

B31-B55 BMJ

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER 1991



BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL NO 6815 VOLUME 303

INTERNATIONAL

Editorials

- 1411 **Treating Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome**
Seán Ó Núnáin, A John Camm, David E Ward
- 1412 **How well do we manage families with genetic problems?**
Rodney Harris
- 1413 **Adults with congenital heart disease**
David S Celermajer, John E Deanfield
- 1414 **Understanding Marfan's syndrome**
Ian Young
- 1415 **Doctors in the making**
Stephen Hunter
- 1416 **Training in obstetrics**
Susan M Blunt

News

- 1417-1422 **Australian road safety · France pays HIV compensation · A and E crisis in New York · Japan's karoshi victims · General practice in new Europe · Execution and transplantation in Taiwan · First trust for Wales · AIDS teaching in schools · How left is NHS support group? · Correction · Euthanasia at Westminster · The Week**

Papers

- 1423 **Does dexamethasone enhance control of acute cisplatin induced emesis by ondansetron?**
J F Smyth, R E Coleman, M Nicolson, W M Gallmeier, R C F Leonard, M A Cornbleet, S G Allan, B K Upadhyaya, U Brunsch
- 1426 **Bronchodilator treatment in moderate asthma or chronic bronchitis: continuous or on demand? A randomised controlled study**
Constant P van Schayck, Edward Dompeling, Cees L A van Herwaarden, Hans Folgering, Andre L M Verbeek, Henk J M van der Hoogen, Chris van Weel
- 1431 **Elective total hip replacement: incidence, emergency readmission rate, and postoperative mortality**
Valerie Seagroatt, Heng Soon Tan, Michael Goldacre, Christopher Bulstrode, Ian Nugent, Leicester Gill
- 1435 **Cost effectiveness of magnetic resonance imaging in the neurosciences**
A K Szczepura, J Fletcher, J D Fitz-Patrick
- 1439 **Intensified conventional insulin treatment and neuropsychological impairment**
Per Reichard, Anders Britz, Urban Rosenqvist
- 1442 **Training and supervision of obstetric senior house officers**
Maevae Ennis
- 1443 **Roles of midwives and general practitioners in hospital intrapartum care, England and Wales, 1988**
Lindsay F P Smith, David Jewell
- 1444 **Health risks associated with bathing in sea water**
R Balarajan, V Soni Raleigh, P Yuen, D Wheeler, D Machin, R Cartwright
- 1445 **Effect of high dose steroid bolus on occlusion of ocular central artery: angiographic study**
N Hausmann, G Richard
- 1446 **Correction: Progression of HIV disease** Lee and others

General Practice

- 1447 **GP trainees' views on hospital obstetric vocational training**
Lindsay F P Smith
- 1450 **Co-amoxiclav in recurrent acute otitis media: placebo controlled study**
C L M Appelman, J Q P J Claessen, F W M M Touw-Otten, G J Hordijk, R A de Melker

Education & Debate

- 1453 **Regular Review: Urinary incontinence in women: have we anything new to offer?**
Linda Cardozo
- 1457 **Medicine in Europe: European health care systems**
Tony Smith
- 1459 **Health and the Environment: Air pollution: I—From pea souper to photochemical smog**
Fiona Godlee
- 1462 **ABC of Vascular Diseases: The swollen leg**
D T Reilly, John H N Wolfe
- 1465 **Lesson of the Week: Adipsic hypothalamic diabetes insipidus after clipping of anterior communicating artery aneurysm**
Bryan McIver, Alan Connacher, Ian Whittle, Peter Baylis, Chris Thompson
- 1468 **Conference report: Science and medicine down under**
Tony Delamothe, Richard Smith

- 1471-1486 **Obituary · Correspondence · Medicopolitical Digest · Soundings · Personal View · Medicine and the Media · Medicine and Books · Minerva · (in detail overleaf)**

CONTENTS pages 1471-1486

1471 Obituary

A N Roxburgh, S I Williams, M A Bajalan, M G Eldin, J F K Grieve

1472 Correspondence

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|
| 1472 | Performance of skin biopsies by general practitioners
D Slater; J E Brazier and A Lowy; A H James and others; R D G James; A D Bull and others; M Catterall; J F C Schnetler | 1476 | How to pay for expensive drugs
D C Currie and others; R H W Lorig; C J Bunce; G D Magee and others; T P Astill |
| 1474 | Fetal and infant growth and impaired glucose tolerance
R J Jarrett; G C Cook; D P Davies and J Matthes; D J P Barker and others | 1478 | Counselling patients before an HIV test
R Bor and others |
| 1475 | Injuries to common bile duct during laparoscopic cholecystectomy
R Smith | 1478 | Health of the nation
A Harris; H Tunstall-Pedoe; J Stephenson and J H Fuller; J W T Chalmers and others |
| 1475 | Bile duct stones and laparoscopic cholecystectomy
A Clark; S Paterson-Brown and O J Garden | 1479 | Measurement of central venous pressure
P Wilmshurst |
| 1476 | Laparotomy in the acute abdomen
A W McCombe and A A Gunn | 1479 | Strategy for asthma
A Bauman and others |
| 1476 | Postoperative feeding
J Macfie; D J Hehir and M P Brady | 1480 | The "Q" in QALYs
R Carr-Hill and J Morris |
| | | 1480 | Off the rails
A G Freeman |
| | | 1480 | Camelford revisited
R Lawson |

1481 Medicopolitical Digest

Less than £200m for patient care in 1992-3 · Secretary of state's views on pathology · LMCs respond to *Building Your Own Future* · Nurse prescribing bill

1482 Soundings

Medicine as circus James Owen Drife Sniffing at clues Tony Smith

1483 Personal View

There must be a better way Nick Evans

1484 Medicine and the Media

Out of the shadows Anne M Johnson Big ideas and common sense Andrew P Read

1485 Medicine and Books

Martin Jourdan: *Surgical Laparoscopy* (Ed K A Zucker)
Clare E Wilkie: *Body Myths* (C Helman)

1486 Minerva

EDITOR'S CHOICE

BMJ

The poverty of postgraduate training in medicine is highlighted in this week's issue. Obstetricians have been looking hard at the problem because their trainees are beginning to vote with their feet. Susan Blunt reports on a meeting at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists at which trainees told the college grandees that the main problems were lack of career guidance and a structure for training and long hours (p 1416). Maeve Ennis found that about a quarter of a sample of senior house officers in obstetrics had received no training in forceps delivery at the end of six months and that a third of those who had received training thought it inadequate (p 1442). Meanwhile, an extensive survey of the obstetric component of vocational

training for general practice by Lindsay Smith shows that the training increased the trainees' perception of their competence but failed to encourage them to use their skills (p 1447). Obstetrics may be in the spotlight, but the problems extend to all parts of medicine. Stephen Hunter writes an editorial (p 1415) based on a report just published, *Doctors in the Making*, and emphasises that improving the lot of junior doctors requires developments on many fronts. "Solutions" that address only one part of the problem fail. The answer is not simply more money or staff but something much more profound, including acceptance of ideas like junior doctors being accountable to nurses and managers and nurses being formally involved in the training of doctors.