

This Week in the Journal

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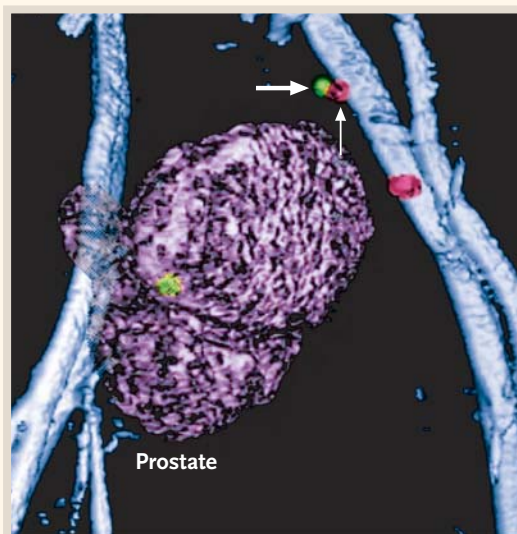
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Noninvasive Detection of Occult Lymph-Node Metastases in Prostate Cancer

Two methods were compared for the detection of small lymph-node metastases in men with prostate cancer: conventional magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and MRI performed 24 hours after the intravenous injection of lymph-node-seeking nanoparticles containing an iron oxide core. The latter method proved superior to conventional MRI in sensitivity and specificity.

The noninvasive MRI method described in this study could change the initial workup of men with newly diagnosed prostate cancer and ultimately influence their treatment.

SEE PAGE 2491; PERSPECTIVE, PAGE 2487



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Staging of Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer with Integrated PET and Computed Tomography

In this prospective study, integrated positron-emission tomography (PET) and computed tomography were more accurate for the radiographic assessment of disease stages in non-small-cell lung cancer than the use of either technique alone or simultaneous visual inspection of the two types of images.

Preoperative staging is a crucial step in the management of non-small-cell carcinoma — not only to determine the suitability of surgery in a given case but also to guide surgeons in planning and performing the operation.

SEE PAGE 2500

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Leisure Activities and the Risk of Dementia

In a prospective study of 469 elderly subjects who were free of dementia at base line, activities such as reading, playing board games, and playing musical instruments were associated with a significant reduction in the risk of dementia. Participation in physical activities was not associated with any reduction in the risk of dementia.

Cognitive activities may reduce the risk of dementia in the elderly.

SEE PAGE 2508; PERSPECTIVE, PAGE 2489

THIS WEEK IN THE JOURNAL

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Prevalence of Celiac Disease

This study of Finnish schoolchildren found that the presence of serum autoantibodies can be used to identify celiac disease and reported a prevalence of 1 case in 99 children.

The prevalence of celiac disease may be higher than previously believed. Prospective screening for specific autoantibodies and HLA genotypes can identify persons with asymptomatic disease.

SEE PAGE 2517; EDITORIAL, PAGE 2568

SPECIAL ARTICLE

Improving Safety with Information Technology

Information technology can improve patient safety by preventing errors and facilitating rapid response to adverse events. Computerized prescribing by physicians reduces the rate of medication-related errors. Systems that automatically page clinicians about serious laboratory abnormalities and remote monitoring of patients in intensive care units also appear promising.

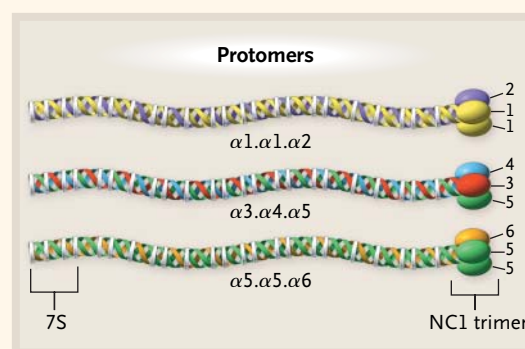
SEE PAGE 2526; EDITORIAL, PAGE 2570

MECHANISMS OF DISEASE

Diseases Involving Type IV Collagen

Defects in type IV collagen, a collagenous protein involved in the formation of basement membranes, have been implicated in hereditary Alport's syndrome and acquired Goodpasture's syndrome. Mutations in genes corresponding to the building blocks of type IV collagen cause Alport's syndrome, whereas autoantibodies against structures that are usually hidden in the recesses of collagen IV cause Goodpasture's syndrome.

SEE PAGE 2543



CLINICAL PRACTICE

The Solitary Pulmonary Nodule

A 60-year-old man undergoes chest radiography during an evaluation for pneumonia, and a 1.5-cm nodule is discovered. He is a heavy smoker but has no history of lung disease. The results of a physical examination are unremarkable. How should he be evaluated?

SEE PAGE 2535

CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS OF BASIC RESEARCH

Celiac Disease

The mechanism by which some types of cereal proteins trigger celiac disease (also known as gluten-sensitive enteropathy) is unknown. A strong candidate has now been put forward: a 33-amino-acid peptide that resists digestion. The peptide is susceptible to degradation by a bacterial enzyme, raising the possibility of a new therapeutic approach.

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CORRESPONDENCE

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| <p>2575 Soluble CD40 Ligand in Acute Coronary Syndromes</p> <p>2577 The Outbreak of Conjunctivitis at Dartmouth</p> <p>2578 The Death at Duke</p> <p>2579 The Chromogranin–Secretogranin Family</p> | <p>2580 Understanding and Responding to Adverse Events</p> <p>2581 Race and Genomics</p> <p>2582 Aspiration of Barium</p> <p>2583 Interleukin-1–Receptor Antagonist in Muckle–Wells Syndrome</p> |
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