

THIS WEEK in the JOURNAL

ORIGINAL ARTICLE**Rhythm Control versus Rate Control for Atrial Fibrillation**

In this clinical trial involving patients with atrial fibrillation and congestive heart failure, rhythm control (to maintain sinus rhythm) and rate control (to control the ventricular rate in atrial fibrillation) were compared. The two strategies were nearly identical with respect to all clinical outcomes. Thus, the simpler approach, rate control, should be considered the treatment of choice in such patients.

SEE P. 2667; EDITORIAL, P. 2725; CME, P. 2754

ORIGINAL ARTICLE**Increased Mortality after Dronedaron Therapy for Severe Heart Failure**

Dronedaron is a class III antiarrhythmic drug that has efficacy as a treatment for atrial fibrillation and ventricular arrhythmias. In this clinical trial involving patients with severe heart failure, however, dronedaron was found to increase overall mortality, raising serious concern about the safety of this drug in patients with advanced heart failure.

SEE P. 2678; EDITORIAL, P. 2725

ORIGINAL ARTICLE**Sudden Death in Myotonic Dystrophy Type 1**

In a study of 406 patients with myotonic dystrophy type 1, 96 had severe electrocardiographic (ECG) abnormalities when first evaluated. During an average of 5.7 years of follow-up, there were 81 deaths, of which 27 were sudden. The presence of a severe ECG abnormality at baseline was an independent predictor of sudden death (relative risk, 3.3).

SEE P. 2688

BRIEF REPORT**Treatment of Metastatic Melanoma with Autologous CD4+ T Cells against NY-ESO-1**

A patient with refractory metastatic melanoma had a complete remission after an infusion of cells from an

in vitro-generated clone of autologous CD4+ T cells with specificity for the melanoma-associated NY-ESO-1 antigen.

SEE P. 2698; PERSPECTIVE, P. 2664

MOLECULAR ORIGINS OF CANCER**Cancer Immunology**

This review is a comprehensive account of the current status of tumor immunology, beginning with the identification of human tumor antigens and ending with a summary of clinical applications of what we know about the immunology of tumors.

SEE P. 2704; PERSPECTIVE, P. 2664

CASE RECORDS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL**An HIV-Positive Man with Cutaneous Merkel-Cell Carcinoma**

A 63-year-old HIV-positive man was referred to this hospital for management of a cutaneous Merkel-cell carcinoma on the forehead that metastasized to the ipsilateral preauricular and cervical lymph nodes. A treatment plan was established.

SEE P. 2717; CME, P. 2755

SOUNDING BOARD**Over-the-Counter Sales of Drugs for Asymptomatic Conditions**

Two Food and Drug Administration advisory committees recently voted not to recommend approval of over-the-counter sales of lovastatin. This article reviews the rationale behind the committees' recommendations and discusses the risks and benefits of nonprescription sales of statins and other medications for asymptomatic conditions.

SEE P. 2728; CME, P. 2753

CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS OF BASIC RESEARCH**On Colitis and Colon Cancer**

Mice that undergo ablation of a gene encoding a receptor of tumor necrosis factor α (TNF- α) or treatment with an antibody that binds TNF- α are partially protected against induced colitis and colitis-associated colon cancer.

SEE P. 2733
