

# BMJ

1840-1990

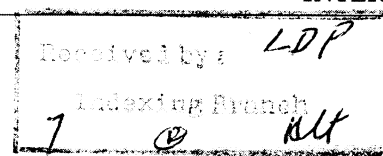
SATURDAY 14 APRIL 1990



BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL NO 6730 VOLUME 300

INTERNATIONAL

- Editorials**
- 957 **Health service finances**  
John Appleby
- 958 **Minitracheotomy**  
D W Ryan
- 959 **Single domain antibodies**  
Heather M Dick
- 960 **The toxic shock syndrome**  
Glyn R Williams



- News**
- 961-966 **GMC's decision on "kidneys for sale" · Strangeways · Gene therapy advances · Mortality and geography · Monitoring the post-reform NHS · Health authorities predict hard times ahead · Changes after Australian election · Medical peers and royal colleges · I must not be rude to Mr Clarke**

- Papers**
- 967 **The Kenyan Luo migration study: observations on the initiation of a rise in blood pressure**  
N R Poulter, K T Khaw, B E C Hopwood, M Mugambi, W S Peart, G Rose, P S Sever
- 972 **Oxpentifylline treatment of venous ulcers of the leg**  
Mary-Paula Colgan, John A Dormandy, Peter W Jones, Ivor G Schraibman, D Gregor Shanik, Richard A L Young
- 975 **Relation between dose of bendroflumazide, antihypertensive effect, and adverse biochemical effects**  
Jan E Carlsen, Lars Køber, Christian Torp-Pedersen, Peter Johansen
- 978 **Managing seizures in the casualty department**  
Paul J W McKee, Elaine A Wilson, Jean A Dawson, John G Larkin, Martin J Brodie
- 979 **Proliferative retinopathy in a woman with growth hormone deficiency and diabetes mellitus**  
C H Thivolet, P Mirakian, P Chatelain, P Fournier, J Tourniaire
- 980 **Surgery for detachment of the retina should not affect a normal delivery**  
D V Inglesby, B C Little, A H Chignell

- Audit in Practice**
- 981 **Control of blood pressure in Scotland: the rule of halves**  
W C S Smith, A J Lee, I K Crombie, Hugh Tunstall-Pedoe
- 983 **Audit of terminal care in a general practice**  
Ann C Blyth
- 986 **Effect of reactive pharmacy intervention on quality of hospital prescribing**  
C J Hawkey, S Hodgson, A Norman, T K Daneshmend, S T Garner
- 991 **Audit in Person:**  
**Retrospective review of hospital patient records**  
J G Williams, M J Kingham, J M Morgan, A B Davies
- 993 **News and Information**

- Middles**
- 995 **Control and prevention of tuberculosis in Britain: an updated code of practice**  
Subcommittee of the Joint Tuberculosis Committee of the British Thoracic Society
- 999 **After the Asylums: Who needs long term psychiatric care?**  
Trish Groves
- 1002 **Everyday Aids and Appliances: Aids to prevent pressure sores**  
John B Young
- 1005 **Controversies in Therapeutics: Childhood otalgia: acute otitis media**  
1 **Antibiotics not necessary in most cases**  
George G Browning  
2 **Justification for antibiotic use in general practice**  
John Bain
- 1008 **Scientifically Speaking: A change too far**  
Bernard Dixon

1009-1024 **Obituary · Correspondence · BMA Affairs · Personal View · Medicine and Books · Minerva ·**  
(in detail overleaf)

## 990 Fillers

- 990 Any Questions D W M Pearson; D P Jewell (990); M S Nielsen; Correction (1007)  
994 The Memoir Club (994); (1021)

## 1009 Obituary

A N Exton-Smith, A H Granat, H I Deitch, T H Crozier, J C D Carothers, G Beven, J Brown, W D Giffen, G E R Bibbings, J McW Duncan, D J Kirke, I P Jaffe

## 1012 Correspondence

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1012 Use of microaggregate filters: need for audit<br>N T J O'Connor, MRCPATH, and others  | 1015 Raynaud's syndrome<br>V F Challenor, MB, and others  |
| 1012 Coffee consumption as trigger for diabetes in<br>childhood<br>D R Matthews, MRCP, and others; S C Bain, MRCP,<br>and others | 1016 Management of acute coronary occlusion during<br>coronary angioplasty<br>R T Johnston, MRCP, and others  |
| 1012 Monitoring cardiopulmonary resuscitation by end<br>tidal carbon dioxide concentration<br>M S Nielsen, FCANAES, and others   | 1016 Surgery and salmonella<br>B K Mandal, FRCP, and P F Schofield, FRCS;<br>G Stansby, FRCS, and others  |
| 1013 Dangers of thrombolysis<br>P D Thomas, MRCP   | 1016 Creating a new drug service in Edinburgh<br>A A Fraser, MRCPsych, and Catherine Cahill, MB   |
| 1013 Genital warts<br>M Griffiths, MRCOG; R J Hillman, MRCP, and<br>D Taylor-Robinson, FRCPath                                   | 1017 Perimenopausal women's views on hormone<br>replacement therapy<br>A Z Kadri, MRCP  |
| 1014 Implications of inflammatory changes on cervical<br>cytology<br>R Nadarajah, MRCP, and others                               | 1017 Use of skin thermometer to diagnose acute<br>appendicitis<br>V Jaffe, MB, and others   |
| 1014 Alcoholic doctors can recover<br>A Allibone, FRCGP  | 1017 General practitioner budget holding<br>I Cocks, MB   |
| 1014 Intratesticular radionuclide and spermatogenic<br>damage<br>H Jackson, DSC, and others                                      | 1018 Blood transfusion in Europe<br>P Feldman, PhD  |
| 1015 Identification of the cystic fibrosis gene<br>Joan Slack, DM, and others; L P ten Kate, MD, and<br>others                   | 1018 <b>Drug points</b> Arterial thrombosis after treatment<br>with bleomycin and cisplatin (I W H Garstin and<br>others); Oesophageal lesions during treatment<br>with piroxicam (L Santucci and others) |
|  | 1018 <b>Correction</b> Electrical arcing and contact lenses<br>(Buckley)  |

## 1019 BMA Affairs

- 1019 Nursery of medicopolitics  
1020 LMCs to monitor contract  
1020 Generic prescribing

## 1021 Personal View I know who Minerva is Clare Taylor

## 1022 Medicine and Books

- 1022 Sara Arber: *Being Me and Also Us: Lessons from the Peckham Experiment* (A Stallibrass)  
1022 Brian Hurwitz: *Taking Liberties: AIDS and Cultural Politics* (E Carter, S Watney)  
1023 R M Kirk: *A Clinical and Pathological Atlas: the Records of a Surgeon in St Vincent, The West Indies* (A C Cyrus)  
1023 Noted

## 1024 Minerva

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

# BMJ

NHS finances are again under strain, as John Appleby explains on page 957. If this raises the blood pressure of clinicians they may care to note the link between urbanisation and blood pressure (p 967), the failure in Scotland to detect and control hypertension adequately (p 981), and the Danish study on the optimum dose of the antihypertensive drug bendroflumazide (p 975).

Pressure sores are estimated to cost the NHS £150 million a year; while their proper treatment would not save that sum, costs could be cut, and, as Dr John Young points out (p 1002), their incidence is "one of the measures that indicate quality of care." Perhaps

Kenneth Clarke's proposed clinical standards advisory group to monitor quality of care in his reformed NHS (p 964) will take this mundane indicator on board. Quality of care may be hard to maintain during a late evening call to a child with earache: doctors tempted to prescribe an antibiotic with a "Call me if he doesn't improve" instruction should read Controversies in Therapeutics on childhood otalgia (p 1005). A final lesson, this one for surgeons, is reported by Minerva (p 1024): a graphic picture of a silk based gall stone shows why absorbable sutures must be used for ligating the cystic duct at cholecystectomy.