Research

Hydrocortisone for Ventilator-Dependent Preterm Infants

It is uncertain whether hydrocortisone is a safe and effective alternative to dexamethasone for preterm infants receiving mechanical ventilation. Onland and colleagues for the SToP-BPD Study Group randomized 372 ventilator-dependent preterm infants and found that hydrocortisone administered between 7 and 14 days after birth did not improve the composite outcome of death or bronchopulmonary dysplasia.

Visual Abstract jama.com

Apolipoprotein B and Coronary Heart Disease

Although cholesterol and triglycerides are both carried in plasma by apolipoprotein B, available evidence supports therapies to lower plasma low-density lipoprotein cholesterol but not triglycerides for the prevention of cardiovascular events. Ference and colleagues analyzed data for 654 783 participants and found that low-density lipoprotein cholesterol-lowering genetic variants and triglyceride-lowering genetic variants were associated with similar reductions in the risk of coronary heart disease per unit change in apolipoprotein B. In an Editorial, Navar suggests that treatments for lowering LDL-C or triglycerides could reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease in proportion to their reduction of apolipoprotein B.

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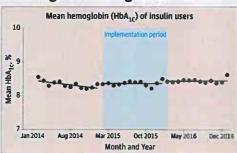
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Switching From Analogue to Human Insulin



Human insulin is less expensive than analogue insulin and may be just as effective for many patients with type 2 diabetes. Luo and colleagues conducted a time-series analysis of 14 635 Medicare beneficiaries with type 2 diabetes and found that a health plan protocol for switching patients from analogue to human insulin was associated with a small in-

crease in population level hemoglobin A_{1c} . In an Editorial, Lipska suggests that some patients who are susceptible to hypoglycemia may benefit from insulin analogues, but for most patients with diabetes, insulin analogues are no better than human insulin.

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Unemployment and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

385 Rural counties may be at risk for adverse consequences of opioid use because of poor access to health care, lack of economic opportunity, and diminished social capital. Patrick and colleagues conducted an ecological time-series analysis of 580 counties in 8 US states and found that long-term unemployment and mental health clinician shortage areas were associated with higher county-level rates of neonatal abstinence syndrome. In an Editorial, Kozhimannil and Admon suggest that workforce initiatives should strengthen opioid treatment capacity, and laws that discourage pregnant women from disclosing substance use should be changed.

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Clinical Review & Education

RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT

Ocular Prophylaxis for Gonococcal Ophthalmia Neonatorum

In the absence of ocular prophylaxis, transmission rates of gonococcal infection from mother to newborn are 30% to 50%. The US Preventive Services Task Force recommends topical ocular medication for all newborns to prevent corneal scarring, ocular perforation, and blindness associated with gonococcal ophthalmia neonatorum.

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CLINICAL UPDATE

Perioperative Glucose Control for Patients With Diabetes

Hyperglycemia is associated with adverse perioperative outcomes such as wound infection, pneumonia, and sepsis. This JAMA Insights article by Simha and Shah discusses the management of hyperglycemia in the perioperative period.

A Woman With Cystic Lung Disease

This JAMA Diagnostic Test Interpretation article by Ataya and colleagues presents a 28-year-old woman with cystic lung disease and an elevated level of serum vascular endothelial growth factor D. How do you interpret this test result?





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Editor's Audio Summary

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

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James E. Ip, MD, author of "Wearable Devices for Cardiac Rhythm Diagnosis and Management*

Audio

JAMA Medical News Summary: January 2019

Visual Abstract

"Effect of Hydrocortisone Therapy Initiated Between 7 to 14 Days After Birth on Mortality or Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia Among Preterm Infants Receiving Mechanical Ventilation: A Randomized Clinical Trial"

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