

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE®

www.amjmed.com

CONTENTS

The Green Journal

September 2024 Volume 137/Number 9

COMMENTARIES

- 791 **Twelve Interesting Biological Tidbits**
Joseph S. Alpert
- 793 **The Conflict of Public Health Law and Civil Liberties Part IV: Anger, Frustration, and the Loss of Trust**
Curtis E. Harris
- 795 **A New Class of Drugs Approved in the United States for Hypertension: Endothelin Antagonists**
C. Venkata S. Ram
- 799 **First, Do No Harm. Second, Measure It.**
Madeline Higgins, Sarah Tevis, and Jeffrey J. Glasheen
- 801 **Could Treating Deer with a Pill that Kills Ticks on Dogs Eliminate Lyme Disease from Humans?**
Gary P. Wormser, Thomas N. Mather, and Stephen M. Rich
- 803 **Improving Health Messaging and Communication: Perspectives from an Academic and Son of an Italian Barber**
Ross Arena

REVIEWS

- 805 **Human Stem Cells in Regenerative Medicine**
Edward J. Goetzl, Joseph S. Alpert, and Qin M. Chen
- Introducing adult somatic stem cells may lead to improved therapy for many human diseases by repairing or replacing defective or damaged tissues. But since these possibilities are still in the early stages of development, it is necessary to proceed cautiously to ensure maximum safety and effectiveness.*
- 810 **Coronary Microvascular Dysfunction: A Guide for Clinicians**
Hannah Smati, Frank W. Sellke, Jamieson M. Bourque, Yusuf Kamran Qadeer, Giampaolo Niccoli, Rocco A. Montone, and Chayakrit Krittanawong
- An array of validated diagnostic tools exist for evaluating coronary microvascular dysfunction; management of this condition should depend on the clinical context and underlying cardiomyopathy, rather than relying solely on routine coronary angiogram.*



- 818 Ten Clinical Pearls in Microbiology: How Effective Collaboration Optimizes Patient Care**
John C. Lam and Samuel Bourassa-Blanchette

The microbiology laboratory plays a vital role in the surveillance, treatment, and prevention of infections. Collaboration with the microbiology lab can significantly improve the safety and quality of patient care. In this review, 10 key concepts in the field of microbiology are shown to hold relevance for clinicians.

- 825 Quantitative Pupillometry: Clinical Applications for the Internist**
Stephen A. Figueroa, DaiWai M. Olson, Abdulkadir Kamal, and Venkatesh Aiyagari

Handheld quantitative pupillometry is being used across the health care continuum for patients in whom examination of the pupillary light reflex is indicated. The superiority of objective findings justifies the current practice of using quantitative pupillometry over the subjective findings of the penlight.

DIAGNOSTIC DILEMMA

- 832 A Hidden Challenge: Tongue Abscess Inducing Trismus in an Older Woman**
Yuhei Kuriyama, Kazuya Nagasaki, Naoki Iso, and Hiroyuki Kobayashi

IMAGES IN DERMATOLOGY

- 835 Paraneoplastic Eczematous Dermatitis With Palmoplantar Keratoderma as an Initial Manifestation of Acute Myeloid Leukemia**
Sarthak Singh Saxena, Danielle M. Tartar, Swati Shripad Patki, and Lucy Shi

CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDIES

- 839 Patterns of Statin Therapy Use and Associated Outcomes in Older Veterans Across Kidney Function**
Grenita Gjyriqi, Adam Gross, Edith Burns, Eugenia Gianos, Mandeep S. Sidhu, and Roy O. Mathew

In a large cohort of older veterans, an association between the initiation of statin therapy and incident dementia was not found. A survival benefit was seen in statin users compared with nonusers. The treatment effect did not differ across the spectrum of kidney function.

- 847 Physician Financial Incentives to Reduce Unplanned Hospital Readmissions: A Propensity Score Weighted Cohort Study**
John A. Staples, Ying Yu, Mayesha Khan, Hiten Naik, Guiping Liu, Jeffrey R. Brubacher, Ahmer Karimuddin, and Jason M. Sutherland

Fee-for-service financial incentive payments to physicians for enhanced hospital discharge planning did not reduce the risk of 30-day readmission and death after discharge. These incentive payments had no significant effect on direct healthcare costs.

- 857 Type of Alcohol and Blood Pressure: The Copenhagen General Population Study**
Gorm Boje Jensen, Morten Grønbaek, Magnus T. Jensen, Peter Schnohr, Børge Grønne Nordestgaard, Carl J. Lavie, James H O'Keefe, and Jacob Louis Marott

Alcohol intake was associated with significant dose-dependent increases in both systolic and diastolic blood pressure, with the blood pressure-raising effect similar in red and white wine, beer, and spirits. Alcohol consumption of 1 drink per day or less did not affect blood pressure.

- 865 An Exploratory Analysis of Routine Ferritin Measurement Upon Admission and the Prognostic Implications of Low-Grade Ferritinemia During Inflammation**
Rafael Y. Brzezinski, Asaf Wasserman, Noa Sasson, Moshe Stark, Ilana Goldiner, Ori Rogowski, Shlomo Berliner, and Ori Argov

Measurement of ferritin should be part of the routine laboratory panel taken at hospital admission. Ferritin concentrations are linearly and independently correlated with both short- and long-term mortality risk, even in patients with low-grade ferritinemia.

- 872 History of Depression is Associated With Higher Prevalence of Hepatic Encephalopathy in Patients With Advanced Liver Disease**
Katherine M. Cooper, Alessandro Colletta, Brian Osorio, Emilee Herringshaw, Arslan Talat, and Deepika Devuni

Pre-existing depression may increase the odds of developing hepatic encephalopathy in patients with advanced liver disease. Patients with cirrhosis who have a history of depression should be closely monitored for the development of hepatic encephalopathy.

- 880 Clinical Interpretation of Genetic Variants in the Evaluation and Management of Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm and Dissection**
Zaid Abood, Muhammad Fuad Jan, Viviana Zlochiver, Xiaoxiao Qian, Ana Cristina Perez Moreno, Heather K. Sanders, Arshad Jahangir, and Abdul Jamil Tajik

Genetic variant interpretation has important clinical implications for assessing disease severity and progression in patients with thoracic aortic aneurysm and dissection. Early familial gene testing is important for developing personalized preventive and therapeutic strategies.

- 888 Comparison of Medical Therapy, Valve Surgery, and Percutaneous Mechanical Aspiration for Tricuspid Valve Infective Endocarditis**
Sami El-Dalati, Gregory Sinner, Steve Leung, Hassan Reda, Michael Sekela, Kory Heier, and Talal Alnabelsi

Although surgery or percutaneous mechanical aspiration in addition to medical therapy did not improve 1-year mortality in patients with isolated tricuspid valve infective endocarditis, injection drug user patients who underwent addiction medicine consultation did experience decreased 1-year mortality.



AJM ONLINE

Please note that articles with an “e” page designation are available only in the online version of the Journal at www.amjmed.com.

CLINICAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

- e161 The Gastrointestinal Risks of Combining NSAIDs and Endurance Exercise**
James T. Langland
- e162 Painful Growth in the Oral Cavity**
Rishiika Sathiyaseelar and Shivani Kohli
- e164 The Importance of History (Her Story)**
Ami Schattner, Ina Dubin, and Yair Glick
- e167 A Woman with Trismus and Fever**
Nozomi Tomikawa, Masaki Itagane, and Mitsuyo Kinjo

- e169 Calcific Tendinitis in the First Flexor Tendon of the Foot**
Akira Torii, Hayato Shimizu, and Hiroaki Nishioka
- e171 The Unique Fusion: Systemic Sclerosis and Ankylosing Spondylitis Overlap**
Eaman Alhassan and Francisco P. Quismorio Jr

LETTER

- e173 Nirmatrelvir/Ritonavir Compared With Placebo/Ritonavir for Long COVID: A Comment**
Hineptch Daungsupawong and Viroj Wiwanitkit

BRIEF OBSERVATION

- 896 Factors Associated with Long COVID Recovery among US Adults**
Kavya M. Shah, Rishi M. Shah, Mitsuaki Sawano, Yixuan Wu, Pamela Bishop, Akiko Iwasaki, and Harlan M. Krumholz

AAIM PERSPECTIVE

- 900 The Evolution of Internal Medicine Chief Residents: A 20-Year Multicenter Study**
Tyler J. Albert, Helene Starks, Whitney Harrington, Joyce Akwe, Nazima Allaudeen, Joel C. Boggan, Marie A. Carlson, Jonathan Chun, LeeAnn Cox, Erik Ehlers, Samer Ein Alshaeba, Joel Elzweig, Kristen E. Fletcher, Megha Garg, Arturo Gasga, Patrick O. Godwin, Minh Tuan Hang, Anand D. Jagannath, Casey Kaneshiro, Brian Kwan, Jung-Hyun Park, Elizabeth Schackmann, Raj Sehgal, Noelle Sinex, Andrea Smeraglio, Matthew Tuck, William Turbyfill, Jaclyn Vargas, and Paul B. Cornia

PERSONOMICS

- 908 Sustaining Life After Death**
Thorsen Haugen

On the Cover: Sathiyaseelar et al, *Painful growth in the oral cavity*. 6 months follow-up intraoral view without the upper complete denture showing epulis fissuratum regressed in size.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amjmed.2024.05.022>.