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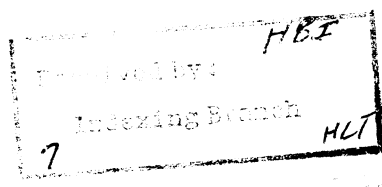


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EDITOR'S CHOICE

BMJ

Mothers of twins may not be too surprised to learn that they are at greater risk of depression than mothers of singletons, but Karen Thorpe and others have shown this clearly in a large cohort study (p 875). These findings are especially important when multiple births are increasing so rapidly because of treatment for infertility, and surely future research will look at mothers of triplets and more. And what about fathers? A survey of patient satisfaction might help, and Ray Fitzpatrick in the first of a two part series explains how to do such surveys properly (p 887). The many authors who are submitting to us poorly done versions of such studies should pay close attention. Close attention must also be paid to statistical analysis, and

Richard Peto demolishes on p 906 the statistics of the recent much publicised paper that suggested that vitamin supplements might increase children's intelligence. Peter Elwood, meanwhile, apologises on p 913 for not having foreseen the press furore that surrounded his data suggesting that consumption of milk and butter might protect against heart disease. Less publicity, unfortunately, is likely to surround Jerry Morris's point (p 905) that inequalities in pay and health within the NHS are widening even faster than in the outside world. Charity should begin at home, and Professor Morris argues that associations of some of the more powerful players within the health service—like the BMA—might take up the cause of the low paid.