PREDICTION OF DEATH IN LESS THAN 60 MINUTES AFTER WITHDRAWAL OF CARDIORESPIRATORY SUPPORT IN POTENTIAL ORGAN DONORS AFTER CIRCUITARY DEATH

Given the stable number of potential organ donors after brain death, donors after circulatory death have been an increasing source of organs procured for transplant. Among the most important considerations for donation after circulatory death (DCD) is the prediction that death will occur within a reasonable period of time after the withdrawal of cardiorespiratory support. Accurate prediction of time to death is necessary for the procurement process. The study aimed to develop simple predictive rules for death in less than 60 minutes, and tested the accuracy of these rules in a pool of potential DCD donors.

SOURCE: Jorge Brieva, Nicole Coleman, Jeanette Lacey, Peter Harrigan, Terry Lewin & Gregory Carter (2014) Prediction of death in less than 60 minutes after withdrawal of cardiorespiratory support in potential organ donors after circulatory death. Transplantation, 98(10), 1112-1118

A CLOzapine CONUNDRUM

The following report presents a case in which significant clozapine toxicity was demonstrated in a patient on established therapy, in the absence of identifiable risk factors. Through this case report, the authors aim to highlight the potential for clozapine toxicity to occur unexpectedly in times of acute medical illness, and the need to remain vigilant in such situations.


10 YEAR AUDIT OF CLIENTS PRESENTING TO A SPECIALISED SERVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE EXPERIENCING OR AT INCREASED RISK FOR PSYCHOSIS

Despite strong research interest in psychosis risk identification and the potential for early intervention, few papers have sought to document the implementation and evaluation of specialised psychosis related services. Assessment of Ultra High Risk (UHR) has been given priority, but it is equally as important to identify appropriate comparison groups and other baseline differences. This largely descriptive service evaluation paper focuses on the 'baseline characteristics' of referred clients (i.e., previously assessed characteristics or those identified within the first two months following service presentation).

SUICIDE AND HOSPITALISED SELF-HARM IN AUSTRALIA: TRENDS AND ANALYSIS

This AIHW report describes suicide and hospitalised self-harm in Australia. Suicide occurring in 2010–11 is described statistically, and trends are shown for the period from the early 1920s. Patterns of suicide over time were also examined for selected birth cohorts. Hospitalised intentional self-harm in 2010–11 is also described, and trends are examined for the period from 1999–20. Both suicide and hospitalised intentional self-harm are analysed by mechanism of injury, sex, age group, Indigenous status and other factors.

A FAMILY AFFAIR: JOB LOSS & THE MENTAL HEALTH OF SPOUSES & ADOLESCENTS

This study examines the impact of involuntary job loss on the mental health of family members.

RECENT ARTICLES

NB. Articles in dark blue or bold text have Australian content


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Ritz, T. et al. (2014) Controlling asthma by training of capnometry-assisted hypoventilation (CATCH) vs slow breathing: a randomized controlled trial. Chest, 146(5), 1237-1247


Han, N. et al. (2014) HIV and aging: insights from the Asia Pacific HIV Observational Database (APHOD). HIV medicine, published online Nov 18. doi: 10.1111/hiv.12188

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Denham, J. et al. (2014) Short-term androgen suppression and radiotherapy versus intermediate-term androgen suppression and radiotherapy, with or without zoledronic acid, in men with locally advanced prostate cancer: an open-label, randomised, phase 3 factorial trial. Lancet oncology, 15(10), 1076-1089


Snodgrass, S. et al. (2014) The clinical utility of cervical range of motion in diagnosis, prognosis, and evaluating the effects of manipulation: a systematic review. Physiotherapy (UK), 100(4), 290-304

Quinn, E. et al. (2014) An update on the epidemiology and key issues associated with the diagnosis and management of Creutzfeldt–Jakob disease cases in NSW. Public health research & practice, 25(1):e2511409


NEW AUDIO DIGEST CDs (PSYCHIATRY)

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After death contact experiences / Cognitive reframing / Impact of modernity / Spirituality and science / Definition of extraordinary spiritual experiences (ESEs) / Modern view of spiritual experiences / Characteristics of ESEs / Sleep paralysis

Risk management for psychiatrists

43(21) 2014

Informed consent and civil commitment / Electronic health records and telepsychiatry

STEPs TO SUCCESSFUL PUBLISHING FOR PSYCHIATRISTS

This paper aims to encourage psychiatrists to publish high-quality articles in peer-reviewed journals, by outlining key factors in the publishing process.


ANY SUGGESTIONS?

The staff of HNE Health Libraries value your input. We appreciate any recommendations or suggestions and are happy to discuss them.
CARING FOR SOMEONE WITH DEPRESSION: ATTITUDES & CLINICAL PRACTICES OF AUSTRALIAN MH WORKERS

Many people who support a person with depression report struggling with the carer role and being dissatisfied with the inclusivity and lack of support provided by clinicians. However, little is known about what influences the support provided to Australian carers of people with depression. To investigate this, 119 Australian mental health workers completed a self-report questionnaire to gather information on their attitudes towards, barriers experienced and current clinical practices when working with carers of people with depression.


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COPING STRATEGIES & SUPPORT NEEDS OF MENTAL HEALTH CARERS

Caring for a family member or friend can have major impacts on the personal life and wellbeing of carers. This study surveyed carers from across NSW and found that carers of people with mental health issues reported poorer health and mental health themselves than any other group of carers, despite being more likely to access supportive services. Survey results raise implications regarding the support of mental health carers and their subjective wellbeing.


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TENDON REPAIR COMPARED WITH PHYSIOTHERAPY IN THE TREATMENT OF ROTATOR CUFF TEARS: 103 CASES WITH FIVE-YEAR FOLLOW-UP

The study compared outcomes of patients treated with primary tendon repair, with outcomes of those treated with physiotherapy, and optional secondary tendon repair if needed. The five-year follow-up rate was 98%. 121 patients in the physiotherapy group treated with secondary tendon repair. The results from primary tendon repair were superior to those from physiotherapy plus secondary repair. In 73% of tears treated with physiotherapy only, there were increasing tear sizes on ultrasound of >5 mm, over five years, associated with an inferior outcome.

SOURCE: Moosmayer, S. et al. (2014) Tendon repair compared with physiotherapy in the treatment of rotator cuff tears: a randomized controlled study in 103 cases with a five-year follow-up. Journal of bone and joint surgery (American), 96(18), 1504-1514

DIAGNOSIS & MANAGEMENT OF UTIs IN THE OUTPATIENT SETTING

Urinary tract infection (UTI) is among the most common reasons for an outpatient visit and antibiotic use in adult populations. The increasing prevalence of antibacterial resistance among community uropathogens affects the diagnosis and management of this clinical syndrome. A systematic review was attempted to define the optimal approach for treating acute cystitis in young healthy women and in women with diabetes and men and to define the optimal approach for diagnosing acute cystitis in the outpatient setting.

Immediate antimicrobial therapy with trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, nitrofurantoin, or fosfomycin is indicated for acute cystitis in adult women. Increasing resistance rates among uropathogens have complicated treatment of acute cystitis. Individualized assessment of risk factors for resistance and regimen tolerability is needed to choose the optimum empirical regimen.

SOURCE: Grigoryan, L. et al. (2014) Diagnosis and management of urinary tract infections in the outpatient setting: a review. JAMA, 312(6), 1677-1684

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MILK & MORTALITY: AUTHORS REPLY TO COMMENTS

See also: http://www.bmj.com/content/349/bmj.g6015/rr/779325


CLINICAL & COST EFFECTIVENESS RESULTS FROM THE RCT OF ORAL MANDIBULAR ADVANCEMENT DEVICES FOR OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNOEA-HYPOPNOEA (TOMADO)

Mandibular advancement devices (MAD) are clinically effective and cost-effective in mild to moderate obstructive sleep apnoea-hypopnoea. A semi-bespoke MAD is the appropriate first choice in most patients in the short term. Future work should explore whether or not adjustable MADs give additional clinical and cost benefits. Further data on longer-term cardiovascular risk and its risk factors would reduce uncertainty in the health economic model and improve precision of effectiveness estimates.

SOURCE: Sharples, L. et al. (2014) Clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness with mandibular advancement devices for obstructive sleep apnoea hypopnoea (TOMADO) and long-term economic analysis of one devices and continuous positive airway pressure. Health technology assessment, 18(59), 1-196

CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF STUDIES ON CURCUMIN FOR DEPRESSION

Curcumin, an ingredient of turmeric, is widely available as a nutritional supplement. Curcumin has biological properties that suggest its use for a large number of health-related conditions, including depression. Curcumin is effective in animal models of depression. However, controlled clinical trials provide no convincing evidence that patients with major depressive illness tolerate, or benefit with different extracts of curcumin than with placebo (or no treatment) after 5-8 weeks of monotherapy or antidepressant-augmentation therapy. At present, therefore, there is insufficient evidence to encourage depressed patients to consider curcumin as a possible alternative to standard antidepressant therapy.


See ALSO: Andrade, C. et al. (2014) Fruit juice, organic anion transporting polypeptides, and drug interactions in psychiatry. Journal of clinical psychiatry, 75(11), e1323-e1325
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THE ROLE OF PATIENT EXPECTANCY IN PLACEBO & NOCEBO EFFECTS IN ANTIDEPRESSANT TRIALS 

The possibility of receiving placebo following 12 weeks of open fluoxetine with significant symptom worsening in 2 large fluoxetine discontinuation studies. Worsening depression scores following randomization were significantly associated with the degree of improvement participants experienced during weeks 1–3 of open treatment. These results suggest that treatment changes influence patients’ expectations of improvement, which, in turn, affect their depressive symptoms.