MODIFIED CLASSIFICATION OF POSTERIOR MALLEOLUS FRACTURE OF ANKLE

This study aims to classify posterior malleolar fractures (PMF) based on preoperative computed tomography (CT), initial injury radiographs, and intraoperative image intensifier screening at two local hospitals (JHH & Manning Base).

Between June 2013 and March 2015, 50 consecutive patients with bi- or tri-malleolar ankle fractures with one or more posterior fragments or a posterior inferior tibiofibular ligament (PIFLL) injury who underwent operative fixation were selected for the study. Preoperative and intraoperative image intensifier screening and CT were reviewed to determine stability of the ankle joint and classify the PMF. Of 50 patients, 34 underwent CT. The type of operative fixation, and whether the PMF was fixed, was noted.

The 34 fractures with CT scans were categorised as follows: Type I fracture is an isolated PMF. Type II fracture is either a bi- or tri-malleolar fracture associated with a Weber B or C fracture pattern. These are further classified depending on the presence or absence of syndesmotic injury. Type III PMF is associated with an ipsilateral tibial diaphyseal fracture. This is further subdivided based on sagittal or coronal plane instability.

All the above categories are further subdivided, as per the CT-guided classification mentioned in the text. The ankle stability on initial injury radiographs, intraoperative image intensifier screening, and preoperative CT is critical for classification and management of PMF, regardless of the fragment size.


LOCAL RESEARCH
JHH & MANNING HOSPITAL, TAREE

AROMATASE INHIBITOR INDUCED MUSCULOSKELETAL SYNDROME: A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM WITH LIMITED TREATMENT OPTIONS

Aromatase inhibitor induced musculoskeletal syndrome is experienced by approximately half of women taking aromatase inhibitors, impairing quality of life and leading some to discontinue treatment. Evidence for effective treatments is lacking. This local study attempted to understand the manifestations and impact of this syndrome in the Australian breast cancer community, and strategies used for its management.

Aromatase inhibitor induced musculoskeletal syndrome was reported by 302 (82%) of 370 respondents. 27% had discontinued treatment for any reason and of these, 68% discontinued because of the musculoskeletal syndrome. 81% had used at least one intervention from the following three categories to manage the syndrome: doctor prescribed medications, over-the-counter/complementary medicines or alternative/non-drug therapies. Anti-inflammatories, paracetamol and yoga were most successful in relieving symptoms in each of the respective categories. Almost a third of respondents reported that one or more interventions helped prevent aromatase inhibitor discontinuation. However, approximately 20% of respondents found no intervention effective in any category.

SOURCE: Janine Lombard, Nicholas Zdenkowski, Kathy Wells, Corinna Beckmore, Linda Reaby, John Forbes and Jacque Chirgwin (2016) Aromatase inhibitor induced musculoskeletal syndrome: a significant problem with limited treatment options. Supportive care in cancer, 24(5), 1339-1346. Available via CIAP, but there is a 3 month embargo, so contact HNEH Libraries to access this article


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**RECENT ARTICLES**


Boots, C. et al. (2016) Methotrexate does not affect ovarian reserve or subsequent assisted reproductive technology outcomes. *Journal of assisted reproduction and genetics*, published online Mar 4. doi: 10.1007/s11552-015-9865-7


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HNE Health Libraries will be able to supply most articles—but there may be charges.
KETAMINE AS RESCUE TREATMENT FOR DIFFICULT-TO-SEDATE ACUTE BEHAVIORAL DISTURBANCE IN THE ED

The authors investigated the effectiveness and safety of ketamine to sedate patients with severe acute behavioural disturbance who have failed previous attempts at sedation.

Ketamine appeared effective and did not cause obvious harm in this small sample and is a potential option for patients who have failed previous attempts at sedation. A dose of 4–5 mg/kg is suggested, and doses less than 200 mg are associated with treatment failure.

EMERGENCY DEPT, DEPT OF CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY & PHARMACOLOGY, CMN


ADHD & PSYCHOSTIMULANTS

OVER-DIAGNOSIS AND OVER-PRESCRIPTION

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is the most widely studied child and adolescent mental health disorder, yet it remains the subject of ongoing debate, both about the validity of the diagnosis and its treatment. Increasing rates of psychostimulant prescription highlight the possibility of over-prescription and over-diagnosis with the implication that disorders of children in particular are being “medicalised”. There are risks for children that the use of stimulant medication is a simplistic attempt to find solutions to more complex problems underlying behavioural and emotional difficulties, and risks in adolescents and adults prescribed or exposed to stimulants, including poisonings.

EDITORIAL: Adrian Dunlop & Louise Newman (2016) ADHD and psychostimulants — over-diagnosis and over-prescription. MJA, 204(4), 139-140


GENOMIC ANALYSES IDENTIFY MOLECULAR SUBTYPES OF Pancreatic CANCER

Integrated genomic analysis of 456 pancreatic ductal adenocarcinomas identified 32 recurrently mutated genes that aggregate into 10 pathways: KRAS, TGF-β, WNT, NOTCH, ROBO/SLIT signalling, Gz/S transition, SWI-SNF, chromatin modification, DNA repair and RNA processing. Expression analysis defined 4 subtypes: (1) squamous; (2) pancreatic progenitor; (3) immunogenic; and (4) aberrantly differentiated endocrine exocrine (ADEX) that correlate with histopathological characteristics. These data infer differences in the molecular evolution of pancreatic cancer subtypes and identify opportunities for therapeutic development.


DELIVERING SAFE & EFFECTIVE ANALGESIA FOR RENAL COLIC IN THE ED

The excruciating pain of patients with renal colic on presentation to the emergency department requires effective analgesia to be administered in the shortest possible time. This double-blind, randomised controlled trial of adult participants presenting to the emergency department with moderate to severe renal colic, aimed to locate definitive evidence regarding the choice of initial analgesia and route of administration.


INTERPERSONAL PSYCHOTHERAPY (IPT) FOR MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

A meta-analysis of ninety randomized trials examining the effects of interpersonal psychotherapy (IPT) for all mental health problems was conducted. IPT for acute-phase depression had moderate-to-large effects compared with control groups. IPT in subthreshold depression significantly prevented the onset of major depression, and maintenance IPT significantly reduced relapse. IPT had significant effects on eating disorders, but the effects are smaller than those of cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) in the acute phase of treatment. In anxiety disorders, IPT had large effects compared with control groups, and there is no evidence that IPT was less effective than CBT. Combined treatment was more effective than IPT alone.


24-MONTHS FOLLOW-UP RCT OF THE ATTEMPTED SUICIDE SHORT INTERVENTION PROGRAM (ASSIP)

Attempted suicide is the main risk factor for suicide and repeated suicide attempts. However, the evidence for follow-up treatments reducing suicidal behaviour in these patients is limited. The objective of the present study was to evaluate the efficacy of the Attempted Suicide Short Intervention Program (ASSIP) in reducing suicidal behaviour. ASSIP is a novel brief therapy based on a patient-centred model of suicidal behaviour, with an emphasis on early therapeutic alliance.


CRITICAL REVIEW OF MENTAL HEALTH COURT LIASON SERVICES

Mental Health Court Liaison Services have emerged in Australia as a key part of the response to the over-representation of people with mental illness in the criminal justice system. These specialist services aim to intervene early in the criminal justice process by identifying mentally ill individuals at the post-charge, pre-sentence stage, providing timely advice to courts and linkage with treatment providers. This article presents the findings of the first national survey of the various models of court liaison in each of the Australian jurisdictions.

SOURCE: Davidson, F. et al. (2016) A critical review of Mental Health Court Liaison Services in Australia: a first national survey. Psychiatry, psychology and law, published online Mar 23. doi: 10.1080/13218719.2016.1155599 Contact HNE Libraries to access this article

EDITORIAL. “ICE” (CRYSTAL METHAMPHETAMINE): NO-ONE SHOULD FEEL IMPOTENT IN THE FACE OF WIDESPREAD ALARMIST COMMENTARY

The recent National Ice Taskforce Report describes a pattern of increasing use of methamphetamine over the past decade. Compounding the effect of the shift in use from the older amphetamine sulphate to methamphetamine (in powder or crystal form) is the increase in purity of illicit methamphetamine: the purity-adjusted price (the dose obtained for a given price) is now similar for both methamphetamine forms, so that users obtain much larger doses. This probably underlies the evidence of more regular and greater levels of dependent use among people who use the drug, and also some of the increases in observed harms.

SOURCE: Margaret Hamilton and Adrian Dunlop (2016) “Ice” (crystal methamphetamine): concerns and responses. MJA, 204(4), 136-137


DRUG & ALCOHOL CLINICAL SERVICES, HNELHD

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NEW UPDATES TO THE OVID PLATFORM ARE HERE...

GONE BY POPULAR REQUEST!
The page between running your saved search and actually seeing the results has been removed - you will now be redirected straight to your search results if the search is successful.

UPDATED SEARCH HISTORY:

ADD AN ANNOTATION TO A SEARCH LINE!
You can now annotate a search line in the ‘search history’. This important new feature enables the user to add a quick note against a search line, helping to recollect the original intent on a very complex search strategy.

IDENTIFYING EDUCATOR BEHAVIOURS FOR HIGH QUALITY VERBAL FEEDBACK IN HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION
Health professions education is characterised by work-based learning and relies on effective verbal feedback. This research clarifies the distinct elements of an educator’s role in feedback considered to enhance learner outcomes. The corresponding set of observable educator behaviours aim to describe how an educator could engage, motivate and enable a learner to improve. This creates the foundation for developing a method to systematically evaluate the impact of verbal feedback on learner performance.

LOCAL RESEARCH

REVIEW OF AFTER-HOURS SERVICE MODELS: LEARNINGS FOR REGIONAL, RURAL & REMOTE COMMUNITIES
This issue brief from the Deble Institute, evaluates the current delivery models of after-hours primary health care nationally and internationally. In particular, it describes the varied approaches to service delivery. This variation is attributable to a range of factors including funding sources, workforce availability, consumer awareness, distance and remoteness, population structure and local economies.

DELIVERING MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING IN AUSTRALIAN WORKPLACES: EXPLORING INSTRUCTORS’ EXPERIENCES
The impact of common mental illnesses in the workplace can be reduced by encouraging support from co-workers and promoting early professional help-seeking. The Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) course is an evidence-based effective program designed to encourage social support and early help-seeking in the general community.

The current study aimed to gain a better understanding of how the course is being delivered in Australian workplaces and invite feedback on how it could be tailored for this delivery setting. The results indicated that MHFA is most commonly deployed in the human service and education sectors to assist workers with helping clients, rather than helping co-workers. The results also suggest ways in which the MHFA course could be tailored for workplaces, as well as further support instructors require to deliver courses in workplace settings.


THIS TITLE is held by HNEH Libraries:
Mental health first aid in the workplace: an e-learning course (CD-Rom) AV66.89p954, MENT 2006

MHFA AUSTRALIA APP
The Mental Health First Aid app provides key information about MHFA and is free to download from Google Play (android) and iTunes. Find out more about MHFA

RESEARCHERS TURN TO CANINE CLINICAL TRIALS TO ADVANCE CANCER THERAPIES
About 6 million dogs are diagnosed with cancer each year, and more than half of dogs older than 10 years will develop cancers such as osteosarcoma, lymphoma, or melanoma. But the heartbreaking diagnosis for dog owners is a treasure trove of potential data for oncology researchers. In clinical trials at academic research centres across the United States, veterinarians and physicians are studying how pet dogs respond to cancer therapies and analysing the genetic makeup of these tumours. Although medicine and veterinary medicine, for the most part, have been viewed as two different worlds, with little exchange of information between the two, that is beginning to change.

SOURCE: Jacob, J. (2016) Researchers turn to canine clinical trials to advance cancer therapies. JAMA, 315(15), 1550-1552

Available via CIAP