

# BMJ

Received by: HBI  
Indexing Branch



BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL NO 6870 VOLUME 306

INTERNATIONAL

<b>Editorials</b>	77	<b>How go the NHS reforms?</b> Chris Ham	
	78	<b>How useful is activated charcoal?</b> J A Vale, A T Proudfoot	
	79	<b>The cervical spine in rheumatoid arthritis</b> Amrit K Agarwal, Walter C Peppelman Jr, David R Kraus, Carl H Eisenbeis Jr	
	81	<b>Health promotion and children and teenagers</b> Aidan Macfarlane	
	81	<b>Drugs, secrecy, and society</b> Charles Medawar	
	82	<b>GMC in the dock again</b> Richard Smith	
<b>News</b>	83-88	<b>Labelling US foods · Brazil fights drug companies · Drug secrecy · Psychiatrist accused · Germany's gene laws · EC medical market opens · New year honours · Sellafield evidence · HIV prevalence · GP restored to register · The Week</b>	
<b>Papers</b>	89	<b>Cancer in Cumbria and in the vicinity of the Sellafield nuclear installation, 1963-90</b> G J Draper, C A Stiller, R A Cartwright, A W Craft, T J Vincent	
	95	<b>Evidence of unmet need in the care of severely physically disabled adults</b> M H Williams, C Bowie	
	98	<b>Long term follow up of severely ill patients who underwent urgent cardiac transplantation</b> D Mulcahy, M Fitzgerald, C Wright, J Sparrow, J Pepper, M Yacoub, K M Fox	
	102	<b>Evaluation of two school smoking education programmes under normal classroom conditions</b> Don Nutbeam, Petra Macaskill, Christopher Smith, Judy M Simpson, John Catford	
	107	<b>Fatal hepatic decompensation associated with interferon alfa</b> H L A Janssen, J T Brouwer, F Nevens, J M Sanchez-Tapias, A Craxi, S Hadziyannis	
	109	<b>Drug points: Hypersensitivity to dexamethasone A T C Chan, M E R O'Brien · Acute eosinophilic pneumonia induced by inhaled pentamidine isethionate M Dupon, M Malou, A M Rogues, J Y Lacut · Visual failure and optic atrophy associated with chlorambucil therapy P Hji Yiannakis, Andrew J Larner</b>	
<b>General Practice</b>	110	<b>Influence of Royal College of Radiologists' guidelines on referral from general practice</b> Royal College of Radiologists Working Party	
	112	<b>The Future of FHSAs: Empowering GPs as purchasers</b> Virginia Morley	
<b>Education &amp; Debate</b>	115	<b>Phenylketonuria due to phenylalanine hydroxylase deficiency: an unfolding story</b> Medical Research Council Working Party on Phenylketonuria	
	120	<b>Australian court decision on passive smoking upheld on appeal</b> Simon Chapman, Stephen Woodward	
	122	<b>Alternative allergy and the General Medical Council</b> A B Kay	
	125	<b>Health of nations: lessons from Victoria, Australia</b> John W Powles, Sandra Gifford	
	127	<b>Medical Education: Teaching the teachers</b> Stella Lowry	
	130	<b>London after Tomlinson: Managing change: the human aspects of the NHS</b> Eva Lauermann	
	132	<b>Countdown to Community Care: Reaching out—community care in Bassetlaw</b> Trish Groves	
	136	<b>Letter from Brasília: Obstructive lymphatic filariasis</b> P D Marsden	
	137-154	<b>Obituary · Letters · Medicopolitical Digest · Soundings · Personal View · Medicine and Books · Minerva · (in detail overleaf)</b>	

# CONTENTS *pages 137-154*

## 137 Obituary

A S Duncan, T E Gumpert, P J Sweeney, L P E Laurent, J E G Pearson, L J Rust, J A Price, M C Price, R H Vartan

## 139 Letters

139	Infant mortality and army families S A St J Miller; J Reggler; T H Hughes-Davies; R R Gordon; K J Kimmanne and W E Waters	145	Child resistant containers needed for liquid medications M Jacobs
140	Practice reports T Scanlon and R Lubon; P N E Berrey; T Swage; C Sawers	145	Urodynamic investigation in elderly women D P Keane and others
141	Fundholding practices get preference P Fisher; C J McCullough	145	Organ donation G R Park and others; A D Barnes
141	Consultant episodes A M Pollock and A Majeed; P Brambleby; I Woolf	145	Cardiovascular disease in developing countries U Ravnskov
142	Confounding in epidemiological studies A N Phillips and G Davey Smith	146	Ecstasy and dantrolene B Tehan
142	Letting vegetative patients die C Crisci; A P Cole; R S Hanspal	146	Assisted conception: cumulative effectiveness D J Rowlands and others
143	Hyponatraemia associated with paroxetine T P Chua and S K Vong	146	Pregnancy and ionising radiation L K Harding
143	Screening for neuroblastoma M H Duncan	147	Diversion from custody D Melzer
144	Lung cancer and breast cancer in women P Matthews	147	“Economic relevance” in pharmacoeconomic studies J A Sacristan and J Hernandez
144	Botulinum toxin for hemifacial spasm H Coakham	147	Maintaining excellence D I Rushton
144	Doctors’ retainer scheme J Williams; R Crabtree; W Griffiths	147	Organisations working with victims of conflict G M C Holdsworth; R J Ball
		148	Health promotion in general practice D M Williams
		148	Specialist training A J Carney and others; E Borman

## 149 Medicopolitical Digest

BMA’s evidence to specialist training working party · Violent patients: practical guidance · Medical new year honours · Correction

## 150 Soundings Quota medicine Colin Douglas; A bumper year for science Bernard Dixon

## 151 Personal View Greed and the medical profession Ralph Crawshaw

## 152 Medicine and Books

152	E B Ritson: <i>Confronting Drunk Driving</i> (H L Ross)
152	J Stewart Cameron: <i>Immunological Aspects of Renal Disease</i> (D B G Oliveira)
153	Jean Smellie: <i>Clinical Pediatric Nephrology</i> (K K Kher, S P Makker)
153	Alison Murdoch: <i>A Textbook of In Vitro Fertilization and Assisted Reproduction</i> (Ed P R Brinsden, P A Rainsbury)
153	Correction: Best books on immunology (Denman)

## 154 Minerva

*Instructions to authors appeared in the issue of 2 January 1993, p 55*

### Emergency cardiac transplantation a better buy than education

Much of the responsibility for making the new NHS work rests with the purchasers—those who must determine what health services a community needs and then buy them as cost effectively as possible. The purchasers will not be able to afford everything, and two papers in this week’s journal illustrate the difficulties they will face.

Imagine yourself responsible for purchasing services in relation to heart disease. Your first choice might be to try to purchase services that will prevent disease, and you might thus turn to that panacea—education. Don Nutbeam and others present on p 102 the results of a two year controlled trial carried out in 39 schools of two educational initiatives to reduce smoking. Nothing was achieved in terms of reducing smoking.

The disappointed purchaser may next have to consider what to do about patients so ill with heart disease that they must undergo urgent cardiac transplantation or die. Surely, the purchaser might think, it cannot be sensible economics to spend so much on such sick patients. But a group from the Royal National Brompton Heart and Lung Hospital shows that 20 of 24 patients left hospital after such an operation, 17 were alive after five years, and 10 still worked

full time 61-83 months after transplantation (p 98).

But any purchaser tempted to despair of public health should consider our two papers from Australia. In contrast with the British, the Australians have been deadly serious about public health, and John Powles and Sandra Gifford describe how, in Victoria, well planned strategies have reduced deaths from road traffic accidents and reduced smoking levels (p 125). And on p 120 Simon Chapman and Stephen Woodward report how the tobacco industry suffered two major setbacks in the week before Christmas: a bill to ban all remaining forms of tobacco promotion finally passed through both houses of federal parliament, and the Federal Court of Australia ruled that the industry’s claim that “there is little evidence and nothing which proves scientifically that cigarette smoking causes disease in no-smokers” was misleading and deceptive.

Finally, readers in search of the unusual might like to read Bernard Dixon on “Why do female adders copulate so frequently?” (p 150) or Ralph Crawshaw on how greed is a serious problem among doctors (p 151). Alternatively, they might admire the beauty of a condyloma acuminatum found on the hard palate of a woman from Birmingham (p 154).

**BMJ**

**Editor’s  
Choice**