



This Week in the Journal

MAY 6, 2004

CORRESPONDENCE

- 2000 Eicosanoids in Cystic Fibrosis
- 2001 Postmenopausal Osteoporosis and Strontium Ranelate
- 2003 Circulating Angiogenic Factors and Preeclampsia
- 2004 Risks of Testosterone Replacement
- 2006 Parvovirus B19
- 2008 Multidisciplinary Management of Lung Cancer
- 2010 A Halt to Neuroblastoma Screening in Japan

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2012 His Brother's Keeper: A Story from the Edge of Medicine
- 2013 My Name is Bill: Bill Wilson — His Life and the Creation of Alcoholics Anonymous
- 2014 The Sickly Stuarts: The Medical Downfall of a Dynasty

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

- 2017 Genital Herpes
- 2018 Diastolic Heart Failure — Abnormalities in Active Relaxation and Passive Stiffness of the Left Ventricle
- 2019 Postoperative Concurrent Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy for High-Risk Squamous-Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck

POWERPOINT SLIDES OF JOURNAL FIGURES

At the *Journal's* Web site, subscribers can automatically create PowerPoint slides of *Journal* figures. Click on a figure in the full-text version of any article at www.nejm.org, and then click on PowerPoint Slide for Teaching. A PowerPoint slide containing the image, with its title and reference citation, can then be downloaded and saved.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Postoperative Concurrent Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy for High-Risk Squamous-Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck

In this randomized trial of the postoperative treatment of high-risk squamous-cell carcinoma of the head and neck, concurrent radiotherapy plus chemotherapy (cisplatin) reduced the incidence of local and regional recurrence and prolonged disease-free survival, as compared with radiotherapy alone. The combined treatment was substantially more toxic than radiotherapy alone.

This paper and the accompanying article by Bernier et al. (see page 1945) indicate that radiotherapy with concomitant cisplatin is a promising adjuvant treatment for locally advanced head and neck cancer.

SEE P. 1937; EDITORIAL, P. 1997;
CME, P. 2019

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Postoperative Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy for Locally Advanced Head and Neck Cancer

This randomized trial of adjuvant treatment for locally advanced cancer of the head and neck compared radiotherapy alone with radiotherapy plus concomitant cisplatin after surgery with curative intent. Progression-free and overall survival were superior in the combined-therapy group.

This article and the accompanying article by Cooper et al. (see page 1937) indicate that radiotherapy with concomitant cisplatin is a promising adjuvant treatment for locally advanced head and neck cancer.

SEE P. 1945; EDITORIAL, P. 1997

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Pathophysiology of Diastolic Heart Failure

This hemodynamic study provides convincing evidence that heart failure in patients with a normal left ventricular ejection fraction is due to abnormal diastolic function.

The abnormalities in active relaxation and passive stiffness that were observed are sufficient to explain the elevated filling pressures and symptoms of heart failure in such patients and may provide targets for therapy.

SEE P. 1953; PERSPECTIVE, P. 1930; CME, P. 2018

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Cord-Blood Transplantation in Hurler's Syndrome

In patients with Hurler's syndrome, cord-blood transplantation before the age of two years halts disease progression and prolongs life, but many children lack donors. This study reports complete donor chimerism and normal leukocyte α -L-iduronidase levels in 17 of 20 children with Hurler's syndrome who received cord-blood transplants from unrelated donors. Their neurocognitive performance improved and somatic features decreased after transplantation.

Cord-blood transplantation favorably altered the natural history of Hurler's syndrome.

SEE P. 1960; PERSPECTIVE, P. 1932

CLINICAL PRACTICE

Genital Herpes

A 22-year-old woman presents to her gynecologist with genital lesions. Examination reveals bilateral labial ulcerations, cervical ulcerations, and mildly tender inguinal lymphadenopathy. To her knowledge, neither she nor any of the four sexual partners she has had, including her husband of two years, has ever had herpes. How should this patient's case be managed?

SEE P. 1970; CME, P. 2017



Patch-or-plaque mycosis fungoides.

MEDICAL PROGRESS

Mycosis Fungoides

The most common cutaneous lymphoma is mycosis fungoides, a non-Hodgkin's, peripheral T-cell lymphoma. Recent advances in the understanding of the molecular and biologic behavior of T cells in this lymphoma — notably, their ability to home to the skin, function in an activated state, and achieve clonal dominance — have had a tremendous influence on current treatment. In this review, the expanding armamentarium of biologic agents, phototherapeutic and irradiation techniques, and combination regimens available to treat mycosis fungoides is discussed.

SEE P. 1978

CLINICAL PROBLEM-SOLVING

Index of Suspicion

A 26-year-old woman with end-stage renal disease from primary membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis who had received her second cadaveric renal transplant 11 months previously presented with a 2-week history of intermittent fever, with temperatures as high as 39°C.

SEE P. 1990

