

EDITORIALS

- 380 Can liability rules keep pace with best practice?
The case of multidisciplinary cancer care
David M Studdert
- 381 Will prasugrel supersede clopidogrel for acute
coronary syndromes?
Graeme J Hankey, John W Eikelboom, Paul E Langton
- 383 New vision, new paradigm: health and
wealth for all by 2100 — or for no one.
Peter W Tait

RESEARCH

- 385 National Breast Cancer Audit: the use of
multidisciplinary care teams by breast
surgeons in Australia and New Zealand
Claire J Marsh, Margaret Boulton, Jim X Wang,
Guy J Maddern, David M Roder, James Kollias
- 389 When continuity of care breaks down:
a systems failure in identification of
osteoporosis risk in older patients
treated for minimal trauma fractures
Anne-Maree Kelly, Megan Clooney, Debra Kerr,
Peter R Ebeling
- 392 Teenage smoking in pregnancy and
birthweight: a population study,
2001–2004
Denise L Chan, Elizabeth A Sullivan

HEALTH CARE

- 397 The National Open Disclosure Pilot:
evaluation of a policy implementation
initiative
Rick AM Iedema, Nadine A Mallock, Roslyn J Sorensen,
Elizabeth Manias, Anthony G Tuckett,
Allison F Williams, Bruce E Perrott, Suzanne H Brownhill,
Donella A Piper, Suyin Hor, Desley G Hegney,
Hermine B Scheeres, Christine M Jorm

MEDICINE AND THE LAW

- 401 Medicolegal implications of a
multidisciplinary approach to cancer care:
consensus recommendations from a
national workshop
Alison C Evans, Helen M Zorbas, Megan A Keane,
Mark A Sidhom, Holly E Goodwin, Janice C Peterson

FOR DEBATE

- 405 Implementing the national priorities for injury
surveillance
Rebecca J Mitchell, Rod J McClure, Ann M Williamson,
Kirsten McKenzie



CLINICAL UPDATE

- 409 Management of adrenal insufficiency during
the stress of medical illness and surgery
Caroline Jung, Warrick J Inder

VIEWPOINT

- 414 Empathy and competence
Jeffrey CL Looi

PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

- 418 What has happened to clinical leadership
in futile care discussions?
Brendan F Murphy

LESSONS FROM PRACTICE

- 420 Liver failure associated with the use of black
cohoosh for menopausal symptoms
Elizabeth C-Y Chow, Marcus Teo, John A Ring,
John W Chen

- 426 **LETTERS** (contents overleaf)

MEDICAL "IRON CURTAINS"

Australian medicine has long enjoyed a close relationship with postgraduate medical institutions in the United Kingdom. Since colonial times, our doctors have journeyed to the "Motherland" for postgraduate training in historic hospitals, and to secure fellowships from the Royal Colleges in London, Edinburgh and Dublin. Indeed, our own specialist colleges, upon their foundation, borrowed heavily from their British counterparts and even saw fit to include the prestigious "Royal" in their titles.

However, this close association with the British Isles has been in gradual decline since Federation, and was recently dealt yet another blow when the UK Home Office barred graduates from Australia and other Commonwealth countries from training in the UK National Health Service. This drastic action has been undertaken to preserve training positions for the increasing numbers of students graduating from UK medical schools.

Paradoxically, at the same time, Australia is facing the very real possibility that the availability of training positions for local graduates may soon reach crisis point, if the Australian governments continue to pursue the policy of unrestricted importation of British doctors to fill vacancies in our hospitals.

Will the UK's imposition of an "Iron Curtain" have a downstream effect on Australian medical trainees? What problems will we confront when the predicted increased numbers of Australian medical graduates consider entering postgraduate training? How will we manage the fierce competition for positions when we find that, by and large, foreign graduates occupy them?

Without a doubt, Britain's Iron Curtain for postgraduate medical training will impact on the education of our home-grown specialists. It is vital that we have a carefully considered plan of action; we should be loath to embark on a tit-for-tat embargo.

But should we fail to protect the interests of Australian graduates, we may well witness a generation of disillusioned doctors.



Martin B Van Der Weijden

LETTERS

- Fatal paramethoxyamphetamine (PMA) poisoning in the Australian Capital Territory**
426 Paul G Lamberth, Geoff KA Ding, Liisa A Nurmi
- Ready, SET, go for academic surgery?**
426 Timothy J Smith, Carly M Fox, Michael A Bonning
427 John P Collins, Ian D Civil
- Chronic kidney disease and automatic reporting of estimated glomerular filtration rate: revised recommendations**
427 William R Adam
428 Andrew J McLachlan, on behalf of the Editorial Advisory Board, *Australian medicines handbook*
429 Timothy H Mathew, David W Johnson, Graham RD Jones, on behalf of the Australasian Creatinine Consensus Working Group
- Successful lung transplantation for adolescents at a hospital for adults**
430 Monica C Robotin
430 Judith M Morton, Allan R Glanville
431 Gregory I Snell, Glen P Westall, Trevor J Williams
- Informing prospective medical students**
431 James M Hillis, Robert D Mitchell

BOOK REVIEWS

- Failure to atone. The true story of a jungle surgeon in Vietnam**
417 reviewed by Marshall Barr
- Heart failure and palliative care: a team approach**
425 reviewed by Michael A Ashby

SNAPSHOT

- Haemopericardium in blue rubber bleb naevus syndrome (Bean syndrome)**
416 Pankaj Malhotra, Madhav C Menon, Subramaniam S Anand, Arshjyot Narula, Subhash Varma

CORRECTIONS

- 422 **Implementing and sustaining transformational change in health care: lessons learnt about clinical process redesign** (*Med J Aust* 2008; 188: S32-S35)
- 431 **Respiratory syncytial virus infections in children in Alice Springs Hospital** (*Med J Aust* 2008; 188: 261)
- 432 **The national inpatient medication chart: critical audit of design and performance at a tertiary hospital** (*Med J Aust* 2008; 188: 95-99)

379 IN THIS ISSUE

423 IN OTHER JOURNALS



February MJA BookClub Winners

Congratulations to: Dr Anna Fletcher, North Perth, WA; Dr Valerie Sharp, Dover, TAS; and Dr David Warner, Balgownie, NSW. Each wins a set of *Netter's Anatomy Flash Cards: Head and Neck*. Thanks to everyone who purchased books from the February MJA BookClub and went into the draw. Pictured right is Alexandra Rot, from AMPCo's Information Processing/Sales and Marketing, drawing the February winners. To see this month's MJA BookClub's great offers, see page 400 and the inside back cover of this issue.

