

Snippets

Snippets from the worldwide web

Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health, 2011; **40**: 72-73

Bisphenol-A Linked to Asthma in Inner-City Children

Exposure during childhood to the widely used industrial chemical bisphenol-A (BPA) may increase the risk for asthma, according to a study presented here at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/740065>

Cooling of Hypoxic Newborns Can Be Started at the Birth Hospital

Moderate cooling reduces death and disability in term and near-term infants with peripartum hypoxia-ischaemia, the Infant Cooling Evaluation (ICE) trial has confirmed. What the ICE trial adds is that a simple, inexpensive method of cooling can be safely started at the birth hospital, in non-intensive care settings, without having to wait until the baby is transferred to a regional tertiary neonatal intensive care unit.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/740551>

No Increased Risk for Cataracts in Asthmatics Taking Inhaled Steroids

There is no increased risk for either cataracts or elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) with the inhaled steroid budesonide, which can lead to glaucoma, according to study results reported here at the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology 2011 Annual Meeting. The prospective 16-year Danish study involved 148 asthmatic children and 53 of their healthy siblings. In adulthood, all enrollees underwent a slit-lamp examination, and the same certified ophthalmologist took retroillumination images and IOP measurements.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/740220>

Preterm Birth May Boost ADHD Risk by Up to 60%

A new study shows that children born even moderately premature are at a 40% to 60% higher risk of developing ADHD by the time they are school age than are those born full-term.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/741058>

Children Exposed to Valproate In Utero Have Persistent Cognitive Delay

The adverse cognitive effects of fetal valproate exposure continue into childhood, warn researchers. The new results, from the Neurodevelopmental Effects of Antiepileptic Drugs (NEAD) study, show that weak performance at 3 years of age persists to 4½ years of age.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/740904>

Vaccines Safe in Children With Inborn Errors of Metabolism

Routine childhood vaccines are safe for children with inborn errors of metabolism, according to two studies in the May issue of *Pediatrics*, published online April 11.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/740764>

More Evidence Secondhand Smoke Bad for Kids' Mental Health

Children and adolescents in the United States exposed to secondhand smoke (SHS) are at risk of developing major depressive disorder (MDD), generalized anxiety disorder (GAD), attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and conduct disorder, new research suggests.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/740701>

Broad-Spectrum Antibiotics Overused for Paediatric UTIs

Paediatricians often use broad-spectrum antibiotics for urinary tract infection (UTI) when less powerful antibiotics will do, according to a report online today in *Pediatrics*.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/742381>

Paracetamol Use in Pregnancy Linked to Childhood Asthma

A meta-analysis of studies shows a 21% increase in the risk for childhood asthma associated with use of paracetamol at any time during pregnancy.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/741136>

Neck Circumference Linked to Perioperative Respiratory Events

In children, high neck circumference (NC) is associated with obesity and some adverse respiratory events during noncardiac surgery, according to a study published online April 4 in *Pediatrics*. The results suggest that NC could be used as a clinical screen for an increased risk for perioperative adverse respiratory events.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/740219>

Preterm Birth May Boost ADHD Risk by Up to 60%

Preterm and early birth are associated with a significant risk of developing attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) by school age, according to a national cohort study of more than 1 million children from Sweden. "The increased risk of attention problems, including full-blown ADHD, in survivors of extreme preterm birth in neonatal intensive care units [NICU] has been reported previously," co-investigator Anders Hjern, MD, PhD, from the Center for Health Equity Studies at the Karolinska Institute at Stockholm University, Sweden, told.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/741058?src=mp&spon=9>

Tocilizumab Approved for Active Systemic JIA

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved tocilizumab (*Actemra*, Genentech Inc), given alone or in combination with methotrexate, for treatment of children age 2 years and older with active systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis (SJIA). Actemra is an interleukin-6 receptor blocker approved by the FDA in January 2010 for treatment of adults with moderate to severe active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response to other approved therapies.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/740956?src=mp&spon=9>

Recurrent Abdominal Pain in Children May Be Migraine

Up to 15% of recurrent abdominal pain in children meets criteria for abdominal migraine (AM), a new study suggests. The findings underline the importance of recognizing AM in children with recurrent abdominal pain because there are now a wide range of treatments available, researchers say.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/742153>

A1C Not Reliable for Diabetes Screening in Paediatric Population

Haemoglobin A1c (A1C) levels are not sensitive or specific enough to be used to identify children and adolescents with or at risk for diabetes, according to a report in *Diabetes Care* online April 22. "Our results suggest that, although A1C could be used as a clinical tool to identify type 2 diabetes, along with fasting and 2-h glucose, the use of A1C alone to pinpoint prediabetes and type 2 diabetes is not recommended," stated Dr. Sonia Caprio.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/742046>

Characteristics of Bullies Revealed

A survey of school-aged children has identified a cluster of factors that is associated with bullying, and more than one third of children fit the definition of a bully, according to the study, presented here at the Paediatric Academic Societies and Asian Society for Paediatric Research 2011 Annual Meeting. Being a school bully can lay the framework for miseries in later life that include depression, suicidal thoughts or attempts, and misbehaviour that can result in arrest and imprisonment. This information could be valuable in developing more focused and effective antibullying programs.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/741978>

Breast-Feeding Linked to Fewer Behaviour Problems in Children

Breast-feeding is linked to fewer behavioral problems in childhood, according to the results of the Millennium Cohort Study reported Online First May 9 in the *Archives of Disease in Childhood*.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/742552>

Updated Recommendations for Paediatric Cardiac Catheterization

The American Heart Association (AHA) has issued a scientific statement containing recommendations for diagnostic and therapeutic cardiac catheterization in pediatric heart disease, which were last updated in 1998.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/742219>

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