

Snippets

Snippets from the worldwide web

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Probiotic Fails to Ward off Nosocomial Diarrhoea in Kids

Giving the probiotic *Lactobacillus reuteri* DSM 17938 to hospitalized children is unlikely to protect them from nosocomial diarrhea, including rotavirus infection, according to a study conducted in Poland.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/759700>

New Rhinosinusitis Guidelines Discourage Antibiotics

New Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) guidelines state that most cases of acute rhinosinusitis are caused by viruses and should not be treated with antibiotics. According to a written release accompanying the guidelines, up to 98% of cases are caused by viruses, and therefore would not be responsive to antibiotics. The guidelines, authored by an 11-member panel chaired by Anthony W. Chow, MD, professor emeritus of infectious diseases at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, included contributions from experts from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American College of Physicians, and the Society of Academic Medicine.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/760637>

Medication Leading Cause of Child Poisoning in US

Roughly 165 young children in the U.S. are treated in the emergency departments every day after getting into medications, says a new report from Safe Kids Worldwide. That's more than 60,000 kids a year ages 5 and under who unintentionally take a medicine or overdose on it. Over the last 25 years, the poisoning death rate among American children ages 14 and under has steadily dropped. But during this same time period, the number of poisoning deaths linked to accidental medication poisoning has almost doubled from 36% in 1979 to about 64% in 2006.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/760614>

Iron Deficiency Protects Children Against Malaria

Iron deficiency protects African children from severe plasmodium falciparum malaria, researchers have discovered. Iron supplementation and malaria prevention efforts must therefore be integrated, they said in a February 21st online paper in *Clinical Infectious Diseases*.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/760589>

Breast-Feeding Advice Should Be Realistic, Not Idealistic

The World Health Organization recommends breast-feeding for 6 months, but this may not be a realistic option for many women, according to a report published online March 14 in *BMJ Open*. Evidence that in many nations women are not meeting the organization's recommendation inspired the study by Pat Hoddinott, PhD, from the Health Services Research Unit, University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom, and colleagues. The researchers conducted 220 qualitative serial interviews with 36 women (35 of whom planned to breast-feed), 26 partners, 8 mothers, 1 sister, and 2 healthcare professionals about diverse aspects of breast-feeding.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/760310>

Less Invasive Protocol Helps Premies Breathe Easier in Limited Resource Settings

In a study of very low birth weight (VLBW) infants, a strategy of prophylactic bubble continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) followed by early selective surfactant use if necessary under the INSURE protocol (intubation, surfactant, extubation) decreased the need for mechanical ventilation without increasing morbidity and death. This finding, say the researchers, is particularly relevant for managing preterm neonates in the developing world, with few ventilators and a short supply of surfactant. Bubble CPAP is a gentle, noninvasive - but by all accounts, labor intensive - method of ventilatory assistance, wherein pressure created by bubbles in a bottle of water is delivered to the baby via nasal cannula.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/760985>

Fewer Kids Dying From Leukaemia: Study

Kids with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) are living longer than they used to, most likely thanks to new drug combinations that mean fewer patients relapse after first-line treatment. In a study including more than 20,000 babies, kids and adolescents with ALL, five-year survival rose from 84% in the early 1990s to over 90% a decade later.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/760642>

Low Vitamin D Linked to High IgE, Need for Steroids in Asthma

Low serum vitamin D levels in children with asthma are associated with higher immunoglobulin (Ig)E levels and poorer response to inhaled corticosteroids, according to a study reported here at the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI) 2012 Annual Meeting. "Our study suggests that in children there is a window of opportunity to reverse allergic sensitization with vitamin D supplementation," said Elena Goleva, from the Department of Pediatrics at the National Jewish Health in Denver, Colorado.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/760714>

Fluoroquinolones Linked to Retinal Detachments

Fluoroquinolones may increase the risk for retinal detachment, researchers report in an article published in the April 4 issue of JAMA. The authors, led by Mahyar Etminan, PharmD, from the Therapeutic Evaluation Unit, Child and Family Research Institute of British Columbia, and the Department of Medicine, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, found that 3.3% of 4384 patients with retinal detachments were taking fluoroquinolones, a common antibiotic, compared with only 0.6% of 43,840 matched control patients.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/761435>

Children With Duct Obstruction at Risk for Amblyopia

Children with nasolacrimal duct obstruction (NLDO) should be followed closely to ensure that they do not develop amblyopia, according to a study presented here at the American Society of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (AAPOS) 38th Annual Meeting.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/761791>

Preventing Unnecessary Appendectomies With CT, Ultrasound

Young children and girls older than 10 years appear to have fewer unnecessary appendectomies when diagnostic computerized tomography (CT) and/or ultrasound are used. These imaging techniques appear to have limited value in boys older than 5 years, however, according to a 5-year retrospective review of children with a diagnosis of appendicitis seen in the emergency departments (EDs) of 40 children's hospitals.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/762092>

Salt Content Variable in Fast Food in Different Countries

The salt content of fast food products varies greatly according to the type of product and between different companies and countries, according to the findings of a survey study. Among the countries, the United States had the highest level of salt in fast food products (1.5 ± 0.5 g salt/100 g; 95% confidence interval [CI], 0.0 - 2.9) compared with 1.1 ± 0.6 g salt/100 g (95% CI, 0.0 - 2.2) in France. In addition, Pizza Hut had the highest level of salt among the different companies (1.5 ± 0.4 g salt/100 g; 95% CI, 0.3 - 3.5), whereas Subway had the lowest salt content (0.9 ± 0.4 g salt/100 g; 95% CI, 0.0 - 1.9). Remarkably, the amount of salt in a given product varied between countries in some cases. For example, the authors point out that McDonald's Chicken McNuggets contain 0.6 g of salt per 100 g in the United Kingdom compared with 1.6 g of salt per 100 g in the United States.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/762091>

More Protein Improves Energy Balance in Critically Ill Children

In children on mechanical ventilation, higher energy and protein intakes seem to be associated with a positive protein balance, a new meta-analysis suggests. Optimal delivery of protein and energy is required to offset protein breakdown seen during the catabolic phase of critical illness. Failure to provide an adequate protein intake results in a negative protein balance and eventually loss of muscle tissue with a poor outcome.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/761805>

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