

Snippets

Snippets from the web

Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health, 2003; **32**: 109-10

Statin Reverses Carotid Atherogenesis, Exercise Improves Vascular Function in Children

Two independent studies demonstrate the importance of early preventive intervention in children at risk of heart disease.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/eeREOEIZ100DzQOFk4POAJ>

Routine Morphine Use Not Justified for Newborns on Ventilator Support

In a randomized trial, there was no measurable analgesic effect or benefit on poor neurologic outcome.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/eeREOEIZ100DzQOFk4QOAK>

Flunisolide HFA Does Not Impair Growth in Children With Mild Asthma

In a study lasting 1 year, flunisolide hydrofluoroalkane (HFA), a new inhaled corticosteroid formulation, had no effect on height or growth velocity in pre-adolescents with mild asthma, according to a presentation by Dr. Leon S. Greos to the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/eeREOEIZ100DzQOFk4ROAL>

Children With Mild Asthma Constitute Most Hospital Admissions for Asthma

Mild asthma accounts for the majority of hospital admissions among children with asthma, according to findings presented here on Saturday during the Annual Meeting of the American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/eeREOEIZ100DzQOFk4UOAO>

Warfarin Safe, Effective for Thrombosis Prophylaxis in Children

In the first published study of its kind, warfarin effectively prevented central venous access device related thrombosis in children receiving chronic total parenteral nutrition.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/eeKtOEIZ100DzQOFkcLOAg>

AAP Reverses Guidance on Ipecac for Poisoning

Newly issued guidelines from the pediatrician group urge parents to stop using syrup of ipecac

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/eeKtOEIZ100DzQOFkcMOAh>

No Link Seen Between Thimerosal Exposure and Neurodevelopmental Outcome

Thimerosal-containing vaccines (TCVs) given in infancy do not appear to have any significant adverse effect on neurodevelopmental outcomes, according to a report published in the November issue of Pediatrics.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/eeKtOEIZ100DzQOFkcPOAk>

Schizophrenia Risk Again Shown to Rise With Paternal Age

Children of older men are at increased risk of schizophrenia in later life, possibly because of mutations in their father's DNA, according to a new study from Sweden.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/v/eeFfOEIZ100DzQOFkAGOAi>

Oral Immunoglobulin Promising in Refractory Juvenile Arthritis

Results of a phase II study suggest that oral immunoglobulin (IgG) may have a role as add-on therapy for refractory juvenile rheumatoid arthritis (JRA).

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin1/DM/v/eeFfOEIZ1OODzQOFkAHOAi>

Child Blindness More Common Than Expected

Childhood blindness in Britain is more common than previously thought, doctors report in the October 25th issue of The Lancet, and youngsters from ethnic minorities and lower economic groups and premature infants are vulnerable.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin1/DM/v/eeFfOEIZ1OODzQOFkAMOAO>

Receptor Gene Plays Key Role in Regulating Puberty

An intact G protein-coupled receptor gene (GPR54) seems to be necessary for normal puberty to occur in both humans and mice, according to a report published in the October 23rd issue of The New England Journal of Medicine.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin1/DM/v/eeFfOEIZ1OODzQOFkANOAp>

Stereotactic Radiotherapy Effective for Low-Grade Gliomas in Children

In a prospective trial, survival rates were 98% at five years and 82% after eight years.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin1/DM/v/ed830EIZ1OODzQOFiooOA2>

Low-Dose Theophylline Highly Effective for Asthma Control

But the drug is antagonistic when taken with corticosteroids, resulting in a worsening of lung function.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin1/DM/v/eeFfOEIZ1OODzQOFkAJOAi>

Topical Povidone-Iodine Effective in Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media

In a double-blind, randomized trial, this treatment was as effective as topical ciprofloxacin, with added benefits of reduced cost of therapy and no in vitro drug resistance.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin1/DM/v/eeFfOEIZ1OODzQOFkALOAn>

Creatine Supplements May Improve Muscle Strength in Young Children With DMD

Children with Duchenne muscular dystrophy between the ages of 5 and 7 years show a slowing in disease progression with creatine.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin1/DM/v/ed830EIZ1OODzQOFiofOAs>

B J C Perera
Joint Editor

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S. pneumoniae Genotype Seen Resistant to All FDA-Approved Antibiotics

A number of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* strains that cause acute otitis media and invasive disease in children have been identified that are not included in the 7-valent conjugate pneumococcal vaccine. One strain in particular, expressing a serotype 19A capsule belonging to a new genotype, is highly virulent and resistant to all antibiotics that are currently approved for use in children by the US Food and Drug Administration, according to physicians in New York who identified this otopathogen.

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Repeat Dosing of Antenatal Corticosteroids May Not Harm Infants at Risk for Preterm Birth

Two studies show that repeat dosing of antenatal corticosteroids in infants at risk for preterm birth is not associated with adverse effects at ages 2 to 3 years, but further study is warranted.

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Short-Course Isoniazid Plus Rifampin Effective for Latent TB in Children

A study shows a 3- or 4-month regimen of isoniazid plus rifampin is as effective as a 9-month course of isoniazid monotherapy in treating latent tuberculosis in children.

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Treatment Interruption in Gaucher Disease Can Cause Irreversible Complications

Interruption of enzyme replacement therapy in children with type 1 Gaucher disease can cause recurrent organomegaly, growth delays, and skeletal manifestations that do not resolve after reinstatement of treatment, according to a study published in the August issue of the *Journal of Paediatrics*.

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Tomatoes, Cucumbers, and Fish Protect Against Childhood Wheeze and Atopy

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Cystinosis Gene May Be Tied to Cognitive Deficits

Defects in visual processing observed in young children with cystinosis indicate that the cystinosis gene may be involved, California-based researchers report in the *Journal of Paediatrics*.

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Breast-Feeding May Not Reduce Risk for Asthma or Allergy

In a large cluster randomized study, prolonged or exclusive breast-feeding did not reduce the risk for asthma, hay fever, or eczema at the age of 6.5 years.

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Children With Amblyopia May Not Need Occlusion Prescribed for More Than 6 Hours Daily

Substantial (6 hours/day) and maximal (12 hours/day) prescribed occlusion resulted in similar visual outcome, but actual use of occlusion in both groups was much less than prescribed.

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Older Age at Diagnosis a Risk Factor for Mortality in Childhood-Onset Diabetes

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Use of Opiates in Children With Suspected Appendicitis Not Contraindicated

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Few Diabetic Children With Infusion Pumps Achieve Optimal HgA1C

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Adenotonsillectomy Improves Sleep, Behavior in Children With Sleep-Disordered Breathing

This study also suggests that the Paediatric Sleep Questionnaire and Conners' Parent Rating Scale-Revised Short Form are useful for screening and observing children after this procedure.

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DM/y/eBbCw0EIZ1O0DzQ0I32P0E5>

Overweight Children at Increased Risk for Asthma Hospitalization

Among children who presented to the emergency department for asthma, overweight children with asthma were significantly more likely to be older and live in an impoverished area.

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