

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1904 Soluble TREM-1 and the Diagnosis of Pneumonia
- 1906 Circulating IGF-I Deficiency and Inactivation of the Acid-Labile Subunit Gene
- 1906 The Budd–Chiari Syndrome
- 1908 Abortion, Health, and the Law
- 1910 Paying Physicians for High-Quality Care
- 1912 State Initiatives to Control Medicaid Drug Costs
- 1912 Refractory Thrombocytopenia despite Treatment for Rattlesnake Envenomation
- 1914 Minor Transplacental Passage of Fondaparinux in Vivo

BOOK REVIEWS

- 1916 Mammography: Diagnosis and Pathological Analysis
- 1917 Restless Nights: Understanding Snoring and Sleep Apnea
- 1918 Diagnosis and Management of Adult Congenital Heart Disease

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

- 1921 Fibromuscular Dysplasia
- 1922 Open Mesh versus Laparoscopic Mesh Repair of Inguinal Hernia
- 1923 Where Does HIV Live?

ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO THE JOURNAL'S CUMULATIVE INDEX

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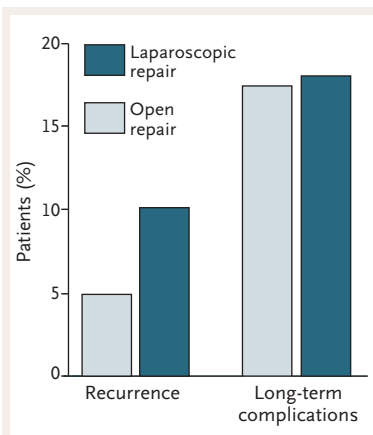


# This Week in the Journal

APRIL 29, 2004

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Open Mesh vs. Laparoscopic Mesh Hernia Repair



In this large, multicenter, randomized trial comparing laparoscopic mesh and open mesh repair of inguinal hernias, men randomly assigned to laparoscopic repair had a higher rate of recurrence at two years and a higher rate of complications than those assigned to open repair. Subgroup analyses revealed a significantly higher recurrence rate after laparoscopic repair than after open repair of primary hernias (the majority of the hernias studied), but not of recurrent hernias.

These results help inform the choice between laparoscopic mesh and open mesh repair of inguinal hernias in men.

SEE P. 1819; EDITORIAL, P. 1895; CME, P. 1922

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**Gene Expression and Survival in Diffuse Large-B-Cell Lymphoma**

The expression of 36 genes that have been linked to the outcomes in diffuse large-B-cell lymphoma was studied with the use of real-time polymerase chain reaction in biopsy specimens of the lymphoma. The pattern of expression of a group of 6 of the 36 genes correlated significantly with survival.

This study reduces the large amount of data obtained from DNA microarrays to a small set of genes whose expression is readily measured by a widely available method. The results suggest possibilities for immediate clinical application.

SEE P. 1828; PERSPECTIVE, P. 1814

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**Genetic Cause of Permanent Neonatal Diabetes**

This study shows that some patients with permanent neonatal diabetes have an activating mutation in the gene encoding Kir6.2, a subunit of the ATP-sensitive potassium (K<sub>ATP</sub>) channel. Such mutations are predicted to reduce membrane depolarization in response to ATP and thereby insulin secretion from pancreatic beta cells. Three patients with mutant Kir6.2 secreted insulin in response to a sulfonylurea, which stimulates insulin secretion independently of ATP, suggesting a strategy for treatment.

SEE P. 1838; PERSPECTIVE, P. 1817

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**A Comparison of Regimens for the Initial Treatment of HIV-1**

Protease-sparing regimens are often used in the initial treatment of HIV-1 infection. This double-blind trial was stopped after an interim analysis showed poorer virologic responses with the triple-nucleoside-analogue regimen of zidovudine, lamivudine, and abacavir than with regimens containing efavirenz, a nonnucleoside reverse-transcriptase inhibitor, plus two or three nucleoside analogues.

SEE P. 1850

CURRENT CONCEPTS

**Fibromuscular Dysplasia**

Fibromuscular dysplasia is a noninflammatory process that may be difficult to distinguish from vasculitis. It develops in the middle and distal arterial segments, and especially in younger patients, it may cause renovascular hypertension, stroke, and cranial-nerve palsies. Treatment increasingly involves the use of percutaneous angioplasty.

SEE P. 1862; CME, P. 1921

MECHANISMS OF DISEASE

**Where Does HIV Live?**

This survey of the cellular and anatomical sites of infection by human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) discusses the mechanisms of attachment of the virus to cells, the cellular receptors through which the virus enters cells, and the all-important reservoir of HIV, which persists despite antiretroviral therapy.

SEE P. 1872; CME, P. 1923

CASE RECORDS OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

**A Man with Progressive Neurologic Deficits**

A 66-year-old man developed progressive left-sided weakness over a two-month period. He was a renal-transplant recipient and had alcoholic cirrhosis, diabetes, and coronary artery disease. Magnetic resonance imaging studies showed, on T<sub>2</sub>-weighted images, a hyperintense lesion in the left frontal white matter, which gradually enlarged. New lesions developed in the right frontal area and brain stem. A diagnostic procedure was performed.

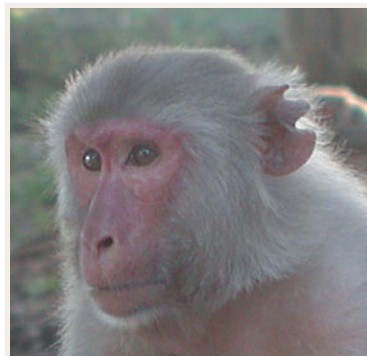
SEE P. 1882

SOUNDING BOARD

**Food Irradiation**

Foodborne disease leads to about 325,000 hospitalizations and 5000 deaths each year in the United States. The irradiation of food could sharply reduce the incidence of foodborne disease, but currently it is rarely performed. This article examines the reasons for the slow growth in the use of food irradiation. Like pasteurization, irradiation is an effective strategy to improve food safety.

SEE P. 1898; PERSPECTIVE, P. 1811



*Macaca mulatta*, an animal model for HIV infection.

CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS OF BASIC RESEARCH

**New Target for Osteoporosis Therapy**

A recent study shows that the mouse 12/15-lipoxygenase gene contributes to variation in bone mass and that inhibiting its protein product results in increased bone mineral density and strength.

SEE P. 1902