

In This Issue: February 23, 2021

Research

ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION

732 Effect of High-Dose Baclofen on Agitation-Related Events Among Patients With Unhealthy Alcohol Use Receiving Mechanical Ventilation: A Randomized Clinical Trial

M Vourc'h and Coauthors
for the BACLOREA study group

This randomized clinical trial compares the effects of high-dose baclofen vs placebo on agitation-related events among adults in the ICU with unhealthy alcohol use receiving mechanical ventilation.

Editorial 727

Visual Abstract

742 Effect of Vitamin C, Thiamine, and Hydrocortisone on Ventilator- and Vasopressor-Free Days in Patients With Sepsis: The VICTAS Randomized Clinical Trial

JE Sevransky and Coauthors
for the VICTAS Investigators

This randomized trial compares the effect of vitamin C, thiamine, and hydrocortisone vs matching placebo on 30-day ventilator- and vasopressor-free days among patients with sepsis-induced respiratory and/or cardiovascular dysfunction.

Editorial 730

Editor's Note 751

Visual Abstract | CME

753 Association of Rare CYP39A1 Variants With Exfoliation Syndrome Involving the Anterior Chamber of the Eye

The Genetics of Exfoliation Syndrome Partnership

This case-control study uses whole-exome sequencing to identify coding-sequence genetic variants associated with exfoliation syndrome, a form of glaucoma caused by abnormal fibrillar protein aggregates in the anterior eye.

CME

Opinion

VIEWPOINT

715 Surprise Billing—A Flashpoint for Major Policy Issues in Health Care

C Colla

717 From Digitization to Digital Transformation: Policy Priorities for Closing the Gap

J Adler-Milstein

719 Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Related to COVID-19

L Lopez III, LH Hart III, and MH Katz

Audio

721 A Viral Pandemic, Vaccine Safety, and Compensation for Adverse Events

HC Meissner

Related Article 780

723 When Physicians Engage in Practices That Threaten the Nation's Health

PA Pizzo, D Spiegel, and MM Mello

Audio

A PIECE OF MY MIND

725 COVID-19 Communication—The Need for Humanity, Empathy, and Grace

LM Meeks

In this narrative medicine essay, a medical school professor urges family members and friends of patients with COVID-19 to hold back advice or facts gleaned from medical journal articles in favor of compassion for the immediate family and praises the frontline workers who after a year of the pandemic have retained their humanity, empathy, and grace.

EDITORIAL

727 Baclofen to Prevent Agitation Caused by Alcohol Withdrawal in the ICU

MC Reade

Related Article 732

730 Hydrocortisone, Vitamin C, and Thiamine for Treatment of Sepsis: Making Evidence Matter

KL Walter and CW Seymour

Related Article 742

EDITOR'S NOTE

751 Funding and DSMB Membership in the VICTAS Clinical Trial

H Bauchner, PB Fontanarosa, and RM Golub

Related Article 742

Online at JAMA.com

AUDIO

Editor's Summary of This Issue

When Physicians Engage in Practices That Threaten the Nation's Health

Live from AHA 2020:

Highlights from the American Heart Association's Virtual Scientific Sessions

February 2021 Medical News Summary

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in COVID-19

Structural Racism

Diagnosis and Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis—A Review

COVID-19 Vaccine Safety—Anaphylaxis and Allergic Reactions

Coronavirus Update With CDC Director Rochelle Walensky

VIDEO

Coronavirus Update With CDC Director Rochelle Walensky, MD

CME

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jamanetwork.com/pages/for-authors

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Howard Bauchner, MD

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Clinical Review & Education

REVIEW

765 Diagnosis and Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis: A Review

MP McGinley, CH Goldschmidt, and AD Rae-Grant
This narrative review discusses the epidemiology and pathophysiology of multiple sclerosis and summarizes current evidence on its diagnosis and treatment using disease-modifying therapies and nonpharmacological interventions.

Audio | CME

JAMA INSIGHTS

780 Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

T Shimabukuro and N Nair
This JAMA Insights review provides clinical details of anaphylactic reactions reported to and verified by the CDC in the first week of use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in the US, December 14-23, 2020.

Audio

JAMA CLINICAL CHALLENGE

782 A Purpuric Rash

KD He, K He, and PB Cornia

A 48-year-old man had erythema without warmth over his right ankle and dorsomedial foot, with nontender, nonpalpable purpura over the foot dorsum and scattered petechiae over the right lower leg 6 weeks after immobilization for an ankle fracture; temperature was 38.2°C (100.8°F) and the erythema faded when he elevated his leg above heart level. What is the diagnosis and what would you do next?

JAMA PATIENT PAGE

798 Nystagmus

MM Kates and CJ Beal

This JAMA Patient Page describes the types, causes, and treatment of nystagmus, a rhythmic involuntary movement of the eyes.

Available online

News & Analysis

MEDICAL NEWS & PERSPECTIVES

707 "Important Conversations" Are Needed to Explain the Nocebo Effect

A Slomski

This Medical News article describes how clinicians can explain to patients that their adverse effects may be due to the nocebo effect, which has more to do with negative perceptions than with a drug's pharmacological action.

Audio

THE JAMA FORUM

710 From Economic Recovery to Health Resilience

DA Chokshi

HEALTH AGENCIES UPDATE

712 Collecting Data About COVID-19-Related Brain Symptoms

712 Detecting Heart Transplant Rejection Earlier, More Easily

712 Locating COVID-19 Monoclonal Antibody Therapies

CLINICAL TRIALS UPDATE

713 Oral Rimegepant Safe, Effective for Migraine Prevention

713 Finerenone for Patients With CKD and Type 2 Diabetes

713 Common Weight Loss Surgeries' Benefits Sustained at Year 7

713 Navigators Improve Autism Evaluations but Not Referrals to Care

713 Physician Videos Improve COVID-19 Knowledge Among Minorities

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

714 COVID-19 Rates Increased Where In-Person College Classes Were Held

714 Drug-Resistant Yeast Infections Spread in COVID-19 Unit

Humanities

POETRY AND MEDICINE

792 Knows

M Dow

JAMA REVISITED

793 The Worth of a Miracle

Letters

RESEARCH LETTER

785 All-Cause Excess Mortality and COVID-19-Related Mortality Among US Adults Aged 25-44 Years, March-July 2020

JS Faust and Coauthors

This study compares all-cause excess mortality and COVID-19-related mortality during the early pandemic period (March-July 2020) with unintentional drug overdoses, the usual leading cause of death in young adults, during the same period in 2018 among adults aged 25 to 44 years.

Audio | Video

COMMENT & RESPONSE

Risk of Spinal Hematoma After Lumbar Puncture

787 T Xu, Y Wang, and Y Chen

787 CK Nobuhara and M Berger

In Reply

788 J Bodilsen and H Nielsen

The Effect of Surgical Treatment on Obstructive Sleep Apnea

788 V Alderman and J Agbetile

In Reply

789 S MacKay, RD McEvoy, and EM Weaver

Cervical Cancer Screening in Low- and Middle-Income Countries

790 M Cremer, K Alfaro, and R Masch

In Reply

790 P Geldsetzer and JM Lemp