

Snippets

Snippets from the world wide web

Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health, 2003; **32**: 75-6

California Autism Hate Nearly Doubles in 4 Years

Autism cases in California nearly doubled over the past 4 years to more than 20,000, a phenomenon whose cause may be difficult to pinpoint because it is does not appear to be related to population increases or changes in reporting criteria, according to study findings released on Tuesday.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/eb4xOEIZ1OODzQOFa1GOAF>

IL-4 Receptor Levels Elevated in Asthmatic Children

Levels of interleukin (IL)- 4 soluble receptor alpha levels are elevated in children with stable asthma, UK researchers report in the April issue of the *Annals of Allergy Asthma and Immunology*.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/eb4xOEIZ1OODzQOFa1HOAG>

Exposure to Antidepressants in Breast Milk Does Not Affect Infant Weight Gain

By reducing the mother's risk of a major depressive episode, the use of such drugs may actually protect against poor weight gain.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/ebzvOEIZ1OODzQOFacTOAQ>

Adding Fatty Acids to Infant Diet May Lower Blood Pressure in Childhood

Adding long chain polyunsaturated fatty acids (LCPUFAs) to a child's diet during infancy is linked to a reduction in blood pressure later in life, according to a report published in the May 3rd issue of the *British Medical Journal*.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/ebzvOEIZ1OODzQOFacUOAR>

Web-Based Decision Tool Aids Pediatric Diagnoses

The tool achieved a 91% accuracy rate in 90 hypothetical cases and a 95% accuracy rate in 87 real-life cases.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/ebzvOEIZ1OODzQOFacGOAD>

Low Birth Weight Appears to Run in the Family

Young mothers who weighed very little when they were born appear to be significantly more likely to give birth to infants with similarly low birth weights, researchers reported on Monday.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/ebu30EIZ1OODzQOFaEPOAe>

Palm Oil in Infant Formula Blunts Bone Mineralization

Use of palm oil and its more liquid fraction, palm olein, to supplement infant formula may adversely affect skeletal development, researchers report in the May issue of *Pediatrics*.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/ebzvOEIZ1OODzQOFacLQAI>

Physical Activity During Pregnancy Linked to Low Birth Weight

Strenuous physical activity by mothers during pregnancy results in small birth size of their offspring, according to a study from India by a multinational team of researchers.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/ebzvOEIZ1OODzQOFacOOAL>

Clinical Course of SARS Less Aggressive in Children

Young children appear to develop a milder form of SARS than adolescents or adults, according to report in April 29th online issue of The Lancet.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/ebu30EIZ100DzQOFaESOAh>

FDA Rejects Methylphenidate Patch to Treat ADHD

Noven Pharmaceuticals Inc. said on Monday U.S. regulators rejected its application to market a transdermal patch to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/y/ebu30EIZ100DzQOFaEUOAj>

Etanercept an Option for Severe, Refractory JIA With Careful Follow-Up

In a small study of juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) patients treated with the recombinant tumor necrosis factor (TNF) antagonist etanercept, most had significant clinical improvements initially, but these improvements were sustained in a minority and side effects were a concern.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/ebu30EIZ100DzQOFaEVOAk>

Genetic Defect Responsible for Rare Premature Aging Disorder Identified

Scientists from the U.S. and France simultaneously announced on Wednesday the discovery of the genetic mutation that causes Hutchinson-Gilford progeria syndrome, an extremely rare form of premature aging.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/ebifOEIZ100DzQOFZRIOAI>

Breastfeeding Campaign Safely Prevents Diarrhea in Developing Countries

In developing countries, exclusive breastfeeding can be successfully promoted with an educational intervention. Promotion of such feeding until 6 months of age reduces the risk of infant diarrhea without adversely affecting growth, according to a report published in the April 26th issue of The Lancet.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/ebu30EIZ100DzQOFaEXOAm>

Throat Clearing Can Be First Sign of Pediatric Asthma

New findings suggest that the first sign of asthma in a child may be simple throat-clearing.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/y/ebifOEIZ100DzQOFZRNOAN>

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