

ADDITIONAL ARTICLES ABSTRACTED IN ACP JOURNAL CLUB

The following articles are abstracted in the Sep/Oct 2004 issue of *ACP Journal Club*. The declarative title of each abstract as published in *ACP Journal Club* precedes the article citation.

THERAPEUTICS

► Review: Tegaserod prompts global relief of symptoms in irritable bowel syndrome

Evans BW, Clark WK, Moore DJ, et al. Tegaserod for the treatment of irritable bowel syndrome. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2004;(1):CD003960.

► Review: Donepezil improves cognitive and functional outcomes in vascular cognitive impairment

Malouf R, Birks J. Donepezil for vascular cognitive impairment. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2004;(1):CD004395.

► Review: *Helicobacter pylori* eradication therapy is mildly effective for reducing symptoms in nonulcer dyspepsia

Moayyedi P, Deeks J, Talley NJ, et al. An update of the Cochrane systematic review of *Helicobacter pylori* eradication therapy in nonulcer dyspepsia: resolving the discrepancy between systematic reviews. *Am J Gastroenterol* 2003;**98**:2621–6.

► Review: Thoracoscopic pleurodesis with talc may be the optimal technique in patients with malignant pleural effusions

Shaw P, Agarwal R. Pleurodesis for malignant pleural effusions. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2004;(1):CD002916.

► Review: Leukotriene receptor antagonists are less effective than intranasal corticosteroids for allergic rhinitis

Wilson AM, O'Byrne PM, Parameswaran K. Leukotriene receptor antagonists for allergic rhinitis: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Am J Med* 2004;**116**:338–44.

► An antibiotic regimen for 8 days was as effective as one for 15 days in ventilator-associated pneumonia

Chastre J, Wolff M, Fagon JY, et al. Comparison of 8 vs 15 days of antibiotic therapy for ventilator-associated pneumonia in adults: a randomized trial. *JAMA* 2003;**290**:2588–98.

► Percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty improved long-term angina status more than medical therapy in coronary artery disease

Henderson RA, Pocock SJ, Clayton TC, et al. Seven-year outcome in the RITA-2 trial: coronary angioplasty versus medical therapy. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2003;**42**:1161–70.

► Etanercept plus methotrexate reduced symptoms and disease activity in adult-onset rheumatoid arthritis

Klareskog L, van der Heijde D, de Jager JP, et al. Therapeutic effect of the combination of etanercept and methotrexate compared with each treatment alone in patients with rheumatoid arthritis: double-blind randomised controlled trial. *Lancet* 2004;**363**:675–81.

► Rapid measurement of B-type natriuretic peptides reduced time to discharge and treatment costs in patients with acute dyspnea

Mueller C, Scholer A, Laule-Kilian K, et al. Use of B-type natriuretic peptide in the evaluation and management of acute dyspnea. *N Engl J Med* 2004;**350**:647–54.

► Fluid resuscitation with albumin or saline in the intensive care unit did not affect 28-day mortality rates

The SAFE Study Investigators. A comparison of albumin and saline for fluid resuscitation in the intensive care unit. *N Engl J Med* 2004;**350**:2247–56.

► Memantine was better than placebo in Alzheimer disease already being treated with donepezil

Tariot PN, Farlow MR, Grossberg GT, et al. Memantine treatment in patients with moderate to severe Alzheimer disease already receiving donepezil: a randomized controlled trial. *JAMA* 2004;**291**:317–24.

► Sildenafil was safe and improved erectile function and quality of life in men with moderately severe congestive heart failure

Webster LJ, Michelakis ED, Davis T, et al. Use of sildenafil for safe improvement of erectile function and quality of life in men with New York Heart Association classes II and III congestive heart failure: a prospective, placebo-controlled, double-blind crossover trial. *Arch Intern Med* 2004;**164**:514–20.

DIAGNOSIS

► Review: Skin and in vitro tests for allergic rhinitis vary widely in usefulness

Gendo K, Larson EB. Evidence-based diagnostic strategies for evaluating suspected allergic rhinitis. *Ann Intern Med* 2004;**140**:278–89.

PROGNOSIS

► Review: 4 clinical signs are precise and accurate for predicting poor outcome in postcardiac arrest coma

Booth CM, Boone RH, Tomlinson G, et al. Is this patient dead, vegetative, or severely neurologically impaired? Assessing outcome for comatose survivors of cardiac arrest. *JAMA* 2004;**291**:870–9.

AETIOLOGY

► C-reactive protein was a moderate predictor of coronary heart disease

Danesh J, Wheeler JG, Hirschfield GM, et al. C-reactive protein and other circulating markers of inflammation in the prediction of coronary heart disease. *N Engl J Med* 2004;**350**:1387–97.

► Elevated plasma natriuretic peptide levels were associated with cardiovascular events

Wang TJ, Larson MG, Levy D, et al. Plasma natriuretic peptide levels and the risk of cardiovascular events and death. *N Engl J Med* 2004;**350**:655–63.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

► Review: Individualized written action plans based on peak expiratory flow improve asthma health outcomes

Gibson PG, Powell H. Written action plans for asthma: an evidence-based review of the key components. *Thorax* 2004;**59**:94–9.