
	835	<b>Risk to Metropolitan police officers from exposure to hepatitis B</b> Jan Welch, Anthea J Tilzey, John Bertrand, E C A Bott, J E Banatvala
	836	<b>Menstrual and ovulatory disturbance in bulimia</b> Tim Cantopher, Chris Evans, J Hubert Lacey, J Malcolm Pearce
	837	<b>The closed eyes sign: an aid to diagnosing non-specific abdominal pain</b> Derek W R Gray, J Michael Dixon, Jack Collin
<b>Practice Observed</b>	838	<b>How to choose a general practice computing system: comparison of commercial packages</b> Angela Daniels, Angela Coulter
<b>Middles</b>	841	<b>Sympmed I: computer program for primary health care</b> M W Uplekar, N H Antia, P S Dhumale
	843	<b>Molecular genetics in clinical practice: evolution of a DNA diagnostic service</b> A L Meredith, M Upadhyaya, P S Harper
	847	<b>How to improve the counselling skills of doctors and nurses in cancer care</b> Peter Maguire, Ann Faulkner
	850-870	<b>Obituary · Correspondence · BMA Affairs · Notes · Medicine and Books · Medicine and the Media · Opinion · Personal View · Minerva · (in detail overleaf)</b>

## 846 Fillers

- 846 *Materia Non Medica* James Owen Drife  
 849 Update Box for *Oxford Handbook of Clinical Specialties* J M Longmore  
 867 Any Questions A K Thould (867); W V Carlin (869)

## 850 Obituary D F Anderson, A S Bardach, F Whitwell, J A B Matheson, W L Ashton, L Hems, J G Macarthur

## 852 Correspondence

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| <p>852 Holding back the tide of caesareans<br/>         Alison Macfarlane; M Shafi, MRCOG, and others;<br/>         D D Mathews, FRCS; Lorraine Lighton, MB</p> <p>853 Brain abscess complicating cervical traction<br/>         Deborah Short and M A Jamous; T T King, FRCS,<br/>         and P J Hamlyn, FRCS</p> <p>854 Chemotherapy related pulmonary embolus<br/>         recognised<br/>         S R Isles, MB, and others</p> <p>854 Renal transplantation from HBsAg positive<br/>         donors to HBsAg negative recipients<br/>         A A Al-Khader, MRCP, and others</p> <p>854 Dyslexia<br/>         J Stein, MRCP</p> <p>854 Salt saga continued<br/>         T C Beard and T Dwyer</p> <p>855 Daytime urinary frequency in children<br/>         P Crowther and others</p> <p>855 <i>Pneumocystis carinii</i> pneumonia<br/>         D O Ho-Yen, MRCPATH, and others</p> <p>855 Consensus on HIV testing<br/>         P Morgan-Capner, MRCPATH, and<br/>         D N Hutchinson, MD</p> <p>856 Specialisms in general practice<br/>         K Jones, MRCP</p> | <p>856 Referral to hospital: can we do better?<br/>         F P Howarth, MRCP, and J M Maitland, MRCP</p> <p>856 DNA fingerprinting<br/>         F E Cotter, MRCP, and S Nasipuri, BSC</p> <p>856 Community care: Italian style<br/>         Sarah Oke, MB</p> <p>856 Does wearing two pairs of gloves protect against<br/>         skin contamination?<br/>         N Fieldman, FRCS</p> <p>856 Battle of the bottle<br/>         T Waterston, MRCP, and D Morley, FRCP</p> <p>857 <b>Points</b> Ultrasonography for diagnosing<br/>         appendicitis (D Crichton); Decision making for<br/>         routine immunisation (W J Noonan);<br/>         Non-operative management of perianeurysmal<br/>         fibrosis (J F Thompson and A D B Chant);<br/>         Heartsink patients (D G Wilson); Hospital<br/>         referrals (P A Reilly; D J Price); Asian mothers'<br/>         risk factors for perinatal death (A Pisacane and<br/>         G Mazzarella); What went wrong at Exeter?<br/>         (H Weatherburn)</p> <p>858 <b>Drug points</b> Ceftriaxone and reversible<br/>         cholelithiasis (R H B Meyboom and others);<br/>         Hallucinations in association with ceftazidime<br/>         (M F Al-Zahawi and others); Inappropriate<br/>         secretion of antidiuretic hormone associated with<br/>         lorazepam (W R Engel and A Grau)</p> |
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## 859 BMA Affairs

- 859 HIV infection in Scotland  
 860 BMA wants to meet CMO on public health plans  
 861 Evidence on restrictive practices

## 863 Medicine and Books

- 863 R D G Leslie: *Diabetes Mellitus in Pregnancy: Principles and Practice* (E A Reece, D R Coustan)  
 863 Graham Currie: *Textbook of Uncommon Cancer* (Ed C J Williams, J G Krikorian, M R Green, D Raghavan)  
 864 R G P Rees and D B A Silk: *Heinemann Medical Student Reviews—Clinical Nutrition* (G Neale)  
 864 Andrew Grubb: *Medical Negligence: a Plaintiff's Guide* (C J Lewis)  
 864 Selection

## 865 Medicine and the Media

- 865 MP apologises Sir Bernard Braine  
 865 On the edge of the abyss Simon Barley  
 866 A picture of health Jane Lewis  
 867 Taking a sexual history Margaret Ramage

## 868 Opinion Why are we weighting? David Widgery

## 869 Personal View On the outside looking in John Black

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

# BMJ

One of the recent medical success stories, the advances in genetics, is well illustrated in two of this week's articles. Pijpers and his colleagues from The Netherlands (p 822) show how valuable and safe transabdominal chorionic villus biopsy may be in later pregnancy—in the second and third trimesters. They detected abnormal fetal karyotypes in seven cases, enabling termination in six, while (apart from one unexplained fetal death) the remaining pregnancies continued normally. Nearer home the Cardiff medical genetics unit (p 843) emphasises the explosive developments. When their DNA diagnostic group

began the haemoglobinopathies were the only conditions for which molecular genetics diagnosis had been established; now they list no fewer than 42 conditions. And Cotter and Nasipuri from Barts (p 856) show how DNA probes may be useful in showing progression of tumours when conventional studies have failed. Finally, there is the battle of the bottles: one sort (breast versus artificial feeding) continues in the correspondence columns (p 856); another type (how many excess deaths from alcohol) possibly begins with Anderson's conclusion of an estimated figure of 28 000 (p 824). We haven't heard the last of either.