

THIS WEEK in the JOURNAL

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Optimal Medical Therapy with or without PCI for Stable Coronary Disease

In a randomized trial, 2287 patients with coronary artery disease and evidence of ischemia were assigned to receive optimal medical therapy with or without percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI). At a median of 4.6 years, the rates of death and myocardial infarction were 19.0% in the PCI group and 18.5% in the medical-therapy group. The PCI group had lower rates of angina and repeat revascularization.

SEE P. 1503; EDITORIAL, P. 1572; CME, P. 1599

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Interleukin-1–Receptor Antagonist in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

The expression of interleukin-1–receptor antagonist is reduced in pancreatic islets in type 2 diabetes, and high glucose concentrations induce interleukin-1 β production in human pancreatic beta cells, suggesting that the interleukin-1 pathway may be a treatment target. This randomized trial showed that the interleukin-1–receptor antagonist anakinra (100 mg) improved glycemia and beta-cell secretory function and reduced markers of systemic inflammation, as compared with placebo.

SEE P. 1517; PERSPECTIVE, P. 1499

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Radiotherapy for Glioblastoma in the Elderly

This trial compared radiotherapy plus supportive care with supportive care alone in patients with glioblastoma who were 70 years of age or older. As compared with supportive care alone, radiotherapy improved survival by about 3 months and did not impair quality of life or cognition. The trial also showed that, despite some challenges, elderly patients can participate in a randomized, controlled clinical trial.

SEE P. 1527; EDITORIAL, P. 1575

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine in Cuba

Limited data exist on the immunogenicity of inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) in tropical developing countries. As the use of the oral poliovirus vaccine diminishes, data demonstrating that IPV is effective in this setting are needed. This randomized, controlled trial of IPV in Cuba shows that IPV is immunogenic and diminishes the excretion of oral poliovirus in the stool after challenge with oral poliovirus vaccine.

SEE P. 1536

MEDICAL PROGRESS

Safer Liver Surgery and Partial Liver Transplantation

The liver possesses the unique ability to regenerate within a short period of time, a feature that has led to the development of innovative strategies in liver surgery and transplantation. This review presents both established and novel methods for manipulating liver volume to attain improved liver surgery and transplantation.

SEE P. 1545; CME, P. 1597

CASE RECORDS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

A 59-Year-Old Man with Neck Pain, Weakness in the Arms, and Cranial-Nerve Palsies

A 59-year-old man was admitted to this hospital with fever and the subacute onset of progressive neurologic symptoms that included multiple cranial-nerve palsies. Magnetic resonance imaging of the brain and spine showed leptomeningeal enhancement. Analysis of the cerebrospinal fluid disclosed a lymphocytic pleocytosis and elevated protein and glucose levels. Respiratory failure developed, requiring intubation and mechanical ventilation. The result of a diagnostic test was received.

SEE P. 1561; CME, P. 1598

CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS OF BASIC RESEARCH

Repairing the Retina

Permitting progenitor photoreceptor cells from donors to differentiate before transplanting them is key to their successful integration into the retina.

SEE P. 1577