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EDITOR'S CHOICE



Who'd have thought that you could find 107 controlled trials of homoeopathic treatment? A group of Dutch authors have done just that, and, although most of the trials were of low quality, the authors conclude that they suggest that homoeopathic treatment may have real benefits (p 316). There has been much less research on violence in general practice, which is one reason why we have accepted a study with a low response rate (p 329)—despite the strictures in our editorial on the problem of response rates (p 302). Whatever the response, the study found 687 general practitioners who had experienced abuse in the

previous 12 months, 191 of whom had experienced abuse at least once a month. Editorial offices also experience abuse, albeit minor, and we hope that the detailed guidance prepared by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors on submitting manuscripts to biomedical journals will reduce the abuse and the number of times that authors need to ring us (p 338). Finally, Sheila Awoonor-Renner (p 356) writes powerfully about the death of her son and calls for hospitals to allow the bereaved to express their grief as strongly as they want: "A cup of tea and an aseptic look at the body does not serve."