Psychiatry research on psychosis community mental health service. A 10-year cohort of presenters to a specialised early psychosis and related outcomes: evaluation of a 10-year service cohort was examined (n=1997), comprising all presentations to PAS (Psychological Assistance Service), a specialised early psychosis community service for young people experiencing a recent psychotic episode or at increased risk, provided by HNE Health.

Baseline and longitudinal service data were used in a series of logistic regressions to examine relationships between psychosis risk-status and subsequent illness episodes, hospital admissions, and community contacts. Six baseline groups were identified: existing and recent psychotic; ultra-high risk (UHR); non-psychotic disorders without (the reference group) and with psychiatric admissions; and incomplete assessments. High comorbidity levels were reported by the cohort. UHR clients experienced similar psychosis transition rates to the reference group and comparable rates of subsequent psychosis outcomes. A 25.9% conversion rate from early psychosis to schizophrenia was detected.

However, among transitioning individuals, UHR clients fared relatively better, particularly with respect to changes in comorbidity and mental health contacts. Interventions tailored to current problems, recovery and psychological strengthening may be more appropriate than those based on estimated psychosis risk, which currently lacks clinical utility.


ASSOCIATION OF CORTICAL VEIN FILLING WITH CLOT LOCATION & CLINICAL OUTCOMES IN ACUTE ISCHAEMIC STROKE PATIENTS

Delay in cortical vein filling during the late-venous phase (d-LCVF) is characterised by opacification of cerebral veins despite contrast clearance from contralateral veins on dynamic computed tomography angiography (dCTA) in acute ischemic stroke (AIS) patients. The aim of the study was to investigate the associations of d-LCVF with clot location, reperfusion status at 24 hours, and 90-days functional outcome in AIS patients who received reperfusion therapy. Of 93 patients with hemispheric AIS included in the study, 46 demonstrated d-LCVF. Patients with d-LCVF demonstrated a significantly higher proportion of proximal occlusion, and poor reperfusion at 24 hours. The proportion of poor functional outcome at 90 days was not significantly different. The appearance of d-LCVF on baseline dCTA may be a surrogate for large vessel occlusion, and an early marker for poor 24-hour angiographic reperfusion.


LIBRARY TIP – USE TRIP

Trip is a clinical search engine designed to help you find high-quality research evidence fast! There have been major upgrades to the site recently, including:
- Answer Engine
- SmartSearch
- Search suggestions

Available via CACP

Library Lore
The newsletter of HNE Health Libraries
Vol 13(1) January 2017

UTILITY OF RISK-STATUS FOR PREDICTING PSYCHOSIS & RELATED OUTCOMES

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ULTRABRIEF ELECTROCONVULSIVE THERAPY FOR MANIC EPISODES OF BIPOLAR DISORDER

Right unilateral ultra-brief-pulse electroconvulsive therapy (RUL-UB ECT) is gaining popularity and is being used for the treatment of severe major depression. Though brief-pulse ECT has shown to have robust anti-manic effects, the efficacy of UB ECT for mania has not been studied, and there are very few reports on its use in mania. A brief case series of 3 patients with manic episode of bipolar disorder who were treated with RUL-UB ECT is presented here. The successful treatment of 2 patients in this report suggests that some manic episodes can be rapidly and effectively treated with RUL-UB ECT.


Available via ClinicalKey

(L-R): AGATHA CONRAD, TERRY LEWIN, KETRINA SLY, ULRICH SCHALL, SEAN HALPIN, MICK HUNTER & VAUGHAN CARR
CENTRE FOR BRAIN & MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH (CBMHR), and CHILD & ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, HNE MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE

Based in the Australian region of New England, the Centre offers a wide range of mental health services tailored to the unique needs of the community. With a focus on prevention, early intervention, and ongoing support, the Centre aims to improve the mental health and wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities. The Centre provides a variety of services including assessment, treatment, and support for individuals with mental health needs, as well as supporting families and carers. The Centre also offers programs and resources to help people prevent and manage mental health issues, as well as promoting mental health and wellbeing within the community. The Centre is committed to providing high-quality, evidence-based care and support to all who need it.
HNE Health Libraries can...

- Offer beginner to advanced sessions to access information resources
- Provide remote, individual or group based database training
- Participate on research and quality teams
- Support Journal Clubs
- Assist with 'Finding the Evidence' tutorials and workshops

THE USE OF LUNG FUNCTION TESTING FOR THE DIAGNOSIS & MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC AIRWAYS DISEASE

This demonstration data linkage study, from AIHW investigates the use of lung function testing in the diagnosis and management of chronic airways disease. It uses data from the 45 and Up Study (2001–2014) linked to Medicare Benefits Schedule and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme data.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: OVERWEIGHT & OBESITY RATES ACROSS AUSTRALIA

The AIHW reports on rates of overweight and obesity at the local level, presented by Primary Health Care Network (PHN) areas across Australia. In 2014–15, the percentage of overweight or obese adults ranged from 53% in Northern Sydney to 73% in Country SA. Overweight and obesity rates were generally higher in regional PHN areas than in metropolitan PHN areas.

SEE ALSO: TOBACCO SMOKING RATES

This AIHW report finds that in 2014–15, smoking rates ranged from 5.4% in Northern Sydney to 23.3% in Western NSW and that regional PHN areas generally had higher smoking rates than metropolitan PHN areas.

NEW AUDIO DIGEST PSYCHIATRY CDs

Sleep disorders / Refractory mood disorders

45(2) 2016

Clinical management of common sleep disorders: case report / changes in the DSM-5 / diagnosis of sleep disorders / when to refer to a specialist / treatment

Newer treatments for refractory mood disorders: anatomic changes associated with mood disorders / drawbacks to current methods of diagnosis and treatment / experimental treatments

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

If you’ve searched eJournals and eBooks on the HNE Health Libraries’ website and can’t find the article, contact your local HNE Health Library for further assistance. (Contact details are on page 4.)

HNE Health Libraries will be able to supply most articles—but there may be charges.


Koslowski, N. et al. (2016) Effectiveness of interventions for adults with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities and mental health problems: systematic review and meta-analysis. British journal of psychiatry, 209 (6), 469-474

Tolppanen, A. et al. (2016) Antipsychotic use and risk of hospitalization or death due to pneumonia in persons with and without Alzheimer disease. Chest, 150(6), 1233-1241

Rattehalli, R. et al. (2016) Risperidone versus placebo for schizophrenia. Cochrane database of systematic reviews, Issue 12


Kevin, R. et al. (2017) Urinary cannabinoid levels during nabiloximol (Sativex®)-medicated inpatient cannabis withdrawal. Forensic toxicology, 35(1), 33-44


Kaiser, S. et al. (2016) Preventing exacerbations in preschoolers with recurrent wheeze: a meta-analysis. Pediatrics, 137(6), e20154496

There has been extensive ongoing debate on the application of aseptic technique in wound management over the previous decades and changes to the way in which theory is applied to clinical practice have occurred regularly. Clinicians often express confusion over the way various techniques should be applied, particularly when practising in clinical settings in which maintenance of strict asepsis is inherently difficult. Wound cleansing, use of open but unused wound dressings and storage of wound management equipment are frequent issues on which clinicians request guidance.

**COMMUNITY & AGED CARE SERVICES—HNELHD**

A systematic review using Joanna Briggs Institute methods was undertaken in order to establish the current state of the scientific literature on this topic and inform the development of recommendations for practice in this field. All levels of evidence were included in the review, including opinion papers. Findings from the 20 quantitative studies were reported in narrative summary and findings from 37 qualitative research papers were aggregated in a thematic synthesis. Although high-level evidence on wound cleansing solutions was identified, the review concluded that there is a paucity of scientific literature on most topics related to asepsis in wound care.

**SYSTEMATIC REVIEW ADDRESSING ASEPSIS IN WOUND MANAGEMENT**


**MODERN MANAGEMENT OF ACNE**

Despite the plethora of topical and systemic treatments available for acne, there is a relative lack of quality evidence for its application. Of the systemic treatments available, oral isotretinoin remains the most effective well established treatment for acne that targets all the aetiological factors. Current guidelines for the treatment of acne are based largely on expert consensus and advocate a combination of topical agents in mild to moderate cases and reserve the use of systemic therapies for moderate to severe or refractory cases of acne. However, given the psychosocial impacts of acne, there is a strong argument for early, effective treatment with systemic therapy when topical and general measures have failed.

**MEDICAL COLLECTIVE NOUNS**

Medicine is packed full of craft groups that are ripe for creating collective nouns... The author has created a list of collective nouns to describe his medical colleagues. In keeping with the fundamental rule of medical humour, good taste may sometimes have to give way to humour...

**CHRONIC COUGH DUE TO GASTROESOPHAEGAL REFLUX IN ADULTS: CHEST GUIDELINE & EXPERT PANEL REPORT**

Two questions were addressed by systematic review: (1) Can therapy for gastroesophageal reflux improve or eliminate cough in adults with chronic and persistently troublesome cough? and (2) Are there minimal clinical criteria to guide practice in determining that chronic cough is likely to respond to therapy for gastroesophageal reflux? The panelists found no high-quality studies pertinent to either question. From available randomized controlled trials, they endorsed the use of a diagnostic/therapeutic algorithm addressing causes of common cough, including symptomatic reflux; advised that although lifestyle modifications and weight reduction may be beneficial in suspected reflux-cough syndrome, proton pump inhibitors demonstrated no benefit when used in isolation; and suggested that physiological testing be reserved for refractory patients being considered for anti-reflux surgery or for those in whom there is strong clinical suspicion warranting diagnostic testing.

**Efficacy & Safety of Noradrenaline in Preterm Infants with Cardiovascular Compromise**

- Noradrenaline (NA) is beneficial in the treatment of term newborns with cardiovascular compromise due to sepsis or pulmonary hypertension, but experiences with NA in preterm infants are limited.
- Noradrenaline is known for its potent vasoconstrictive effects and, therefore, infrequently used in preterm infants.
- Noradrenaline used in relative low dose and as first or second line support increases blood pressure in preterm infants with cardiovascular compromise.
- Tachycardia was common, but no additional side effects were found.

**Adjunctive Taurine in First-Episode Psychosis: A Phase 2, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Study**

Taurine is an inhibitory neuromodulatory amino acid in the central nervous system that activates the GABA- and glycine-insensitive chloride channel and inhibits the N-methyl-d-aspartate receptor. It also functions as a neuroprotective agent and has a role in neural development and neurogenesis. This study attempted to determine the efficacy of adjunctive taurine in improving symptomatology and cognition among patients with a DSM-IV first-episode psychotic disorder. Patients taking low-dose antipsychotic medication were randomly assigned to receive once-daily taurine 4 g or placebo for 12 weeks. Taurine significantly improved symptomatology measured by the Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale total score and psychotic subscale compared to placebo. Additionally, improvements were observed in the Calgary Depression Scale for Schizophrenia and Global Assessment of Functioning scores. There was no group difference in composite cognitive score.

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HNE HEALTH LIBRARIES CAN ASSIST YOU IN YOUR RESEARCH & PRACTICE

For those undertaking an innovation scholarship project, developing a guideline, undertaking a systematic review or meta-analysis, or for higher degree students, Librarians can support you or your team in the following ways:

- Develop and refine review topics
- Identify existing systematic reviews on a topic
- Recommend appropriate databases
- Review existing search strategies
- Develop search strategies for each database
- Execute searches across multiple databases
- Document search strategies
- De-duplicate and provide citations in Endnote
- Assist with locating full-text articles
- Provide a narrative of the search methodology
- Update searches as required

Feel free to visit a HNE Health Library branch to discuss your projects and learn more about the ways in which we can assist you in your research and practice.

Or take a look at this quick overview...

MANAGEMENT OF CLINICAL PHOTOGRAPHY ON PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES

In January 2017, Austin Health will launch its own medical photo app to reduce some of the risks inherent in health professionals using their personal phones to take clinical photos. The app will facilitate patient consent prior to photos being taken and will instantly delete the images from the health worker’s phone after automatically transferring them to the patient’s electronic medical record.

Read more...

SEE ALSO: Fradgley, E. et al. (2016) Getting right to the point: identifying Australian outpatients’ priorities and preferences in tertiary care.

COLLABORATIVE PATIENT-CENTERED QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Identification of patients’ and health professionals’ quality improvement preferences is an essential first step in collaborative improvement models.

In this study, outpatients demonstrated a strong preference for improvements to clinic organisation, such as appointment scheduling and clinic contact. Professionals selected initiatives related to communication with patients and other professionals, including coordinating multidisciplinary care. Improvements to information provision were commonly selected by both groups and offered a strategic opportunity to address patients’ and professionals’ preferences. By quantifying the ways in which preferences differed, this study emphasises the need for collaborative approaches to health service change and may be used to initiate an informed discussion on patients’ and professionals’ quality improvement preferences in tertiary care.


DID YOU SEE THIS: WHAT’S IN YOUR HOT DOG?

The contents of hot dogs (also known as street meat, tube steaks, frankfurters, wiener, etc.) has been a source of speculation in popular culture. However, a search of published literature did not identify any studies analysing the histological composition of these products. The oral mucosa from the vermillion border and anuses of large mammalian domesticated animals has been postulated… In the course of our research, we determined that hot dogs are also consumed in Australia, often in the form of being battered and deep fried and served on a stick (depending on regional variations, they are alternately called a “dagwood dog”, “pluto pup” or “dippy dog”, all of which are apparently real). We can only postulate that the histological findings would be similar...

Read more...


DEPT OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE, and DEPT OF NEUROLOGY, JHH—DEPT OF MEDICAL ONCOLOGY, CMN—RESEARCH SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT UNIT, and CANCER NETWORK, HNELHD

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LATEST EPISODE: Severe asymptomatic hypertension and Endovascular vs. open abdominal aneurysm repair (25th Jan 2017)