

BMJ

SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 1991



R31
B55

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL NO 6803 VOLUME 303

INTERNATIONAL

Editorials	593	How to pay for expensive drugs M Orme
	594	More macrolides M J Wood
	595	Improving survival after large bowel cancer T G Allen-Mersh
	596	Fibrinogen E Ernst
	597	Registers for occupational diseases H Keskinen
	598	Preventing unwanted pregnancies James F Pearson

News	599-604	German health reforms · New medicines · Health in Scotland · Heavy loads · Human insulin · Tobacco advertising · Docklands · Quebec's doctors · Aid for Yugoslavia · No room at the inn · Unplanned pregnancies · Marketing the NHS
-------------	---------	--

Papers	605	Fibrinogen and lipid concentrations as risk factors for transient ischaemic attacks and minor ischaemic strokes Nawab Qizilbash, Linda Jones, Charles Warlow, Jim Mann
	610	Informed consent: study of quality of information given to participants in a clinical trial Niels Lynøe, Mikael Sandlund, Gisela Dahlqvist, Lars Jacobsson
	613	Increased sensitivity of dopamine receptors and recurrence of affective psychosis after childbirth A Wieck, R Kumar, A D Hirst, M N Marks, I C Campbell, S A Checkley
	617	Risk of severe hypoglycaemia in insulin treated diabetic patients transferred to human insulin: a case control study Matthias Egger, George Davey Smith, Hans Imhoof, Arthur Teuscher
	622	Influence of human insulin on symptoms and awareness of hypoglycaemia: a randomised double blind crossover trial Matthias Egger, George Davey Smith, Adrian U Teuscher, Arthur Teuscher
	626	Influence of posture and reference point on central venous pressure measurement G A Haywood, M D Joy, A J Camm
	627	Pneumothorax: a complication of fine needle aspiration of the breast C A Gateley, P R Maddox, R E Mansel
	628	Who is your general practitioner? Jennifer Shaw, Josanne Holloway

Audit in Practice	629	Adolescent self harm patients: audit of assessment in an accident and emergency department Frank G O'Dwyer, Antoinette D'Alton, John B Pearce
	631	Audit in Person: Audit officers: what are they up to? Jenny Firth-Cozens, Pamela Venning

Education & Debate	633	High potency factor VIII concentrates: value not proved? John D Cash
	634	For Debate: Guidelines for the management of convulsions with fever Joint Working Group of the Research Unit of the Royal College of Physicians and the British Paediatric Association
	636	The Health of the Nation: responses Strategy for stroke Martin Dennis, Charles Warlow
	639	Communicable diseases other than AIDS Norman D Noah

641-658	Obituary · Correspondence · Medicopolitical Digest · Soundings · Medicine and the Media · Personal View · Medicine and Books · Minerva · (in detail overleaf)
---------	--

CONTENTS pages 641-658

641 Obituary

C H Taylor-Robinson, G K McKee, G W Taylor, C S Thomson, P H Tooley, J P Child, D G O'Driscoll

643 Correspondence

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>643 Withdrawing antihypertensive treatment
P S Sever, FRCP, and others; D C Crossman, MD;
M Aylett, FRCGP, and S Ketchin, MRCGP;
P R Jackson, MRCP, and others; S J Jachuck, MRCP;
Alison J Watson, MFPHM; M A James, MRCP, and
T J MacConnell, MRCP</p> <p>645 Routine testing for HIV at infertility clinics
M Huengsberg, MB, and others</p> <p>645 Effect of a fetal surveillance unit
Sara Twaddle, MSC, and Valerie Harper, MRCOG;
P Soothill, MRCOG, and others</p> <p>646 Alcohol consumption during pregnancy and
infants' development
M M Madlom, MB</p> <p>646 The health of the nation
Radical Statistics Health Group; I Basnett, MFPHM;
Sue Ibbotson, DRCOG, and I Watt; E J Brunner, MSC</p> <p>647 Leprosy in reaction
C L Crawford, MRCP</p> <p>647 Kala-azar in France
M D Innis, FRCPATH</p> <p>647 Papaveretum in women of childbearing potential
S Allen, FFARCS, and 11 others; J P Warwick, DA,
and others; A W Asscher, FRCP, and L K Fowler,
FFPM</p> <p>648 Dog bites to children
R P Cole, FRCS</p> <p>648 Asthma and regular β agonist treatment
B Richter, MD</p> | <p>648 Accelerated immunisation with diphtheria-tetanus-
pertussis vaccine
Mary Ramsay, MRCP, and others</p> <p>649 What do they want?
T Clay, CBE</p> <p>649 Measures of performance in Scottish maternity
hospitals
C E Lennox, MRCOG</p> <p>649 Computers in audit: servants or sirens?
A N Hamlyn, FRCP</p> <p>649 Interpractice collaboration for functional
assessment in elderly patients
M A Varnam, FRCGP, and 11 others</p> <p>650 Environmentally acceptable containers for soft
drinks
Sally Hopkins</p> <p>650 Junior doctors' hours
P J Taylor, MB; A M B Golding, FFCM</p> <p>650 Joy riding
C L M H Gibbons, FRCS, and others</p> <p>650 Completing the feedback loop
Jennifer Hollowell, MA, and others</p> <p>651 What now for IPPNW?
G Symonds, MB</p> <p>651 Drug points Anosmia due to nasal administration
of corticosteroid (H B Whittet and others);
Carbamazepine and spina bifida (P Oakeshott and
G M Hunt)</p> <p>651 Correction DMPA and bone density (Kubba)</p> |
|--|--|

652 Medicopolitical Digest

653 Soundings

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 653 Throbbing in the dorm Julie Welch | 653 One in three James Owen Drife |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

654 Medicine and the Media

- 654 Slippery science Frank Mort

655 Personal View

- 655 For what we are about to receive Gwen Yates

656 Medicine and Books

- 656 A D Redmond: *Improving Risk Communication* (Committee on Risk Perception and Communication;
Commission on Physical Sciences, Mathematics, and Resources; Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences
and Education; National Research Council)
- 656 William Reith: *The Business Side of General Practice*. "Making Sense of Audit" (Ed D Irvine, S Irvine)
- 656 C C Evans: *Controversies in Therapeutics* (Ed P Rubin)

658 Minerva

EDITOR'S CHOICE

BMJ

Just as the pundits do not know which rock and roll records will become hits so editors of medical journals have difficulty predicting which papers will attract media attention. But the two papers we are publishing today suggesting that the transfer of patients with diabetes from animal to human insulin is associated with hypoglycaemia (p 617 and p 622) are likely to receive much publicity—not least because lawyers are in on the act, and 700 patients are making claims against manufacturers (p 601). Much publicity has already been given to the report from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists on unwanted pregnancies (p 598 and p 604) and its main recommendation: more and better sex education. James Owen Drife observes in his Soundings column that one

in three British women will have therapeutic abortions and asks if this scandalously high rate will continue as "a side effect of the British tradition that sex is for seaside postcards and Sunday papers but not for rational discussion" (p 653). In her column on the same page Julie Welch describes the sex education she received in the 60s from a biology mistress "dyslexic with embarrassment." Among doctors, hypertension seems to attract almost as much attention as sex, and the suggestion that some patients might have their antihypertensive drugs stopped is provoking strong debate in the correspondence columns (p 643). Finally, Minerva has come up with the delicious sounding word "larviverous" in her mention of a new method of reducing malaria in India (p 658).