

Research

Dexamethasone for Acute Sore Throat 1535

A symptomatic therapy for acute sore throat might decrease the inappropriate prescribing of antibiotics; oral steroids can reduce inflammation in other upper respiratory tract infections such as acute sinusitis and croup. In a randomized clinical trial by Hayward and colleagues of 565 adults presenting to primary care with acute sore throat, a single oral dose of dexamethasone, compared with placebo, did not increase the proportion of patients with symptom resolution at 24 hours. There was a significant difference at 48 hours.

■ Author Video Interview jama.com CME jamanetworkcme.com

Antidepressants During Pregnancy and Autism Spectrum Disorder 1544

Previous studies may have misattributed the reported association of autism spectrum disorder and maternal use of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) antidepressants during pregnancy. In a retrospective cohort study of 35 906 singleton births designed to control for confounding, Brown and colleagues did not find an association of SSRI use by expectant mothers and autism spectrum disorder in their exposed children. Oberlander and Zwaigenbaum discuss disentangling maternal mood disorders and antidepressant use during pregnancy as risks for autism in children.

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Antidepressant Use During Pregnancy and Adverse Birth Outcomes 1553

Prenatal antidepressant exposure has been reported to be associated with adverse birth outcomes, but the actual risk may be related to maternal depression rather than its treatment. In a retrospective cohort study of 1 580 629 offspring born to 943 776 mothers, Sujan and colleagues found that first-trimester antidepressant exposure, compared with no exposure, was associated with a small increased risk of preterm birth but no increased risk of small for gestational age, autism spectrum disorder, or attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder.

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Eligibility for Primary Prevention Statin Therapy 1563

Guidelines from the American College of Cardiology (ACC)/American Heart Association (AHA) and the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) have different criteria for the initiation of primary prevention statin treatment. To compare the proportions of individuals in the United States who would be eligible for treatment by these criteria, Pagidipati and colleagues studied a nationally representative sample of 3416 adults and found that adherence to the 2016 USPSTF recommendations for statin therapy, compared with the 2013 ACC/AHA guidelines, could lead to a lower number of individuals recommended for primary prevention statin therapy.

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Editor in Chief
Howard Bauchner, MD

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Clinical Review & Education

Maternal Use of SSRIs and Autism in Their Children 1568

An article in *JAMA Pediatrics* reported an increased risk of autism spectrum disorder among children whose mothers used SSRI antidepressants during pregnancy. In a From The JAMA Network article, King discusses the risks of untreated depression and places the findings of this study in the context of other research.

Is It Time to Retire? 1570

Aging physicians may have diminished abilities that could affect patient care. This article by Levinson and Ginsburg from the JAMA Professionalism series discusses a senior physician who was uncertain whether he was maintaining professional competence. He sought objective feedback on his performance from his medical director and participated in a continuing medical education program that included a chart audit and quality improvement plan.

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Management of *Helicobacter pylori* Infection 1572

Helicobacter pylori infection is a cause of peptic ulcers, chronic gastritis, dyspepsia, gastric adenocarcinoma, and lymphoma. In a JAMA Clinical Guidelines Synopsis article, Kavitt and Cifu discuss the fifth iteration of the Maastricht/Florence consensus report, which builds on the recommendations of the 2015 Kyoto guidelines for the clinical management of *H pylori* gastritis.



A Woman With Yellow Palms and Soles 1574

This JAMA Clinical Challenge article by Wang and colleagues presents a woman with yellow-orange pigmentation of her palms and soles and normal levels of total and direct bilirubin. What would you do next?

Online @ jama.com



Editor's Audio Summary

Howard Bauchner, MD, summarizes and comments on this week's issue.

Author Interview

VIDEO Interview with Gail Nicola Hayward, DPhil, author of "Effect of Oral Dexamethasone Without Immediate Antibiotics vs Placebo on Acute Sore Throat in Adults: A Randomized Clinical Trial"

Audio Case Discussion

AUDIO Barbara Schneidman, MD, MPH, comments on the JAMA Professionalism article "Is It Time to Retire?"

CME Credit

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