The latest in a series of reports from the AIHW, that provide a comprehensive statistical picture of a range of topics considered important for improving the health and wellbeing of Indigenous people. The report presents up-to-date statistics, as well as trend information. It examines differences between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, as well as differences by factors such as age, sex and, in particular, remoteness.

HEALTH AND WELFARE OF AUSTRALIA’S ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES: 2015

CORTICOSTEROID SHOTS & KNEES: A MATCH MADE IN OSTEARTHRITIS HEAVEN?

Technological review of technology-assisted self-management interventions for chronic pain.
MUSCULOSKELETAL FACT SHEETS

These new fact sheets summarise information from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's online musculoskeletal compendium. Topics include:

Back problems, Osteoarthritis, Osteoporosis and Rheumatoid arthritis.

NEW AUDIO DIGEST CDs (PSYCHIATRY)

New and upcoming antipsychotics
44(9) 2015
Effectiveness vs efficacy / iloperidone / Asenapine / Lurasidone / Long-acting preparations

Ethical dilemmas in psychiatry
44(10) 2015
Core principles of medical ethics / Pharmacologic cognitive enhancement / Medicating children and adolescents / Restrictions on autonomy / Distribution of scarce medications

Psychopharmacologic management of sleep disorders
44(11) 2015
Circadian rhythms / Insomnia / Pharmacologic management / Comorbid psychiatric conditions / Sleep apnea

INFECTION CONTROL UNITS IN AUSTRALIAN HOSPITALS

This article describes staffing levels, patient outcomes, and costs associated with the provision of infection prevention and control services in Australian hospitals. The mean number of infection control professionals was 0.66 per 100 overnight beds. Approximately $76 million is allocated annually to infection control nurse staffing. Improved information technology systems were reported as a resource priority.


RECENT ARTICLES

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


Available via CIAP


Available via CIAP


Available via CIAP


Available via CIAP

Seijmonsbergen-Schermers, A. et al. (2015) Nonsutting or skin adhesives versus suturing of the perineal skin after childbirth: a systematic review. Birth, 42(2), 100-115

Available via CIAP

Molero, Y. et al. (2015) Varenicline and risk of psychiatric conditions, suicidal behaviour, criminal offending, and transport accidents and offences; population based cohort study. BMJ, 350:h2388


*LOCAL RESEARCH


Available via CIAP


Available via CIAP


Available via CIAP


Available via CIAP


Available via CIAP

Halpern, S. et al. (2015) Randomized trial of four financial-incentive programs for smoking cessation. NEJM, 372(22), 2108-2117

Available via CIAP

Williams, R. et al. (2015) Effectiveness of weight loss interventions - is there a difference between men and women: a systematic review. Obesity reviews, 16(2), 172-186

Available via CIAP


Available via CIAP

NB. Articles listed in the newsletter aren't necessarily available FREE. We're just letting you know what's available!

If you’ve checked HNEH Libraries’ e-journals portal (found under ‘Journals’ in the Quick Links box on our website) and can’t find the article, contact your local HNEH Library for further assistance. (Contact details—p.4)

HNE Health Libraries will be able to supply most articles—but there may be charges.
DILEMMA WHILE ACHIEVING RAPID REVERSAL OF ANTICOAGULATION IN A RURAL SETTING

The local authors present a case of successful reversal of severe coagulopathy with the use of expired Prerombin® with no untoward adverse effects.


SEE ALSO: Sarah Browning, Herman Omal, Peter Barry and Hariharan Ramaswamykanive (2015) Package inserts: to believe or not to believe. Anaesthesia & intensive care, 43(2), 280

HYPERTONIC SALINE IN PAEDIATRIC TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

A recent study by local authors describes the protocolised use of 23.4% hypertonic saline solution (HTS) for intracranial hypertension in the context of traumatic brain injury in the paediatric population. This study represents the largest published data on the use of 23.4% HTS in the paediatric population. The authors focus on the efficacy, biochemical and metabolic consequences of 23.4% HTS administration in a Level 3 paediatric trauma centre. They describe the use of 23.4% HTS, demonstrating it to be a practical and efficacious method of delivering osmoles that may be advantageous in minimising total fluid volume.

SOURCE: Ben Piper and Peter Harrigan (2015) Hypertonic saline in paediatric traumatic brain injury: a review of nine years’ experience with 23.4% hypertonic saline as standard hyperosmolar therapy. Anaesthesia and intensive care, 43(2), 204-210

VITAMIN D FOR TREATMENT OF CHRONIC PAINFUL CONDITIONS IN ADULTS

Vitamin D deficiency has been linked with a range of conditions, including chronic pain. Observational and circumstantial evidence suggests that there may be a role for vitamin D deficiency in the aetiology of chronic painful conditions. This review updates a previously published review (CDSR, Issue 1, 2010). The evidence addressing the use of vitamin D for chronic pain now contains more than twice as many studies and participants than were included in the original review. Based on this evidence, a large beneficial effect of vitamin D across different chronic painful conditions is unlikely.


IMPLEMENTATION OF A SMOKE-FREE POLICY IN AN INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC FACILITY

Researchers conducted a cross-sectional survey of 181 patients (97 smokers and 84 non-smokers) in a local inpatient psychiatric facility with a total smoke-free policy, to determine to extent in which the quality of smoke-free policy implementation is associated with patient views of a policy.

Smokers’ adherence to the policy was poor (83.5% smoked), only half perceived staff to be supportive of the policy. Most smokers used nicotine-replacement therapy; although few received optimal nicotine-dependence treatment. Overall, 45.9% of patients viewed the smoke-free policy in the unit as positive.

For smokers, adhering to the ban, perceiving staff to be supportive, and reporting that the nicotine-replacement therapy reduced cravings to smoke were associated with a more positive view towards the smoke-free policy. These findings support the importance of patient adherence, mental health nursing staff support, and adequate provision of nicotine-dependence treatment in strengthening smoke-free policy implementation in inpatient psychiatric settings.


SYNTHETIC SKIN COULD HELP REPAIR WOUNDS TWICE AS FAST

Biochemists from Sydney University have created a substance that behaves like natural tissue in the skin. This material - tropoelastin - can repair burns, wounds and even bones twice as fast as current methods. Like a blueprint showing the cells where to grow, tropoelastin encourages the capillaries to regenerate, then dissolves, leaving behind new and healthy tissue. Tropoelastin can be moulded into long fibres, tubes and sponges to repair many different tissues in the body, from lungs to bones. The work has been awarded a $1 million grant from global charity Wellcome to fast-track tropoelastin to clinical trials.


Not available via CIAP or library sub—contact HNEH Libraries to access this article

E-THERAPY FOR EATING DISORDERS: REVIEW FINDS LACK OF EVIDENCE FOR DIGITAL TREATMENT OR PREVENTION

Recent research using PRISMA guidelines to conduct a systematic review and meta-analysis of all RCTs of e-therapies designed to prevent, treat or prevent relapse to eating disorders. E-therapies were defined as “interventions that were primarily delivered via a computer, mobile phone or tablet” via “the Internet, downloadable software, CD-ROMs and mobile device apps”. These rigorous criteria result in considerably less optimistic conclusions than other recent studies. The authors conclude that the evidence base is small and ‘there is certainly no basis for saying that e-therapy is a good alternative to face-to-face treatment.’ Read more on the Mental Elf blog...


E-CIGARETTES: REGULATORY & POLICY OPTIONS

This e-brief from the NSW Parliamentary Research Service, offers an overview of the legal position in respect to e-cigarettes, along with a summary of research findings and viewpoints in the contemporary debate.

SEE ALSO - Recent studies on the effects of plain cigarette packaging in Australia.

Free supplement of the journal Tobacco control

Recent Cochrane Reviews


Walking Exercise for Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain

Systematic review examining the effects of walking interventions on pain, and self-reported function in adults with chronic musculoskeletal pain (chronic low back pain, osteoarthritis, or fibromyalgia). Evidence of fair methodological quality suggests that walking is associated with significant improvements in outcome compared with control interventions but longer-term effectiveness is uncertain.


HNE POPULATION HEALTH, CENTRE FOR TRANSLATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE & MENTAL HEALTH, and MHSUS, MATER
PAIN PERCEPTION IN SCHIZOPHRENIA

Ever since the characterization of schizophrenia, clinicians have noted abnormal pain sensitivity in their patients. The published literature, however, is inconsistent concerning the nature of the change reported. The objective of this study was to characterize the pain response profile of schizophrenic patients by providing both acute and prolonged (i.e., rapidly repeating) painful stimuli to 12 schizophrenic participants and control subjects. Results indicate that schizophrenic subjects present a specific experimental pain response profile, characterized by elevated sensitivity to acute pain but reduced sensitivity to prolonged pain.


BY THE AUTHOR:

Mental illness and the neurophysiology of pain – Psychiatric sequelae of traumatic brain injury

SEE ALSO: Neurobiology of pain and addiction / Audio Digest Psychiatry, 44(3) 2015

Audio Digest Psychiatry is held at the Mater Library

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT PAIN PERCEPTION IN SCHIZOPHRENIA?

This article on pain perception in schizophrenia is fascinating—but it is only a tiny taste of the research available on the topic. If you’d like help to find more—especially research that has a stronger evidence-base—contact HNEH Libraries who can either complete a search on your behalf, or offer training so you can complete an effective search on your own.

NEW OVID® USER INTERFACE ENHANCEMENTS

This release includes:

- Resizable Select Resource(s) Screen – enlarge the resources screen by simply dragging the bottom-right corner.
- Journals Left-Hand Navigation & Full-Text view – enhanced with a fresh look and feel.
- New Book Reader content. Nearly 2,000 books have just been converted and available to view with the New Book Reader. For the list of books, visit www.ovid.com/BookUpdate2015

CONTEMPORARY PAIN MANAGEMENT IN ELDERLY PATIENTS AFTER HIP FRACTURE SURGERY

Adequate pain management following hip fracture surgery reduces length of stay, reduces incidence of delirium, promotes recovery and improves mobility. Previous research suggests that hip fracture pain is undertreated in some patient subgroups, and that hypovitaminosis D can further aggravate pain which could hinder active rehabilitation. The authors provide a cross-sectional analysis of the baseline characteristics of participants in the REVITAHIP study with the aim of documenting pain intensity and its associations after hip fracture and to explore the characteristics of people who report higher levels of pain.


HEALTH & CLIMATE CHANGE: POLICY RESPONSES TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH

The 2015 Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change maps out the impacts of climate change, and the necessary policy responses, to ensure the highest attainable standards of health for populations worldwide. This Commission is multidisciplinary and international, with strong collaboration between academic centres in Europe and China. In 2009, the Commission described climate change as ‘the biggest global health threat of the 21st century’. This latest report has an optimistic twist and concludes that tackling climate change could be the greatest global health opportunity of the 21st century.


BOOKS HELD IN HNEH LIBRARIES—RELEVANT TO ‘PAIN WEEK’

Clinical hypnosis for pain control / David Patterson

The pain book: finding hope when it hurts / Philip Siddall

Pain: the person, the science, the clinical interface / Patricia Armati & Roberta Chow (eds.)

Fundamentals of pain medicine: how to diagnose and treat your patients / J.D. Hoppenfeld

Pain: a textbook for health professionals / edited by Hubert van Griesven et al. (2nd ed.)

Practical management of complex cancer pain / edited by Manohar Sharma et al.

Oxford textbook of paediatric pain / edited by Patrick McGrath et al. (4th ed.)

Just a few of the titles relevant to Pain Week held in HNEH Libraries. Check the library catalogue for more.